Glebe Farm, Podington, Bedfordshire: An Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Glebe Farm, Podington, Bedfordshire: An Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Non-Technical Summary

Between the 18th March and 5th April 2013 AOC Archaeology Group undertook an archaeology evaluation at Glebe Farm, Podington, Bedfordshire ((NGR) SP 9650 6250), on behalf of vento ludens Ltd. The work comprised the excavation of 60 trenches measuring 50.00m x 2.00m.

This report comprises the results of the evaluation. A total of 30 trenches were negative (i.e. no archaeological remains) whilst the remaining 30 trenches contained archaeological features of varying levels of significance. The geological horizon remained fairly consistent across the whole of the site, with drift deposit of grey boulder clay with sand and chalk inclusions. Four phases of archaeological remains were recorded on site. The first phase is thought to date to the prehistoric period and was in the form of undated linear gullies which were recorded across the site. The gullies are thought to be the remains of early prehistoric activity. The second period of activity was during the Late Iron Age to early Roman period where intensive settlement activity was recorded within the south-eastern corner of Whitlands field. The third period of activity dates solely to the early Roman period and indicates the reuse of the earlier period ditches and gullies. The final period of activity dates to the medieval to post-medieval period, in the form of furrow's, a post-medieval field boundary and a single post-medieval wall footing. The trenches were overlain by a claggy clay buried soil which in turn was overlaid by a silty clay topsoil. The date and provenance of this layer is unknown.

It is has been highlighted by the Archaeological Officer for Bedford Borough Council that should the proposed development be granted planning permission, and the current scheme remains unchanged, further mitigation works may need to be conducted on site in the area of Trenches 23-25.

Publication of the evaluation 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 evaluation at Glebe Farm, Podington, Bedfordshire. The site is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) SP 9650 6250 (Figure 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 running between Luton and Wellingborough runs along the northwest edge of the site. The proposed development encompasses an irregular rectangular plot of land of some 53Ha. The effected area covered by the Solar Park is 27Ha.
- 1.3 The site is currently occupied by agricultural fields called Whitlands 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 A previous phase of works involving a watching brief on geotechnical investigations was undertaken to characterise the geological conditions and determine the presence of archaeology.

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 Whitland's Barn, a Grade II listed 18th century threshing barn was located within the site, but appears to have been demolished sometime in the early 1980s. There are no Scheduled Monuments in close proximity to the site, but there are two situated within a 4km radius of the site. The first is the moated Castle Close at Sharnbrook, likely to be medieval in date; and the second is a medieval moated enclosure at Odell.
- 2.3 Although the site does not lie within a Conservation Area, there are three within a 4km radius of the site, including Podington, Farndish and Sharnbrook (Bedford Borough Council 2012).
- 2.4 A desk-based assessment was produced by Dulas Ltd (Dulas Ltd 2012) prior to the first phase of archaeological works carried out by AOC, which involved a watching brief monitoring 30 geotechnical investigation trial pits, in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (AOC 2012a). The watching brief report provided detailed the geological sequence and noted that no archaeological remains were recorded on site (AOC 2012b).
- 2.5 A formal planning application was submitted to Bedford Borough Council and is awaiting validation. Based on preliminary enquires, an archaeological brief has been created by Bedford Borough Council (Bedford Borough Council 2013) with the following to be considered:

An initial pre-application enquiry regarding a proposed Solar Park development was submitted to the Historic Environment Team of Bedford Borough Council in November 2012 followed by a request for an EIA screening opinion in the same month. As the proposed development lies within an area of archaeological sensitivity a recommendation was made for an archaeological trial trench evaluation of the site to take place ahead of any development groundworks. The evaluation will provide information on the nature of the archaeological remains on the site and allow an appropriate mitigation strategy (i.e. preservation in situ or open area excavation) to be drawn up.

- 2.6 A Written Scheme of Investigation (AOC 2013) was prepared as a method statement for the archaeological evaluation, which was approved by the monitor, Geoff Saunders, Archaeological Officer of Bedford Borough Council.
- 2.7 This report summarises the results of the archaeological evaluation 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), the 4km HER search (BBC 2012) and the archaeological brief (BBC 2013).

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

- 4.1.1 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.
- 4.1.2 Further Mesolithic and Neolithic findspots have been recorded south of the site at Odell (MBD20889, 20572) and Sharnbrook (MBD20283).

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

- 4.2.1 There are no actual proven sites or features of Iron Age or Roman date on the site, but there are four recorded findspots of Iron Age and Roman pottery and find scatters located within the site boundary (MBD1331, 19766, and 19768), plus a Roman brooch (MBD19770).
- 4.2.2 There is also evidence of activity from nearby fields surrounding the villages of Podington and Wymington, including prehistoric and Roman findspots (MBD19322 and 19764) and enclosure cropmarks (MBD2755, 2759, 14012, and 16485).
- 4.2.3 Iron Age finds have been collected to the north west of Colworth Thicket near Souldrop, comprising pottery sherds and slag. A further scatter of pottery within a vicinity of cropmarks was recorded at Old Gorerong Wood, c.2.25km south west of the site (MBD2653).
- 4.2.4 The nearest known Roman settlement to the site is close to Great Hayes Wood, 350m to the southeast. A scatter of pottery has also been collected from fieldwalking in the general area, although its precise location may lie just outside the site boundary. A second settlement site is known at Glebe Farm itself, 1km southwest of the site.
- 4.2.5 Cropmarks west of Wymington Village may be indicative of Roman field systems; these are just 400m from the site boundary (MBD2654).
- 4.2.6 Approximately 1km south of the site, is the old trackway Forty Foot Lane which has been recorded as being part of the Roman road, Viatores Road (MBD59).
- 4.2.7 The general background of prehistoric and Roman activity strongly suggests that evidence of agriculture may be expected upon the site.

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

- 4.3.1 Saxon pottery and slag was identified at St Lawrence School, Wymington (MBD18007) and a Saxon iron spearhead was recorded West of Souldrop (MBD18191). The find was found with Roman pottery.
- 4.3.2 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 (Dulas Ltd 2012). 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.
- 4.3.3 In the woodland of Knotted Greed, c.3km east of the site, is a documented meadow and track dating to 1247, known as Deane Lane Meadowe (MBD2998).
- 4.3.4 Located nearly 4km southeast of the site is the Scheduled Monument of the moated Castle Close. The ditch and bank enclosure still remains without any associated causeways. The monument has been described as a Norman Castle, but the defensive appearance suggests a later fortification of the moat. There is reference of a survey dating to 1617 of Castle Close.
- 4.3.5 There are several medieval sites located east and south of the proposed site, situated in the Ouse Valley. This also includes the Scheduled Monument at Wold Farm, Odell, located c.2.5km south of the site. Again, the medieval moat has evidence of ditch and bank enclosures, with remains of demolished farm buildings on the island.
- 4.3.6 Another example of a medieval moated castle is located at Manor Farm, Podington and c.2.2km west of the site. Although the present house was constructed in the post-medieval period, there is evidence of a medieval motte and bailey castle (MBD81).
- 4.3.7 In the village of Wymington, is a 14th century Grade I listed church; St Lawrence's Church was built by John Curteys who was buried in a tomb at the chancel in 1391 (MBD944).

4.4 The Post-Medieval (AD 1538 – AD 1900) and Modern Period (AD 1900 to present)

- 4.4.1 Approximately 2.8km southwest of the site, is the Registered Park and Garden of Hinwick. The Grade II* listed Hinwick Hall is situated within the landscaped grounds constructed c 1540 and occupied continuously until the 20th century, with restoration and extensions being made in the early 20th century. The main country house is constructed of coursed limestone rubble with ashlar dressings, with red tile and slate roofing. The Tudor entrance was moved in the 17th century and is highly ornamented with stone carvings. A wooden clock turret, cupola and wrought iron weather vane are centrally located around the main porch.
- 4.4.2 The Grade I listed Hinwick House also stands within the grounds of Hinwick Hall and was constructed 1708-14 of limestone rubble and ashlar dressings. A Georgian style service wing was added c 1860 with associated outbuildings and stables build in the 19th century.

- 4.4.3 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.
- 4.4.4 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 (MBD9426) 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. The barn was demolished between 1981 and 1986. It is not currently clear whether Whitland's was an individual farmstead, or an outlier of what is now Glebe Farm.
- 4.4.5 There are several Grade II and II* listed buildings in the surrounding villages within a 4km radius of the proposed site, including All Saint's Church, Souldrop (MBD1122) and the 17th century thatched terraced houses on the High Street, Podington (MBD2460).

4.5 Previous Archaeological Works

4.5.1 An initial phase of archaeological works was undertaken in December 2012, which comprised of a watching brief monitoring 30 geotechnical investigation trial pits, covering less than 0.1% of the proposed development (AOC 2012). No archaeological remains were recorded, but three small sherds of post-medieval ceramic building material were retained from the farmland topsoil.

5 Aims of the Investigation

- 5.1 The aims of the archaeological evaluation 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 evaluation 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, including the findspots and cropmark sites?

- 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 was to make public the results of the investigation, subject to any confidentiality restrictions.

6 Methodology

- 6.1 The methodology of the evaluation was provided by Geoff Saunders, Archaeological Officer for Bedford Borough Council, within the design brief dated 31st January 2013 (Bedford Borough Council 2013). In accordance with the design brief, a total of 3% (2% plus 1% contingency) of the development area was to be investigated by archaeological trial trenching with the contingency being held in reserve to examine areas in more detail if required. The initial 2% sample was equivalent to 60 trial trenches each measuring 1.8m x 50m (Figure 2). The trench layout was designed to provide systematic coverage of the development area ensuring that any surviving archaeological deposits, features and structures across the development area were sampled (Bedford Borough Council 2013).
- 6.2 The archaeological evaluation was carried out between 18th March and 5th April 2013. The machining was carried out using two 21 tonne tracked machines with a smooth bladed ditching bucket under the constant supervision of Tara Fidler and Catherine Edwards.
- 6.3 The trenches were accurately located to the National Grid and their levels calculated using a differential GPS.
- 6.4 Fieldwork procedures followed the Museum of London Archaeological Site Manual (MoL 1994).
- 6.5 All of the work was carried out in line with:
 - Archaeological Guidance Papers (AGP): 2-4, Standards and Practices in Archaeological Fieldwork (English Heritage 2009).
 - Bedfordshire Archaeology Research and Archaeology: Resource Assessment, Research Agenda and Strategy (Oake et al 2007).
 - Brief for a Programme of Archaeological Field Evaluation: Land At Glebe Farm, Podington, Bedfordshire (Bedford Borough Council 2013).
 - EAA Revised Research Framework for the Eastern Region (Medlycott and Brown 2008).
 - If A Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (If A 2008).
 - Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties Vol I: Resource Assessment (Glazebrook 1997),
 - Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties 2. Research Agenda and Strategy (Brown and Glazebrook 2000).
 - Research and Archaeology Revisited: A Revised Framework for the East of England (Medlycott 2011).
- 6.6 A unique site code for the project (**GBF13**) was assigned by AOC Archaeology prior to commencement of works. An accession number was obtained from Bedford Museum and was used as the site identifier for records produced for archive (**BEDFM: 2012.79**).
- 6.7 At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commenced) an OASIS online record was initiated and key fields completed on detailed location and creator forms.

6.8 The evaluation was undertaken by Tara Fidler, Project Supervisor, and Catherine Edwards, Project Officer, under the overall direction of Melissa Melikian, Operations Director. The work was monitored by Geoff Saunders, Archaeological Officer of Bedford Borough Council.

7 Results

Negative Trenches (Figures 2-3)

- 7.1 No archaeological remains were encountered in 30 out of the 60 excavated trenches. The negative trenches (marked in black) are labelled as 1, 3, 5, 10, 13, 14, 17, 18, 21, 28, 29, 30, 32, 33, 35, 36, 39, 40, 41, 43, 46, 48, 49, 51, 53, 54, 56, 58, 59 and 60. The trench layout is shown on Figure 2.
- 7.2 Trenches 29, 30, 32, 33, 35, 36, 40, 41, 43, 48, and 49 contained the natural horizon of yellow grey clay and yellow flinty sandy clay overlaid by a 0.28m-0.42m thick layer of dark grey brown silty clay, interpreted as topsoil. The remaining negative trenches contained a similar natural horizon, overlaid by a layer of buried soil formed of yellow claggy silty clay. The thickness of this layer varies between 0.09m and 0.30m. The origin of this deposit is unclear. It is possible the deposit has been used to improve the ground or perhaps is deposited up cast from the railway construction to the north of the site Overlying the trenches was a 0.20m-0.35m thick layer of topsoil. The upper height of the trenches varied across the site from 95.28mOD to 102.69mOD.

7.3 Trench 2 (Figure 4)

Table of the stratigraphic sequence

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
200	0.28m	96.86m – 96.58m	Dark grey brown silty clay. Topsoil
201	0.20m	96.58m – 96.38m	Mid orangey grey brown silty clay. Buried soil
202	0.14m+	96.38m+	Light yellow grey chalky clay and orange sand. Natural

- 7.3.1 Trench 2 measured 50.00m x 2.00m and was roughly aligned north-south, sloping south to north (Figure 2).
- 7.3.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 2 was (202), a mid yellow grey chalky clay and orange sand, interpreted as the natural deposit, recorded at an upper height of 96.38mOD. Cutting into the natural deposit was pit [204], an oval pit measuring 1.06m x 0.30m x 0.30m deep. The pit was filled by (203), a dark grey brown silty clay with inclusions of stones and ceramic flecks. No datable evidence was recovered.
- 7.3.3 Overlying (203), was (201), a 0.20m thick layer of mid orangey grey brown silty clay, interpreted as buried soil, which in turn was overlaid by (200), a 0.28m thick layer of dark grey brown silty clay topsoil.

7.4 Trench 4 (Figure 5)

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
400	0.22m	99.86m – 99.64m	Dark grey brown silty clay. Topsoil.
401	0.16m	99.64m – 99.48m	Mid orangey grey brown silty clay. Buried soil.

402	0.15m	99.48m – 99.33m	Light yellow grey chalky clay and orange sand. Natural.
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- 7.4.1 Trench 4 measured 50.00m x 2.00m and was aligned roughly north-south (Figure 2).
- 7.4.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 4 was (402), a mid yellow grey chalky clay and orange sand, interpreted as the natural deposit recorded at an upper height of 99.33mOD. Cutting into (402) was [404], a linear ditch measuring 2.30m x 0.53m x 0.12m deep (Plate 1). The ditch was aligned northwest-southeast and had a concave base. Filling the ditch was (403), a mid grey brown silty clay with occasional charcoal. Finds included flint fragments and pottery dated to the Late Iron Age period (1st century BC 1st century AD).
- 7.4.3 Overlying (403), was (401), a 0.16m thick layer of mid orangey grey brown silty clay, interpreted as buried soil, which in turn was overlaid by (400), a 0.22m thick layer of dark grey brown silty clay, topsoil.



Plate 1 – Linear ditch [404]

7.5 Trench 6 (Figure 6)

Table of the stratigraphic sequence

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
600	0.26m	100.84m – 100.58m	Dark grey brown silty clay. Topsoil.
601	0.20m	100.58m – 100.38m	Mid orangey grey brown silty clay. Buried soil.
602	0.10m	100.38m – 100.28m	Light yellow grey chalky clay and orange sand. Natural.

7.5.1 Trench 6 measured 50.00m x 2.00m and was aligned northeast-southwest (Figure 2).

7.5.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 6 was (602), a mid yellow grey chalky clay and orange sand, interpreted as the natural deposit, recorded at an upper height of 100.28mOD. Cutting into (602) was linear gully [604] and pit [606]. Linear gully [604] was aligned northwest-southeast, measuring 2.00m x 0.21m x 0.16m deep. The gully was filled by (603), a dark brown grey silty clay with occasional gravel. No dating evidence was recovered. Pit [606] was located to the north of the gully and was sub-circular in shape measuring 0.66m x 0.60m x 0.22m deep (Plate 2). The pit was filled by (605), a

mid orange brown silty clay with occasional pebbles. Three very small fragments of ceramic building material (CBM) were recovered; these were too small to be dated.

7.5.3 Overlying (603) and (605), was (601), a 0.20m thick layer of mid orangey grey brown silty clay, interpreted as buried soil, which in turn was overlaid by (600), a 0.26m thick layer of dark grey brown silty clay, topsoil.



Plate 2 - Pit [606]

7.6 Trench 7 (Figure 7)

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
700	0.30m	101.04m – 100.74m	Dark grey brown silty clay. Topsoil.
701	0.30m	100.74m – 100.44m	Mid orangey grey brown silty clay. Buried soil.
704	0.05m	100.44m – 100.39m	Light yellow grey chalky clay and orange sand. Natural.

- 7.6.1 Trench 7 measured 50.00m x 2.00m and was aligned roughly east-west (Figure 2).
- 7.6.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 7 was (704), a mid yellow grey chalky clay and orange sand, interpreted as the natural deposit, recorded at an upper height of 100.44mOD. Cutting into (704) was ditch [703]. The linear ditch [703] was aligned roughly north-south, measuring 2.00m x 1.05m x 0.37m deep. The ditch was filled by (702), a mid brown grey silty clay with occasional gravel. No dating evidence was recovered.



Plate 3 - Ditch [703]

7.6.3 Overlying (702), was (701), a 0.30m thick layer of mid orangey grey brown silty clay, interpreted as buried soil, which in turn was overlaid by (700), a 0.30m thick layer of dark grey brown silty clay topsoil.

7.7 Trench 8 (Figure 8)

Table of the stratigraphic sequence

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
800	0.22m	100.11m – 99.89m	Dark grey brown silty clay. Topsoil.
801	0.18m	99.89m – 99.71m	Mid orangey grey brown silty clay. Buried soil.
802	0.08m	99.71m – 99.63m	Light yellow grey chalky clay and orange sand. Natural.

- 7.7.1 Trench 8 measured 50.00m x 2.00m and was aligned roughly east-west (Figure 2).
- 7.7.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 8 was (802), a mid yellow grey chalky clay and orange sand, interpreted as the natural deposit recorded at an upper height of a 99.71mOD. Cutting into (802) was ditch [804], a linear V-shaped ditch measuring 2.00m x 0.50m x 0.36m deep, aligned roughly north-south. The gully was filled by (803), a very dense grey silty clay with occasional gravel. No dating evidence was recovered.
- 7.7.3 Overlying (803), was (801), a 0.18m thick layer of mid orangey grey brown silty clay, interpreted as buried soil, which in turn was overlaid by (800), a 0.22m thick layer of dark grey brown silty clay topsoil.

7.8 Trench 9 (Figure 9)

Table of the stratigraphic sequence

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
900	0.32m	100.57m – 100.25m	Dark grey brown silty clay. Topsoil.
901	0.10m	100.25m – 100.15m	Mid orangey grey brown silty clay. Buried soil.
902	0.05m	100.15m – 100.10m	Light yellow grey chalky clay and orange sand. Natural.

7.8.1 Trench 9 measured 50.00m x 2.00m and was aligned east-west (Figure 2).

- 7.8.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 9 was (902), a mid yellow grey chalky clay and orange sand, interpreted as the natural deposit recorded at an upper height of 100.15mOD. Cutting into (902) were two linear features [904] and [906] interpreted as furrows. The furrows were aligned roughly north-south, each measuring 2.65m x 1.50m x 0.06m deep. The furrows were filled with (903) and (905) respectively, a light grey brown silty clay with occasional gravel. No dating evidence was recovered.
- 7.8.3 Overlying (903) and (905), was (901), a 0.10m thick layer of mid orangey grey brown silty clay, interpreted as buried soil, which in turn was overlaid by (900), a 0.32m thick layer of dark grey brown silty clay topsoil.

7.9 Trench 11 (Figure 10)

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
1100	0.30m	97.05m – 96.75m	Dark grey brown silty clay. Topsoil.
1101	0.09m	96.75m – 96.66m	Mid orangey grey brown silty clay. Buried soil.
1110	0.05m	96.66m – 96.61m	Light yellow orange brown chalky clay, gravel and orange sand. Natural.

Table of the stratigraphic sequence

- 7.9.1 Trench 11 measured 50.00m x 2.00m and was aligned east-west (Figure 2).
- 7.9.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 11 was (1110), a light yellow orange brown chalky clay, gravel and orange sand, interpreted as the natural deposits, recorded at an upper height of 96.66mOD. Cutting into (1110) were four linear features recorded as [1103], [1105], [1107] and [1109]. Linear [1109] was aligned roughly north-south measuring 2.00m x 1.40m x 0.10m deep and has been interpreted as furrow. The fill (1108) was recorded as a mid grey gritty sandy clay with occasional charcoal and unworked flints.
- 7.9.3 The remaining linear features formed small gullies. Gully [1107] was aligned northeast-southwest measuring 2.60m x 1.00m x NFE, gully [1103] was aligned roughly north-south measuring 2.10m x 0.70m x 0.32m deep and [1105] was aligned northwest-southeast, measuring 3.10m x 0.90m x 0.32m deep. Due to the similarity of the fills it is likely that there were contemporary and part of the same system. All of the gullies were filled with mid grey gritty sandy clay with occasional charcoal and unworked flints, recorded as (1102), (1104) and (1106).
- 7.9.4 Overlying the features was (1101), a 0.09m thick layer of mid orangey grey brown silty clay, interpreted as buried soil, which in turn was overlaid by (1100), a 0.30m thick layer of dark grey brown silty clay topsoil.

7.10 Trench 12 (Figure 11)

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
1200	0.25m	98.19m – 97.94m	Dark grey brown silty clay. Topsoil.
1201	0.15m	97.94m – 97.79m	Mid orangey grey brown silty clay. Buried soil.
1208	0.05m	97.79m - 97.74m	Light yellow grey chalky clay and orange sand. Natural.

- 7.10.1 Trench 12 measured 50.00m x 2.00m and was aligned north-south (Figure 2).
- 7.10.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 12 was (1208), a mid yellow grey chalky clay and orange sand, interpreted as natural, recorded at an upper height of 97.79mOD. Cutting into (1208) were three linear features, one has been interpreted as a furrow [1207] whilst the remaining features have been interpreted as small gullies [1203] and [1205]. Furrow [1207] was aligned northeast-southwest, measuring 4.10m x 2.00m x 0.10m deep. The furrow was filled by (1206), a light grey brown silty clay with occasional gravel. No dating evidence was recovered.
- 7.10.3 Gully [1203] was aligned southeast-northwest and measured 2.10m x 0.53m x 0.32m deep whilst gully [1205] was aligned northeast-southwest and measured 2.10m x 0.90m x NFE. Only [1203] was

excavated due to the similarity in the gullies (Plate 4). Both ditches were filled with light grey silty brown clay with rare inclusions of flint, (1202) and (1204). No dating evidence was recovered.



Plate 4 - Gully [1203]

7.10.4 Overlying the trench was (1201), a 0.15m thick layer of mid orangey grey brown silty clay, interpreted as buried soil, which in turn was overlaid by (1200), a 0.25m thick layer of dark grey brown silty clay topsoil.

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
1500	0.30m	101.04m – 100.74m	Dark grey brown silty clay. Topsoil.
1501	0.18m	100.74m – 100.56m	Mid orangey grey brown silty clay. Buried soil.
1502	0.05m	10050m - 10051m	Light yellow grey chalky clay and orange sand. Natural.

7.11 Trench 15 (Figure 12)

- 7.11.1 Trench 15 measured 50.00m x 2.00m and was aligned east-west (Figure 2).
- 7.11.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 15 was (1502), a mid yellow grey chalky clay and orange sand, interpreted as the natural deposit, recorded at an upper height of 100.56mOD. Cutting into (1502) was a single linear feature interpreted as a furrow [1504]. The furrow was aligned roughly northeast-southwest, measuring 2.00m x 1.60m x 0.14m deep. The furrow was filled with (1503), a light grey brown silty clay with occasional gravel. No dating evidence was recovered.
- 7.11.3 Overlying the trench was (1501), a 0.18m thick layer of mid orangey grey brown silty clay, interpreted as buried soil, which in turn was overlaid by (1500), a 0.30m thick layer of dark grey brown silty clay topsoil.

7.12 Trench 16 (Figure 13)

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
1600	0.35m	101.12m – 100.77m	Dark grey brown silty clay. Topsoil.
1601	0.10m	100.77m – 100.67m	Mid orangey grey brown silty clay. Buried soil.
1605	0.05m	100 b/m = 100 b/m	Light yellow grey chalky clay and orange sand. Natural.

Table of the stratigraphic sequence

- 7.12.1 Trench 16 measured 50.00m x 2.00m and was aligned northwest-southeast (Figure 2).
- 7.12.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 16 was (1605), a mid yellow grey chalky clay and orange sand, interpreted as the natural deposits recorded at an upper height of 100.67mOD. Cutting into (1605) was a single pit recorded as [1604] (Plate 5). Only half of the pit was observed with the remaining half located within the southern baulk. The pit measured 2.60m x 0.82m x 0.17m deep and was filled by (1603), a blue grey silty clay with chalk and flint and (1602), a light yellow orange brown silty clay. No dating evidence was recovered.



Plate 5 – Large pit [1604]

7.12.3 Overlying the trench was (1601), a 0.10m thick layer of mid orangey grey brown silty clay, interpreted as buried soil, which in turn was overlaid by (1600), a 0.35m thick layer of dark grey brown silty clay, topsoil.

7.13 Trench 19 (Figure 14)

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
1900	0.30m	99.63m – 99.23m	Dark grey brown silty clay. Topsoil.
1901	0.23m	99.23m – 99.10m	Mid orangey grey brown silty clay. Buried soil.
1906	0.05m	99.10m - 99.05m	Light yellow grey chalky clay and orange sand. Natural.

- 7.13.1 Trench 19 measured 50.00m x 2.00m and was aligned northwest-southeast (Figure 2).
- 7.13.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 19 was (1906), a mid yellow grey chalky clay and orange sand, interpreted as the natural deposits, recorded at an upper height of 99.10mOD. Cutting into (1906)

was a linear gully [1905], aligned roughly west-east, measuring 2.40m x 0.60m x 0.28m deep (Plate 6). The gully was filled by (1904), a light grey brown silty clay with occasional flint. Cutting into the gully was [1903] an irregular shaped pit, measuring 1.30m x 0.85m x 0.18m deep. The pit was filled by (1902), a blue and red silt clay deposit which contained a high level of charcoal and degraded ceramic material. An environmental sample was taken from the fill. No dating evidence was recovered. A number of clay fragments which may have been burnt have been retained.



Plate 6 – Linear [1905] and Pit [1903]

7.13.3 Overlying the trench was (1901), a 0.23m thick layer of mid orangey grey brown silty clay, interpreted as buried soil, which in turn was overlaid by (1900), a 0.30m thick layer of dark grey brown silty clay topsoil.

7.14 Trench 20 (Figure 15)

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
2000	0.32m	99.91m – 99.59m	Dark grey brown silty clay. Topsoil.
2001	0.14m	99.59m – 99.45m	Mid orangey grey brown silty clay. Buried soil.
2004	0.05m	99.45m – 99.40m	Light yellow grey chalky clay and orange sand. Natural.

- 7.14.1 Trench 20 measured 50.00m x 2.00m and was aligned roughly north-south (Figure 2).
- 7.14.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 20 was (2004), a mid yellow grey chalky clay and orange sand, interpreted as natural deposits recorded at an upper height of 99.45mOD. Cutting into (2004) was a shallow gully recorded as [2003]. The gully was aligned northwest-southeast, measuring 2.10m x 0.56m x 0.15m deep. The gully was filled by (2002), a light grey brown silty clay with rare gravel inclusions. No dating evidence was recovered.
- 7.14.3 Overlying the trench was (2001), a 0.14m thick layer of mid orangey grey brown silty clay, interpreted as buried soil, which in turn was overlaid by (2000), a 0.32m thick layer of dark grey brown silty clay topsoil.

7.15 Trench 22 (Figure 16)

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
2200	0.30m	100.97m – 100.67m	Dark grey brown silty clay. Topsoil.
2201	0.24m	100.67m – 100.43m	Mid orangey grey brown silty clay. Buried soil.
2204	0.03m	100.43m – 100.40m	Light yellow grey chalky clay and orange sand. Natural.

Table of the stratigraphic sequence

- 7.15.1 Trench 22 measured 50.00m x 2.00m and was aligned northeast-southwest (Figure 2).
- 7.15.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 22 was (2204), a mid yellow grey chalky clay and orange sand, interpreted as the natural deposits recorded at an upper height of 100.43mOD. Cutting into (2204) was a shallow gully recorded as [2203] (Plate 7). The gully was aligned northeast-southeast, measuring 3.20m x 0.78m x 0.36m deep. The gully was filled by (2202), a light grey brown silty clay. No dating evidence was recovered.



Plate 7 – Gully [2203]

7.15.3 Overlying the trench was (2201), a 0.24m thick layer of mid orangey grey brown silty clay, interpreted as buried soil, which in turn was overlaid by (2200), a 0.30m thick layer of dark grey brown silty clay topsoil.

7.16 Trench 23 (Figure 17)

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
2300	0.30m	101.17m – 100.87m	Dark grey brown silty clay. Topsoil.
2305	0.08m	100.87m – 100.79m	Mid orangey grey brown silty clay. Buried soil.
2306	0.05m	100.79m – 100.74m	Light yellow grey chalky clay and orange sand. Natural.

- 7.16.1 Trench 23 measured 50.00m x 2.00m and was aligned northwest-southeast (Figure 2).
- 7.16.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 23 was (2306), a mid yellow grey chalky clay and orange sand, interpreted as the natural deposits recorded at an upper height of 100.79mOD. Cutting into (2306) were two ditches recorded as [2302] and [2304]. Ditch [2302] was aligned northeast-southwest, measuring 2.00m x 1.04m x 0.46m deep at a height of 100.43mOD (Plate 8). The ditch was filled by (2301), a light grey brown silty clay with no dating evidence.



Plate 8 - Ditch [2302]

- 7.16.3 Ditch [2304] was located a further 31m further southeast of the above ditch and measured 3.80m x 2.00m x NFE. The ditch was not excavated due to the presence of deep water and thick ice within the trench. The ditch was filled by (2303), a dark grey brown silty clay with inclusions of Roman pottery and CBM.
- 7.16.3 Overlying the trench was (2305), a 0.08m thick layer of mid orangey grey brown silty clay, interpreted as buried soil, which in turn was overlaid by (2300), a 0.32m thick layer of dark grey brown silty clay topsoil.

7.17 Trench 24 (Figure 18)

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
2400	0.30m	97.68m – 97.38m	Dark grey brown silty clay. Topsoil
2401	0.10m	97.38m – 97.28m	Mid orangey grey brown silty clay. Buried soil
2402	0.05m	9/28m - 9/23m	Light yellow grey chalky clay and orange sand. Natural

- 7.17.1 Trench 24 measured 50.00m x 2.00m and was aligned northwest-southeast (Figure 2).
- 7.17.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 24 was (2402), a mid yellow grey chalky clay and orange sand, interpreted as the natural deposits recorded at an upper height of 97.28mOD. Cutting into (2402) was a series of intercutting features including ditches, pits and gullies.
- 7.17.3 Located within the centre of the trench were intercutting linear features [2414], [2412] and [2409], recorded at an upper height of 97.39m. The earliest features in the sequence were ditches [2412] and [2414] (Plate 9). Ditch [2414] was aligned northwest-southeast and measured 1.50m x 1.30m x 0.52m deep. Only a small portion of the feature was recorded in the trench. The ditch was filled by (2413), a dark grey silty clay. Ditch [2412] was aligned northeast-southwest, measured 1.80m x

2.00m x 0.74m deep and contained two fills recorded as (2411) and (2410). The primary fill (2411) was a dark yellow brown silty clay whilst the secondary fill (2410) was a dark grey silty clay. Finds recovered from deposit (2410) included examples of Late Iron Age to early Roman pottery, sheep and sheep/goat fragments and fired clay fragments. Cutting both of the above features was ditch [2409]. The northeast-southwest aligned ditch measured 2.00m x 2.20m x 0.75m and was filled by two fills. The primary fill (2408), was a dark yellow brown silty clay which was overlaid by secondary fill (2407), a dark brown grey silty clay. Finds included abraded Roman roof tile, fired clay, a large spindle whorl, horse, cattle and sheep/goat bone fragments and pottery sherds dated to the Late Iron Age to early Roman period. An environmental sample from (2407) contained a small amount of pottery and small mammal bones.



Plate 9 - Ditches [2412] and [2414]

- 7.17.4 Two shallow pits were recorded adjacent to the above ditch sequence at an upper height of 97.43mOD. The pits were recorded as [2429] and [2427/2443] and were partially located within the southern baulk of the trench. Pit [2427/2443] was semi-circular in shape with the other half in the baulk. The pit measured 2.10m x 0.94m x 0.36m deep and was filled by (2426/2442), a dark brown sandy clay with inclusions of charcoal, CBM flecks and pottery sherds dated to the early Roman period. Cutting into [2427/2443] was pit [2429] measuring 0.55m x 0.28m x 0.37m deep. The pit was filled by (2428), a mid grey brown silty clay with occasional chalk and charcoal flecks. No dating evidence was recorded.
- 7.17.5 Linear ditch [2431/2440], excavated in two slots, aligned roughly east-west and measured 2.40m+ x 0.80m + x 0.75m deep. The ditch was filled with three fills recorded as (2430), (2425/2439) and (2424/2438) at an upper height of 97.48mOD. The lowest fill was (2430), a 0.30m thick layer of mid orange brown silty clay with chalk, CBM and charcoal inclusions. Overlying the primary fill was (2425/2439), a mid orange brown silty clay with occasional chalk and charcoal. The final fill was recorded as (2424/2438) a dark grey brown silty clay with occasional chalk and charcoal. Finds from the ditch included abraded roof tile, fired clay, sheep and pig bone fragments and pottery sherds dated to the Late Iron Age to early Roman period. An environmental sample from (2424) contained a small amount of pottery and small mammal bones.
- 7.17.6 A small linear ditch was recorded towards the southeastern extent of the trench and was recorded as [2406], at an upper height of 97.32mOD. The ditch was aligned roughly east-west and was only partially excavated due to the presence of deep water, ice and a live field drain. The ditch measured approximately 3.40m x 0.80m wide and 0.22m+ deep and was filled by (2405), a mid brown grey silty

clay with flint. Pottery sherds dating to the Iron Age period where recovered from the linear as well as cattle and sheep/goat bone fragments.

7.17.7 Truncating the above ditches was later gully recorded in four slots as [2404], [2416], [2435] and [2433], at an upper height of 97.43mOD (Plate 10). The gully was aligned northwest-southeast and measured 9.00m x 0.30m x 0.32-0.41m deep. The gully contained two fills, the lowest, (2403/2437/2436) was a 0.15m thick mid orangey silty clay with charcoal, small CBM flecks and fired clay. The secondary fill was recorded as (2415/2434/2432), a 0.17-0.26m thick layer of mid grey brown silty clay with flint and charcoal inclusions. Pottery sherds recovered from the gully included possible residual Late Iron Age sherds as well as early Roman pottery. Animal bone, including fragments of sheep/goat, was also recovered.



Plate 10 - Gully [2404/2416/2435/2433]

- 7.17.8 At the far southeastern end of the trench was solitary ditch [2445], recorded at an upper height of 97.36mOD. The ditch was aligned northeast-southwest, measuring 2.20m x 1.10m. The ditch was not excavated due to the presence of deep water overlying the feature. The ditch was filled by (2444), a mid grey clay silt. Finds recovered from the surface of the feature include early Roman pottery sherds.
- 7.17.9 Overlying the trench in patches only was (2401), a 0.10m thick layer of mid orangey grey brown silty clay, interpreted as buried soil, which in turn was overlaid by (2400), a 0.30m thick layer of dark grey brown silty clay topsoil.

7.18 Trench 25 (Figure 19A & 19B)

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
2500	0.30m	101.86m – 101.56m	Dark grey brown silty clay. Topsoil.
2501	0.10m	101.56m – 101.46m	Mid orangey grey brown silty clay. Buried soil.
2534	0.10m	101.46m – 101.36m	Light yellow grey chalky clay. Natural.

- 7.18.1 Trench 25 measured 50.00m x 2.00m and was aligned roughly east-west (Figure 2).
- 7.18.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 25 was (2534), a mid yellow grey clay, interpreted as the natural deposit recorded at an upper height of 101.46mOD. Cutting into (2534) was a series on intercutting ditches, gullies and pits.



Plate 11 – Trench 25 (general)

- 7.18.3 The western extent of the trench was covered in deep water and so could not be investigated. However a single ditch was observed and recorded but not excavated. This was recorded as [2540], a northeast-southwest linear ditch measuring 2.00m x 0.80m x NFE at a height of 101.24mOD. The ditch was filled by (2539), a mid grey silty clay. No dating evidence was recovered however due to similarities with other features within Trench 25; it is likely that the ditch dates to the Late Iron Age or early Roman period.
- 7.18.4 Approximately 11.00m further east were intercutting features [2538], [2527] and [2529] recorded at a height of 101.17mOD. The earliest feature in the sequence appears to be gully [2538], a northwest-southeast linear gully measuring 2.50m x 0.25m x NFE. The gully was filled by (2537), a soft mid grey silty clay. No datable finds were recovered. Northeast-southwest linear [2529], measured 1.20m x 0.42m x 0.20m deep and was filled by (2528), a dark grey silty clay with inclusions of Late Iron Age/early Roman pottery sherds, cattle bone and glass fragments. Both of the above features were truncated by later ditch [2527], a northwest-southeast aligned ditch, which measured 6.00m x 0.65m x 0.30m+ deep. The V-shaped ditch was filled by (2526), a mid grey silty clay with inclusions of Late Iron Age/early Roman pottery sherds, sheep/goat and cattle bone and a fragment of an iron tool or fitting. The animal bone recovered from the linear was covered in grey concretions which is consistent with being buried in cess.
- 7.18.5 Centrally located within Trench 25 was a sequence of intercutting ditches recorded at a height of 101.30m. The lowest ditch in the sequence appears to be ditch [2520] (Plate 12). The ditch appears to be curvilinear in plan, initially aligned northwest-southeast but curving to continue in a northeast-southwest alignment. The ditch was observed within three excavated slots. The ditch measured 5.0m+ x 3.00m x 1.12m deep and contained three fills recorded as (2517), (2518) and (2519). The lowest fill (2519) was a 0.40m thick soft green brown silty clay with inclusions of cattle and sheep/goat bone and Late Iron Age/early Roman pottery sherds. The secondary fill (2518), was a

0.32m thick layer of dark grey clayey silt with inclusions of cattle bone and Late Iron Age/early Roman pottery sherds. The final fill within the ditch was (2517), a 0.22m thick layer of soft yellow brown clay with no find inclusions. The animal bone recovered from the ditch, was covered in grey concretions which is consistent with being buried in cess.



Plate 12 - Ditches [2520] and [2525]

- 7.18.6 A possible recut of the above ditch was recorded within the trench as [2525]. The ditch appeared to be aligned north-south, measuring 2.00m x 4.0m x 1.0m deep. The ditch contained a single fill of (2524), a dark grey clay silt within inclusions of Late Iron Age/early Roman pottery sherds, cattle and sheep/goat bone and a small fragment of iron. Cutting into [2525] was a later smaller ditch recorded as [2523]. The small ditch appears to be aligned northwest-southeast, measuring 2.00m x 1.10m x 0.35m deep. The ditch contained two fills recorded as (2522) and (2521). The primary fill (2522), was recorded as a 0.10m thick layer of dark grey yellow brown silty clay. Secondary fill (2521), was recorded as a 0.25m thick layer of mid grey silty clay with no inclusions. No dating evidence was recovered.
- 7.18.7 Ditch [2520] had an unclear relationship with possibly later large ditch [2533]. The ditch appeared to be aligned north-south and may be a recut of [2520]. Ditch [2533] measured 2.00m x 3.30m x 0.50m+ deep. The ditch contained three fills recorded as (2532), (2531) and (2530). The lowest fill (2532), was a 0.10m thick layer of dark yellow brown silty clay interpreted as natural slumping deposited whilst the ditch was open. The secondary fill (2531), was a 0.50m+ thick layer of dark grey clay silt with pottery and horse, pig and cattle bone inclusions. The final fill of the ditch was (2530), a soft yellow brown silty clay. Find recovered from the ditch included occasional Late Iron Age/early Roman pottery, fired clay fragments, mammal bone and a distorted bow brooch of Roman date (see Appendix B for further information).



Plate 13 – Ditch [2520] and Gully [2516]

- 7.18.8 Small gully [2516] cut ditch [2520] (Plate 13). The gully was aligned northwest-southeast and measured 1.75m x 0.45m x 0.16m deep. The gully contained one fill recorded as (2515), a mid grey silty clay with rare inclusions of Late Iron Age pottery sherds.
- 7.18.9 Intercutting ditches [2503] and [2506] were recorded to the east of the intercutting ditches discussed above, at an upper height of 101.47mOD (Plate 14). Ditch [2506] was recorded on a northwest-southeast alignment measuring 2.00m x 1.05m x 0.48m deep. The ditch contained two fills, with the lowest fill (2505) recorded as a 0.23m thick layer of brown grey silty clay, whilst (2504) was recorded as a 0.25m thick mid grey silty clay with inclusions of cattle bones. Pottery sherds recovered from (2504) have been dated to the Late Iron Age. The animal bone recovered from the ditch was covered in grey concretions which is consistent with being buried in cess. Later possible recut [2503] was also aligned northwest-southeast, measuring 2.00m x 1.20m x 0.60m deep. The ditch was filled by (2502), a dark grey silty clay with inclusions of Late Iron Age/early Roman pottery sherds, abraded roof tile and cattle and sheep/goat bone fragments.



Plate 14 - Intercutting ditches [2503] and [2506]

- 7.18.10 An earlier pit or large post hole [2508] was also truncated by ditch [2503]. The feature measured 0.60m in diameter and 0.22m deep. The fill was recorded as (2507), a yellow brown clay with no inclusions. A similar feature [2512] was recorded 3.0m west of [2508]. The possible pit or post hole measured 0.45m in diameter and 0.15m deep. The fill (2511), was recorded as a dark brown silty clay with no inclusions.
- 7.18.11 Two furrows were recorded within Trench 25 as [2510] and [2536]. The furrows measured 2.00m x 1.00m x 0.10m deep and 2.00m x 1.30m x 0.10m deep respectively. Both were filled with a mid brown silty clay, recorded as (2509) and (2535). Furrow [2510] contained residual early Roman pottery sherds. A possible post hole was recorded within the base of [2510]. The post hole recorded as [2514], measured 0.40m in diameter and 0.20m deep and was filled by (2513), a dark brown silty clay.
- 7.18.3 Overlying the trench was (2501), a 0.10m thick layer of mid orangey grey brown silty clay, interpreted as buried soil, which in turn was overlaid by (2500), a 0.30m thick layer of dark grey brown silty clay, topsoil.

7.19 Trench 26 (Figure 20)

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
2600	0.30m	101.46m – 101.16m	Dark grey brown silty clay. Topsoil.
2601	0.18m	101.16m – 100.98m	Mid orangey grey brown silty clay. Buried soil.
2604	0.05m	100.98m – 100.93m	Light yellow grey chalky clay and orange sand. Natural.

Table of the stratigraphic sequence

- 7.19.1 Trench 26 measured 50.00m x 2.00m and was aligned northeast-southwest (Figure 2).
- 7.19.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 26 was (2604), a mid yellow grey chalky clay and orange sand, interpreted as the natural deposit recorded at an upper height of 100.98mOD. Cutting into (2604) was a shallow gully recorded as [2603]. The gully was aligned northeast-southwest, measuring 32.00m x 0.50m x 0.22m deep. The gully was filled by (2602), a light mid brown silty clay with no inclusions. No dating evidence was recovered.

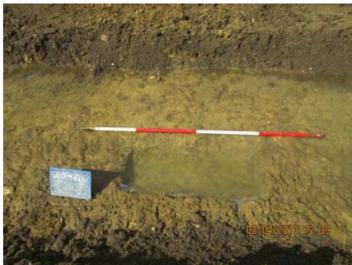


Plate 15 - Gully [2603]

7.19.3 Overlying the trench was (2601), a 0.18m thick layer of mid orangey grey brown silty clay, interpreted as buried soil, which in turn was overlaid by (2600), a 0.30m thick layer of dark grey brown silty clay topsoil.

7.20 Trench 27 (Figure 21)

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
2700	0.26m	101.01m – 100.75m	Dark grey brown silty clay. Topsoil.
2701	0.14m	100.75m – 100.61m	Mid orangey grey brown silty clay. Buried soil.
2702	0.03m	100.61m – 100.58m	Light yellow grey chalky clay. Natural

- 7.20.1 Trench 27 measured 50.00m x 2.00m and was aligned east-west (Figure 2).
- 7.20.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 27 was (2702), a mid yellow grey chalky clay, interpreted as the natural deposit recorded at an upper height of 100.61mOD. Cutting into (2702) were three gullies and

a large modern pit. The three gullies were recorded as [2704], [2706] and [2708], with [2704] and [2708] aligned northeast-southwest and [2706] aligned northwest-southeast. The gullies varied in length between 2.60m and 2.10m, between 0.50m and 1.00m in width and between 0.13m and 0.27m in depth at an upper height of 100.56mOD. All three gullies were filled by a firm light yellow brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and flint recorded as (2703), (2705) and (2707). No dating evidence was recovered.

- 7.20.3 Located within the western extent of the trench was [2712], a linear pit measuring 3.0m x 1.25m x 0.36m deep. The shallow pit was filled by four fills recorded as (2709), (2710), (2711) and (2713). The lowest fill (2711), was recorded as black orange clay silt with charcoal flecks. This was overlaid by (2713), a 0.10m thick layer of soft mixed brown grey silty clay. Fill (2710), a tertiary fill was recorded as a yellow grey silty clay layer of redeposited natural. The final fill (2709) was yellow grey clay silt with lenses of topsoil. The feature was interpreted as relating to modern disturbance.
- 7.20.3 Overlying the trench was (2701), a 0.14m thick layer of mid orangey grey brown silty clay, interpreted as buried soil, which in turn was overlaid by (2700), a 0.26m thick layer of dark grey brown silty clay topsoil.

7.21 Trench 31 (not illustrated)

Table of the stratigraphic sequence

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
3100	0.32m	102.18m – 101.86m	Dark grey brown silty clay. Topsoil.
3101	0.08m	101.86m – 101.78m	Light yellow grey chalky flinty clay. Natural.

- 7.21.1 Trench 31 measured 50.00m x 2.00m and was aligned northwest-southeast (Figure 2).
- 7.21.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 31 was (3101), a mid yellow grey chalky flinty clay, interpreted as natural recorded at an upper height of 101.86mOD. Cutting into (3102) was a shallow gully recorded as [3103]. The gully was aligned roughly northwest-southeast, measuring 2.50m x 0.40m x NFE deep. The gully was filled by (3102), a mid grey brown silty clay. Gully [3103] appeared to terminate within the trench however the feature could not be excavated due to the presence of deep water, ice and snow. No dating evidence was recovered.
- 7.21.3 Overlying the trench was (3100), a 0.32m thick layer of dark grey brown silty clay, topsoil.

7.22 Trench 34 (Figure 22)

Table of the stratigraphic sequence

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
3400	0.34m	102.09m – 101.75m	Dark grey brown silty clay. Topsoil.
3401	0.07m	101.75m – 101.68m	Light yellow grey chalky clay and yellow sandy clay. Natural.

7.22.1 Trench 34 measured 50.00m x 2.00m and was aligned roughly northeast-southwest (Figure 2).

7.22.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 34 was (3401), a mid yellow grey chalky clay and yellow sandy clay, interpreted as the natural deposit recorded at an upper height of 101.75mOD. Cutting into (3401) were intercutting ditches [3405] and [3407], pit [3403] and ditch [3409], recorded at a height of 101.77mOD (Plate 16).

7.22.3 Intercutting ditches [3405] and [3407] were aligned northwest-southeast, measuring 2.00m x 1.00m x 0.20m deep and 2.00m x 0.70m x 0.38m deep respectively. The earliest ditch was [3407] which was filled by (3406), a grey brown silty clay. Later ditch [3405] was filled by (3404), orange grey brown silty clay with occasional charcoal, CBM and green bottle glass dating to the 20th-21st century. The ditches have been interpreted as a previous field boundary.

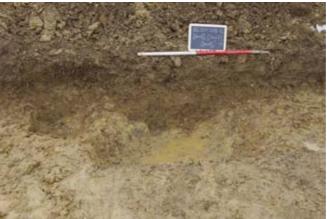


Plate 16 – Intercutting ditches [3405] & [3407] and Pit [3403]

- 7.22.4 Pit [3403], was located adjacent to the ditches. The pit was sub-circular in shape, with only half the pit present in the trench. The pit measured 1.20m x 0.378m x 0.32m deep and was filled by (3402), a mixed mid to light brown grey clay. No finds were recovered.
- 7.22.5 Ditch [3409] was located towards the northeast end of the trench. The ditch was aligned northwestsoutheast, measuring 2.80m x 0.64m x 0.43m deep and was filled by (3408), a dense mid grey silty clay with occasional orange flecks and flint inclusions. No dating evidence was recovered.
- 7.22.6 Overlying the trench was (3400), a 0.34m thick layer of dark grey brown silty clay topsoil.

7.23 Trench 37 (Figure 23)

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
3700	0.25m	102.17m – 101.92m	Dark grey brown silty clay. Topsoil.
3701	0.17m	101.92m – 101.75m	Light yellow grey chalky clay and yellow sandy clay. Natural.

- 7.23.1 Trench 37 measured 50.00m x 2.00m and was aligned east-west (Figure 2).
- 7.23.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 37 was (3701), a light yellow grey chalky clay and yellow sandy clay, interpreted as the natural deposits recorded at an upper height of 101.92mOD. Cutting into (3701) was a shallow gully recorded as [3703] (Plate 13). The gully was aligned north-south, measuring 2.00m x 0.32m x 0.14m deep. The gully was filled by (3702), a light grey brown silty clay. No dating evidence was recovered.



Plate 17 - Gully [3703]

7.23.3 Overlying the trench was (3700), a 0.25m thick layer of dark grey brown silty clay topsoil.

7.24 Trench 38 (Figure 24)

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
3800	0.32m	102.30m – 101.98m	Dark grey brown silty clay. Topsoil.
3801	0.08m	101 YXm = 101 Y0m	Light yellow grey chalky clay and yellow sandy clay. Natural.

- 7.24.1 Trench 38 measured 50.00m x 2.00m and was aligned roughly east-west (Figure 2).
- 7.24.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 38 was (3801), a light yellow grey chalky clay and yellow sandy clay interpreted as the natural deposit recorded at an upper height of 101.98mOD. Cutting into (3801) was a shallow ditch recorded as [3803] (Plate 18). The ditch was aligned northeast-southwest, terminating within the trench and measuring 1.50m x 0.60m x 0.18m deep. The ditch was filled by (3802), a mid grey brown silty clay with rare inclusions of charcoal, Late Iron Age/early Roman pottery sherds and flint.



Plate 18 – Ditch [3803]

7.24.3 Overlying the trench was (3800), a 0.32m thick layer of dark grey brown silty clay topsoil.

7.25 Trench 42 (Figure 25)

Table of the stratigraphic sequence

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
4200	0.30m	102.44m – 102.14m	Dark grey brown silty clay. Topsoil.
4201	0.10m	102.14m – 102.04m	Mid orangey grey brown silty clay. Buried soil.
4202	0.10m	102.04m – 101.94m	Light yellow grey clay and dark yellow sand. Natural.

- 7.25.1 Trench 42 measured 50.00m x 2.00m and was aligned northeast-southwest (Figure 2).
- 7.25.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 42 was (4202), a light yellow grey clay and dark yellow sand, interpreted as the natural deposit recorded at an upper height of 102.04mOD. Cutting into (4202) were two ditches recorded as [4204] and [4206]. The ditches were aligned northeast-southwest, approximately 10m apart, measuring 2.00m x 0.64m x NFE. Both ditches were covered with a significant level of water and ice and as such were not excavated. The ditches were filled by (4203) and (4205), a dark grey silty clay. No dating evidence was recovered.
- 7.25.3 Overlying the trench was (4201), a 0.10m thick layer of mid orangey grey brown silty clay, interpreted as buried soil, which in turn was overlaid by (4200), a 0.30m thick layer of dark grey brown silty clay topsoil.

7.26 Trench 44 (Figure 26)

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
4400	0.24m	102.30m – 102.06m	Dark grey brown silty clay. Topsoil.
4401	0.12m	10206m - 10194m	Light yellow grey clay and dark yellow sand. Natural.

- 7.26.1 Trench 44 measured 50.00m x 2.00m and was aligned northwest-southeast (Figure 2).
- 7.26.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 44 was (4401), a light yellow grey clay and dark yellow sand, interpreted as natural recorded at an upper height of 102.06mOD. Cutting into (4401) was ditch [4403] (Plate 19). The ditch was aligned northeast-southwest, terminating within the trench,

measuring 2.90m x 0.75m x 0.30m deep. The ditch was filled by (4402), a dark grey silty clay with rare CBM flecks. No dating evidence was recovered.



Plate 19 - Ditch [4403]

7.26.3 Overlying the trench was (4400), a 0.24m thick layer of dark grey brown silty clay topsoil.

7.27 Trench 45 (Figure 27)

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
4500	0.28m	102.31m – 102.03m	Dark grey brown silty clay. Topsoil.
4501	0.18m	102.03m – 101.85m	Mid orangey grey brown silty clay. Buried soil.
4502	0.08m	10185m - 10177m	Light yellow grey sandy clay with chalk and flint. Natural.

- 7.27.1 Trench 45 measured 50.00m x 2.00m and was aligned northeast-southwest (Figure 2).
- 7.27.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 45 was (4502), a light yellow grey sandy clay with chalk and flint, interpreted as the natural deposit recorded at an upper height of 101.85mOD. Cutting into (4502) were two ditches recorded as [4504] and [4506] (Plate 20). Both ditches were aligned east-west and each measured 2.20m x 0.64m x 0.28-0.36m deep. The ditches had the similar fills recorded as (4503) and (4505), a dark grey silty clay with no inclusions.



Plate 20 - Ditch [4506]

7.27.3 Overlying the trench was (4501), a 0.18m thick layer of mid orangey grey brown silty clay, interpreted as buried soil, which in turn was overlaid by (4500), a 0.28m thick layer of dark grey brown silty clay topsoil.

7.28 Trench 47 (Figure 28)

Table of the stratigraphic sequence

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
4700	0.22m	102.01m – 101.79m	Dark grey brown silty clay. Topsoil.
4701	0.12m	101 /9m - 101 6/m	Light yellow grey clay and dark orange sandy clay. Natural.

- 7.28.1 Trench 47 measured 50.00m x 2.00m and was aligned northwest-southeast (Figure 2).
- 7.28.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 47 was (4701), a Light yellow grey clay and dark orange sandy clay, interpreted as the natural deposit recorded at an upper height of 101.79mOD. Cutting into (4701) were two ditches recorded as [4703] and [4705]. Ditch [4703] was aligned east-west, V-shaped, measuring 2.60m x 0.64m x 0.30m deep (Plate 21). Ditch [4705] was located 27m further southwest, aligned northeast-southwest, V-shaped, measuring 2.30m x 0.73m x 0.28m deep. Ditch [4703] was filled by (4702), a mid grey brown silty clay whist ditch [4705] was filled by (4704), a light grey orange silty clay with orange flecks. No dating evidence was recovered.



Plate 21 - Ditch [4703]

7.28.3 Overlying the trench was (4700), a 0.22m thick layer of dark grey brown silty clay topsoil.

7.29 Trench 50 (Figure 29)

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
5000	0.28m	102.40m – 102.12m	Dark grey brown silty clay. Topsoil.
5001	0.10m	102.12m – 102.02m	Mid orangey grey brown silty clay. Buried soil.
5002	0.12m	102.02m – 101.19m	Light yellow grey clay and dark yellow sand. Natural.

- 7.29.1 Trench 50 measured 50.00m x 2.00m and was aligned northwest-southeast (Figure 2).
- 7.29.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 50 was (5002), a light yellow grey clay and dark yellow sand, interpreted as the natural deposit recorded at an upper height of 102.02mOD. Cutting into (5002) was

a small circular pit [5004], measuring 0.38m in diameter and 0.13m deep. The pit was filled by (5003) a dark brown grey brown silty clay. No dating evidence was recovered.

7.29.3 Overlying the trench was (5001), a 0.10m thick layer of mid orangey grey brown silty clay, interpreted as buried soil, which in turn was overlaid by (5000), a 0.28m thick layer of dark grey brown silty clay topsoil.

7.30 Trench 52 (Figure 30)

Table of the stratigraphic sequence

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
5200	0.26m	102.04m – 101.78m	Dark grey brown silty clay. Topsoil.
5201	0.23m	101.78m – 101.55m	Light yellow grey clay and dark yellow sandy clay. Natural.

- 7.30.1 Trench 52 measured 50.00m x 2.00m and was aligned northwest-southeast (Figure 2).
- 7.30.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 52 was (5201), light yellow grey clay and dark yellow sandy clay, interpreted as the natural deposit recorded at an upper height of 101.78mOD. Cutting into (5201) were two shallow gullies recorded as [5203] (Plate 22) and [5205]. Both gullies were aligned north-south and measured 2.40m x 0.48m x 0.14m deep and 4.50m x 0.42m x NFE respectively. Both gullies were filled by a mid grey brown silty clay with inclusions of charcoal recorded as (5203) and (5204). No dating evidence was recovered.



Plate 22 – Gully [5203]

7.30.3 Overlying the trench was (5200), a 0.26m thick layer of dark grey brown silty clay topsoil.

7.31 Trench 55 (Figure 31)

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
5500	0.30m	102.47m – 102.17m	Dark grey brown silty clay. Topsoil.
5503	0.16m	102.17m – 102.01m	Disturbed dark grey sandy gritty clay with tile, brick and glass. Subsoil.
5504	0.05m	102.01m – 101.96m	Light brown grey silty clay with chalk. Natural.

Table of the stratigraphic sequence

- 7.31.1 Trench 55 measured 50.00m x 2.00m and was aligned east-west (Figure 2).
- 7.31.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 55 was (5504), a light brown grey silty clay with chalk, interpreted as the natural deposit recorded at an upper height of 102.01mOD. Cutting into (5504) was the remains of a single coursed wall footing [5501], within cut [5502], composed of cut local stone and occasional fragments of red brick, recorded at a height of 102.25mOD (Plate 23). The wall measured 4.85m x 0.27m x 0.10m deep. The presence of grey slate in close proximity to the wall suggests a post-medieval date.



Plate 23 - Wall [5501]

7.31.3 Overlying the trench was (5503), a 0.16m thick layer of disturbed dark grey sandy gritty clay with tile, brick, glass, interpreted as disturbed subsoil, which in turn was overlaid by (5500), a 0.30m thick layer of dark grey brown silty clay topsoil.

7.32 Trench 57 (Figure 32)

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
5700	0.27m	102.15m – 101.88m	Dark grey brown silty clay. Topsoil.
5701	0.24m	101.88m – 101.64m	Mid orangey grey brown silty clay. Buried soil.
5702	0.05m	101.64m – 101.59m	Light yellow brown silty clay with frequent chalk and flint. Natural.

- 7.32.1 Trench 57 measured 50.00m x 2.00m and was aligned roughly north-south (Figure 2).
- 7.32.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 57 was (5702), a light brown silty clay with chalk and flint, interpreted as the natural deposit recorded at an upper height of 101.64mOD. Cutting into (5702)

were two gullies recorded as [5704] (Plate 24) and [5706]. Both gullies were aligned northeastsouthwest and measured $3.60 \text{ m} \times 0.38 \text{ m} \times 0.12 \text{ m}$ deep and $3.20 \text{ m} \times 0.34 \text{ m} \times \text{NFE}$ respectively. Both gullies were filled with a mid orange brown silty clay recorded as (5703) and (5705). No dating evidence was recovered.

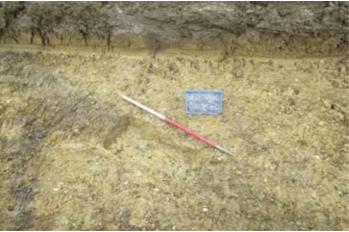


Plate 24 - Gully [5704]

7.32.3 Overlying the trench was (5701), a 0.24m thick layer of mid orangey grey brown silty clay, interpreted as buried soil, which in turn was overlaid by (5700), a 0.27m thick layer of dark grey brown silty clay topsoil.

8 Finds (Appendix B)

- 8.1 The finds assemblage included pottery sherds, CBM, fired clay, animal bone, metal fragments and glass.
- 8.2 The pottery assemblage comprised 279 sherds including four sherds recovered from the sieved residues of environmental samples. The pottery spans the transitional Late Iron Age/early Roman periods and ranges in date from the late 1st century BC to the mid 2nd century AD. Twenty features within four trenches yielded pottery, the majority concentrated in Trenches 24 and 25. Of these, five contained solely Late Iron Age wares; 10 contained pottery of mixed / transitional Late Iron Age and Roman date, and five solely Romanised wares.
- 8.3 Fifty-eight percent of the assemblage can be dated to the Late Iron Age (late 1st century BC-mid 1st century AD). Shell is the dominant inclusion type with grog-tempered wares and groggy wares containing admixtures of sand and calcareous inclusions constitute the remainder of the assemblage. The majority of the Late Iron Age vessels are wheel-thrown, a proportion are hand-made with wheel-finished shoulder and rim, and some are entirely hand-made. Diagnostic forms are rare, and comprise mainly lid-seated jars, cordoned jars, a single butt beaker, and a small number of storage-type vessels also occur. Roman pottery totals 42% of the assemblage and comprises a limited range of fabric types, the majority of which are of local origin. Shelly wares continue to dominate the assemblage and are supplemented by a range of reduced sandy wares. Grey wares include a small number of sherds from the Lower Nene Valley, datable to the mid 2nd century. The few diagnostic Roman forms comprise: shelly lid-seated jars, cordoned vessels; grey ware dishes and single examples of a triangular rim bowl, a developed lid-seated jar, and a shallow bowl or lid. Traded wares include four 2nd century white ware body sherds from the Verulamium region and Oxfordshire and five sherds of early Roman samian from sources in central and southern Gaul.

- 8.4 Five pieces of shell-tempered Roman roof tile and 12 fired clay fragments were collected. One piece of roof tile was identified as a D-shaped flange. The fired clay comprised battered and amorphous pieces in a sand and coarse shelly/calcareous fabric.
- 8.5 Three metal fragments were recovered from site. Two were identified as iron fragments, one possibly a tool or fitting, the other appears as a spall of a larger object. The final piece was identified as the distorted remains of a copper alloy bow brooch of Roman date.
- 8.6 The animal bone assemblage included the main domestic species (cattle, sheep/goat, pig and horse), but no wild or accessory domestic species such as dog or cat. High fragmentation and the presence of butchery marks suggests that carcasses underwent some form of processing, and the predominance of meat-bearing limb bones indicates that much of the assemblage resulted from domestic food waste.
- 8.7 Three environmental samples were taken from Trenches 24 and 19. The samples were sieved through an environmental processing tank and then again later, by bowl-hand method, to break down firmer clay peds in the soil matrix. Flots was collected in a 300 micron sieve and the residue in a 1mm mesh and then later, 1mm sieve. Bone retrieved was mostly small mammal splinter fragments, with a couple of rodent bone noticeable. Some small fractured pieces of burnt flint were present. Few of the stones in the residue appeared heat affected. Some smaller red and black clay peds have been retained as they may have been fired purposefully i.e. kiln lining fragments, However they could as easily be natural stone heated accidentally by fire. The samples show that potential for dietary/environment evidence is negligible and the finds from the residues mirror those collected manually from the contexts.
- 8.8 Other finds included post-medieval glass, molluscs, unworked flint and a chalk limestone fragment. All of these have been recorded and are recommended for discard. Conservation work has been completed on the metal finds in line with the project brief and will be included in the archive.

9 Conclusions

- 9.1 During the course of the evaluation 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 site, as well as a network of ditches, gullies and pit dating form the Late Iron Age to the early Roman period.
- 9.2 Natural deposits were identified across the full extent of the site area, ranging from gravelly sands to chalky clays. The natural horizon undulates across the site as the topography drops towards the north to northwest of the site.
- 9.3 Archaeological remains appear to date from four possible periods on site. A large number of trenches contained linear gullies, which contained the same grey silty clay. No dating evidence was recovered from the features; however, they have been interpreted as possibly being part of an older prehistoric landscape.
- 9.4 The next phase of activity appears to date to the Late Iron Age to early Roman period where intensive activity appears to be centred within the area covered by Trenches 23-25. The remains appear to be in the form of linear ditches where pottery sherds have been identified as dating to the late Iron Age/early Roman period. A number of undated features located within the same trenches may also date to this period. Re-use or re-cutting of the prehistoric ditches during the early Roman period was observed in the above trenches.

9.5 Later activity was recorded within a number of trenches in the form of linears identified as furrows. Most appear to have been heavily ploughed out during later periods which explain their shallow nature. Trench 34 contained a possible field boundary. The fill included fragments of glass and CBM indicating a 20th-21st century date. Trench 55 contained the shallow remains of a structural wall. The wall was made from natural stone with bricks fragments. Aerial photography and map evidence suggests the wall may have been a field barn similar to the listed Whitland's Barn, located on the opposite side of the site, which was demolished between 1976 and 1981 (Geoff Saunders *Pers Comm*).

10 Recommendations

10.1 Due to the intensive activity located within the southeast corner of Whitlands Field, Geoff Saunders has recommended that should the proposed development be granted planning approval and the current scheme remains unchanged, further mitigation works may need to be conducted on site overlying Trenches 23-25.

11 Publication and Archive Deposition

- 11.1 A paper copy of the evaluation 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).
- 11.2 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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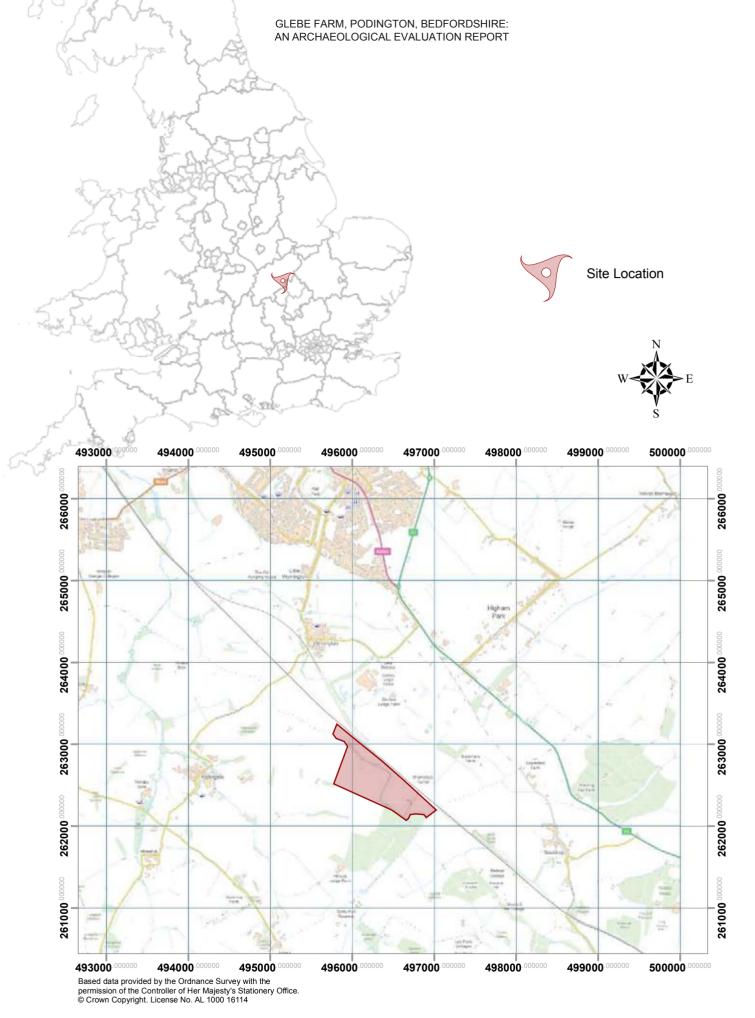
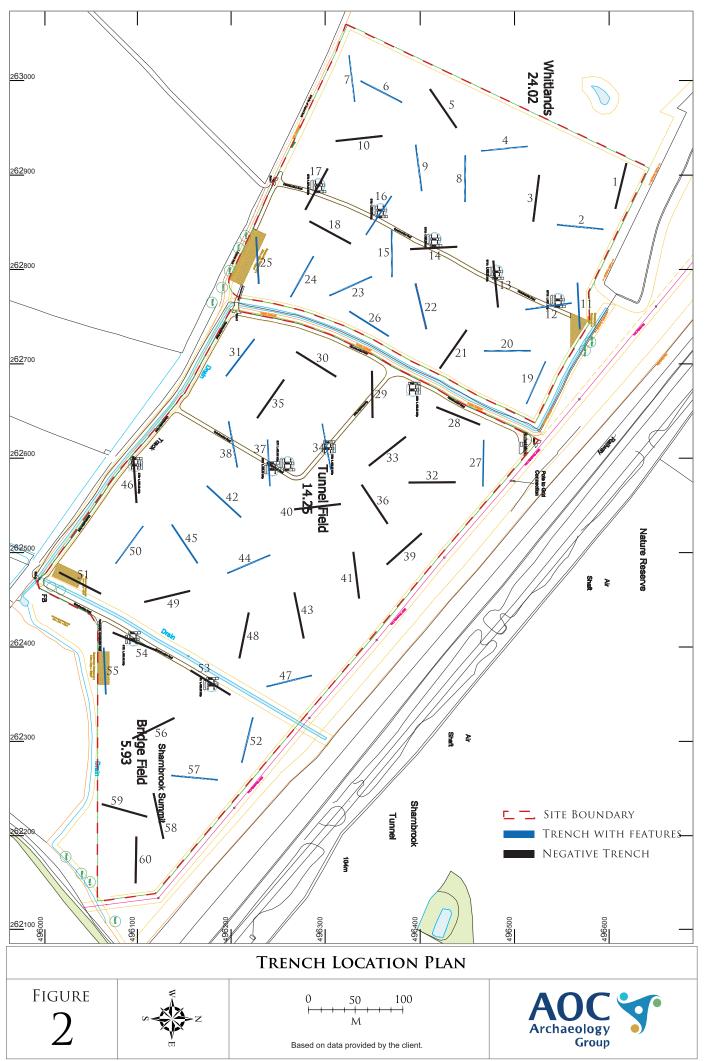


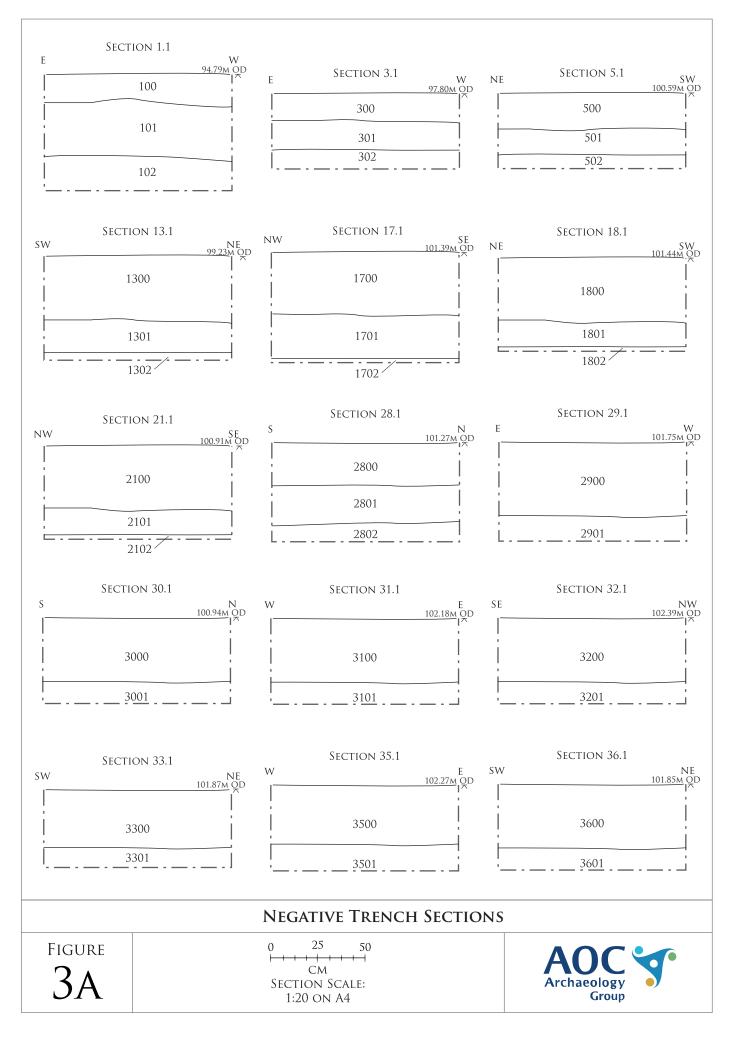


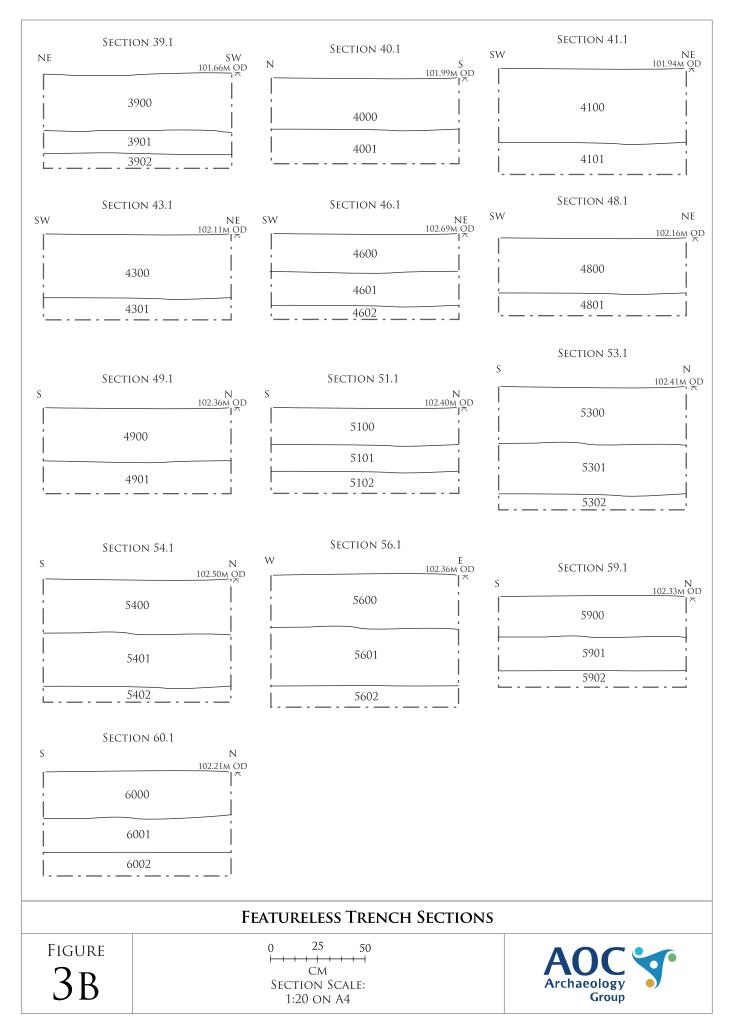
Figure 1: Site Location

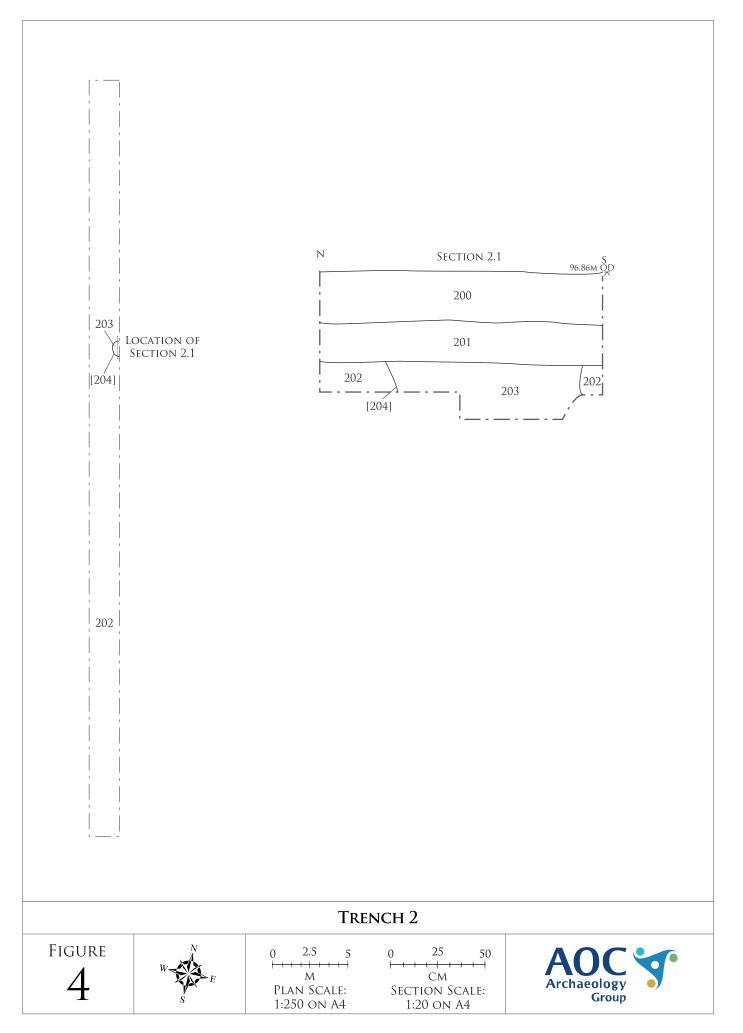
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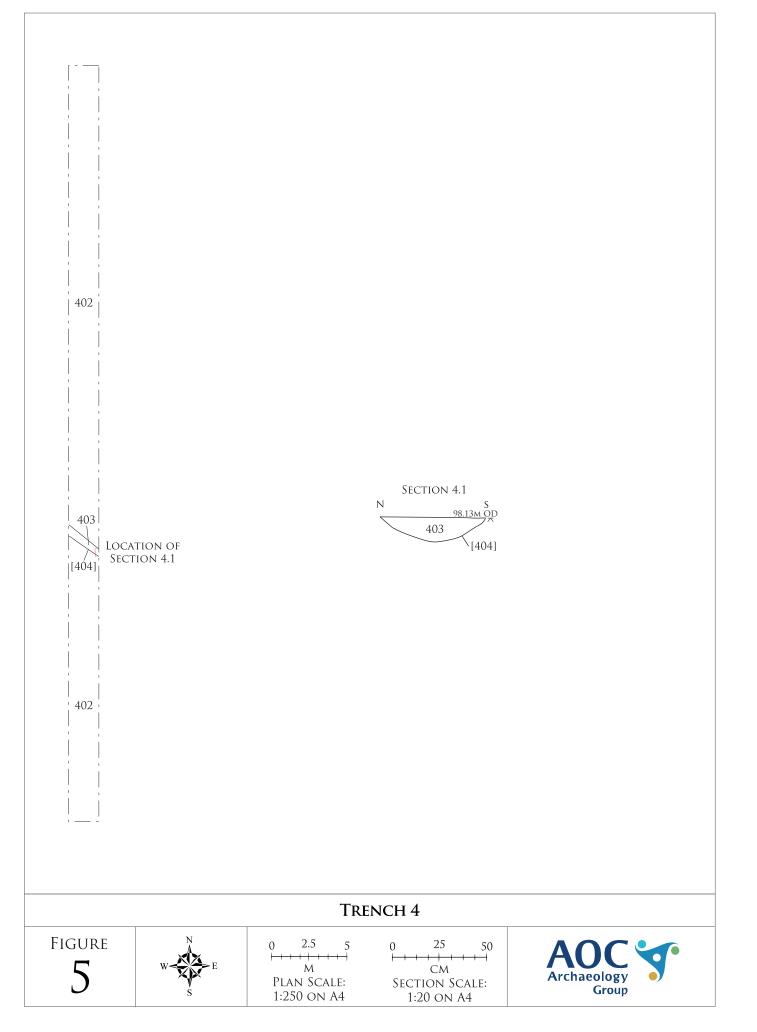


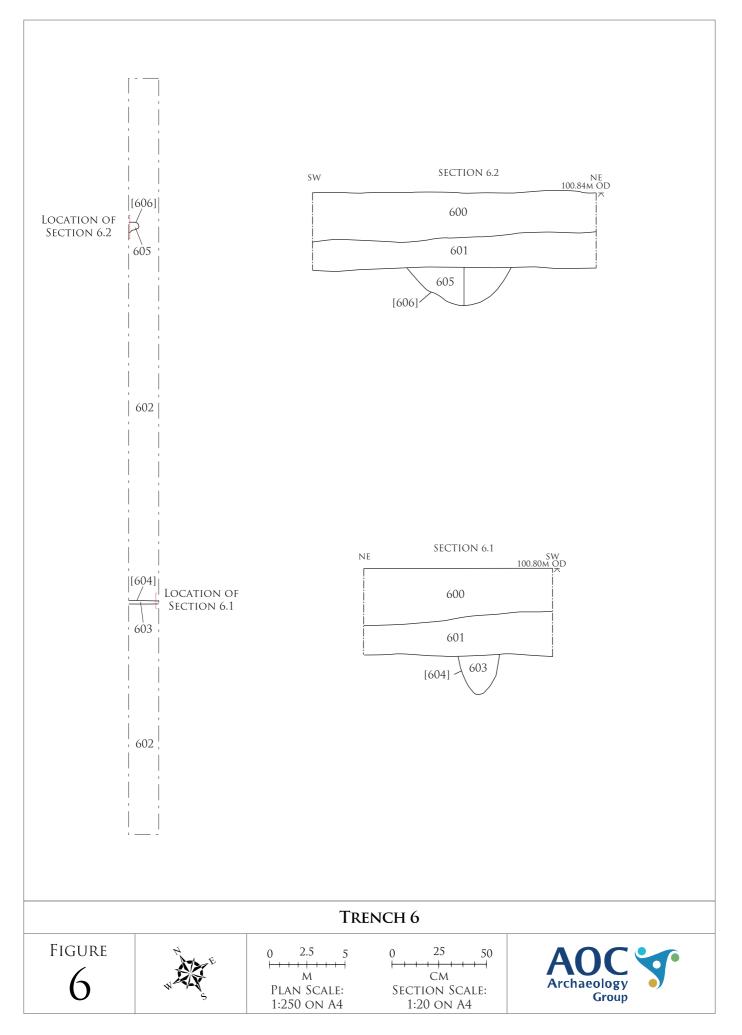
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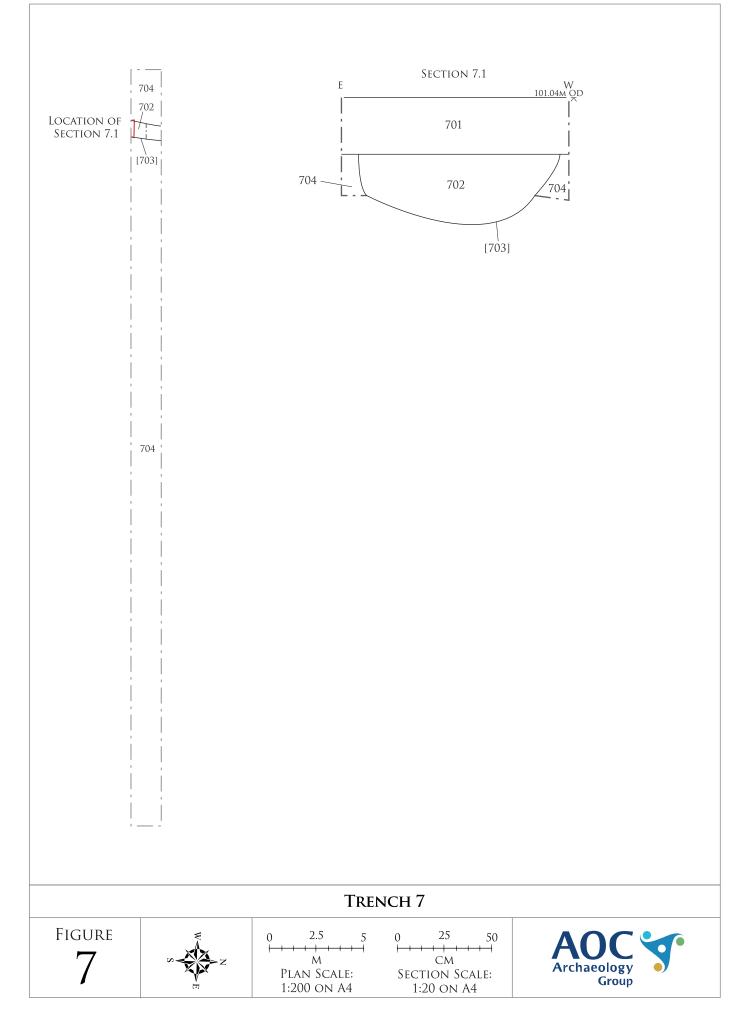


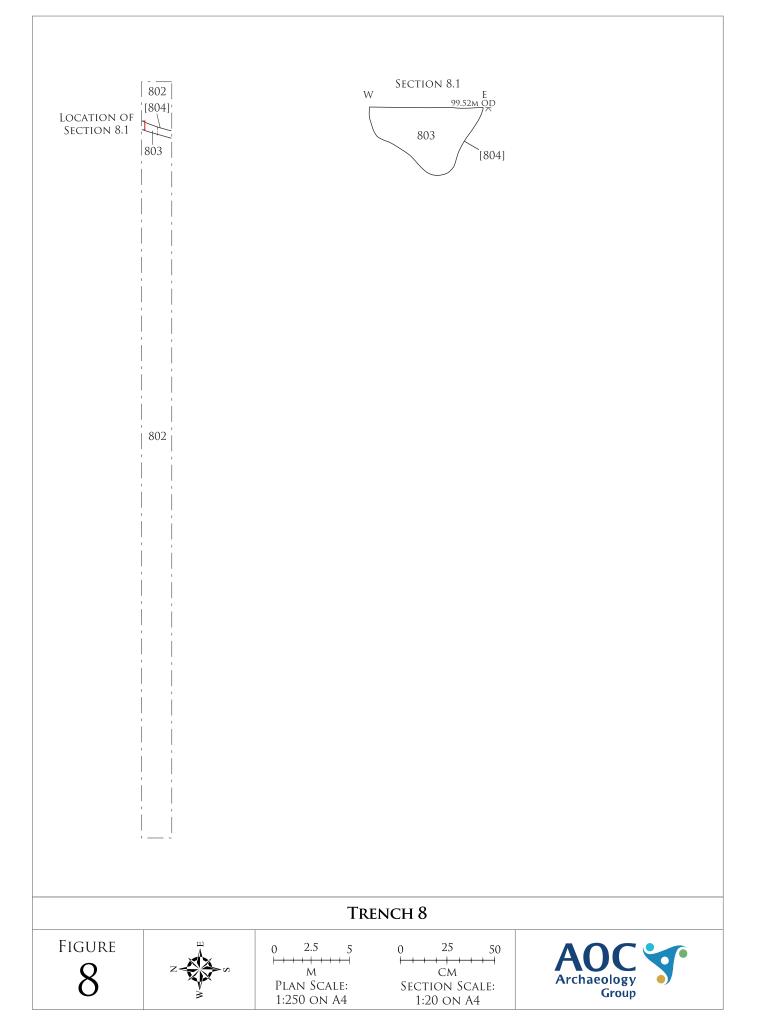


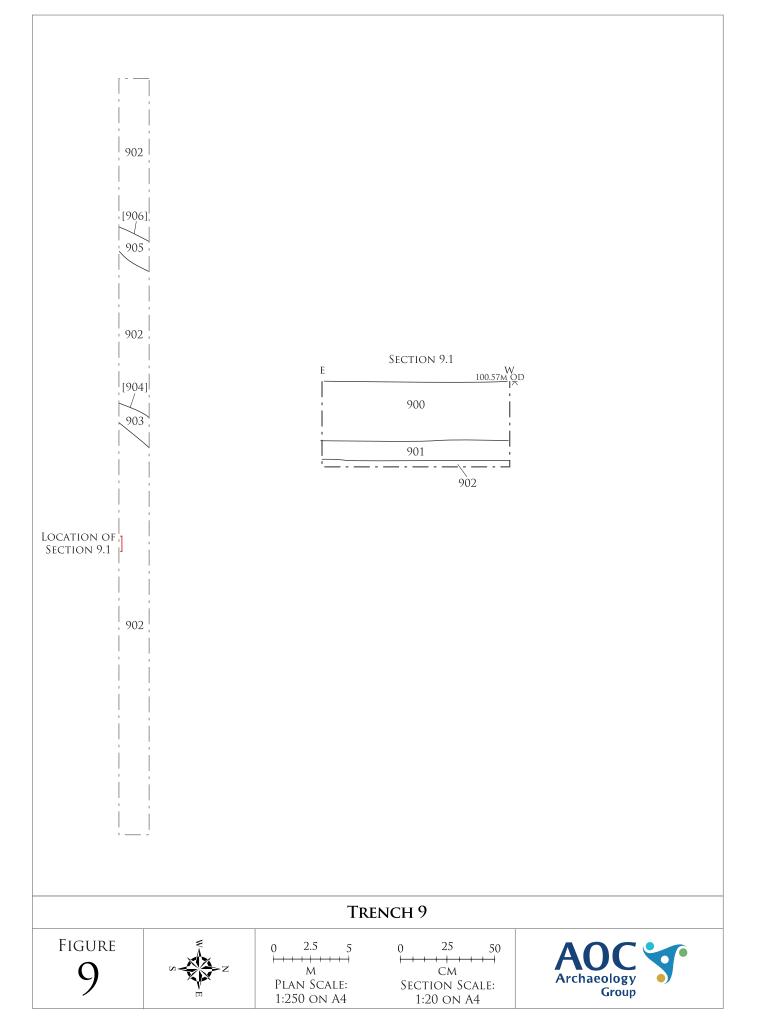


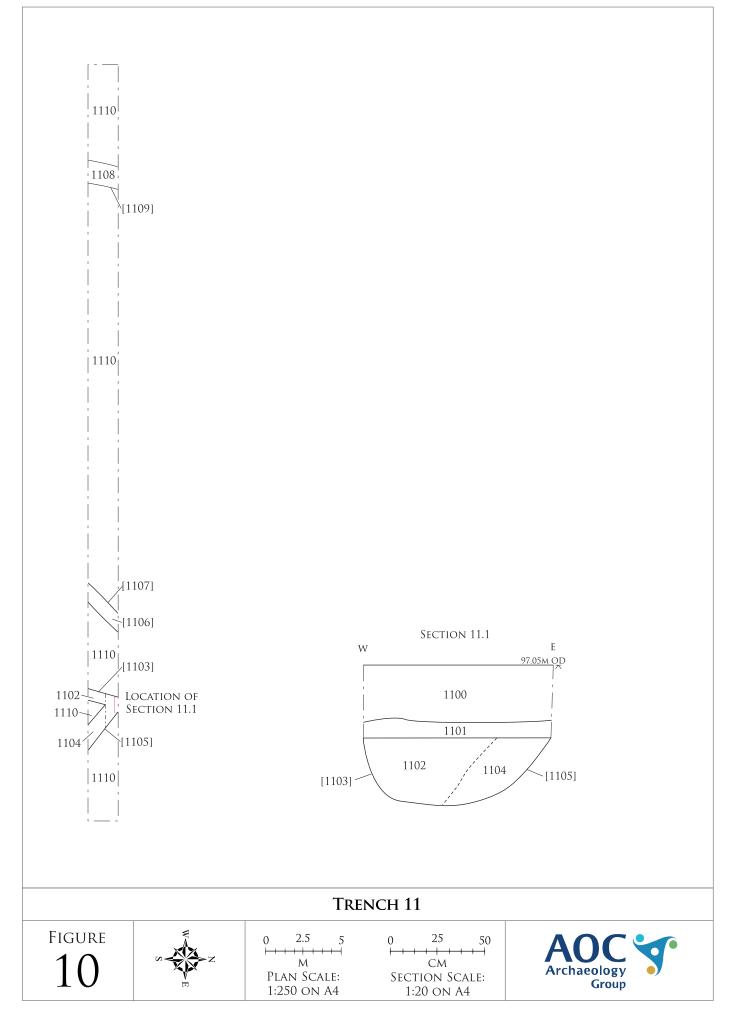


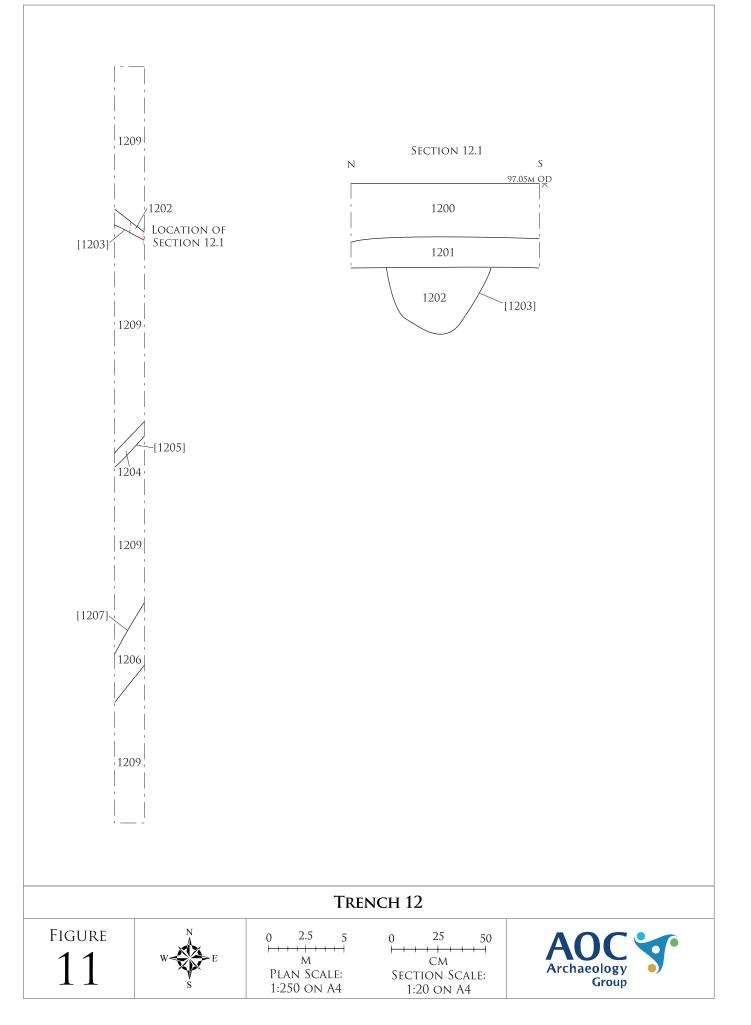


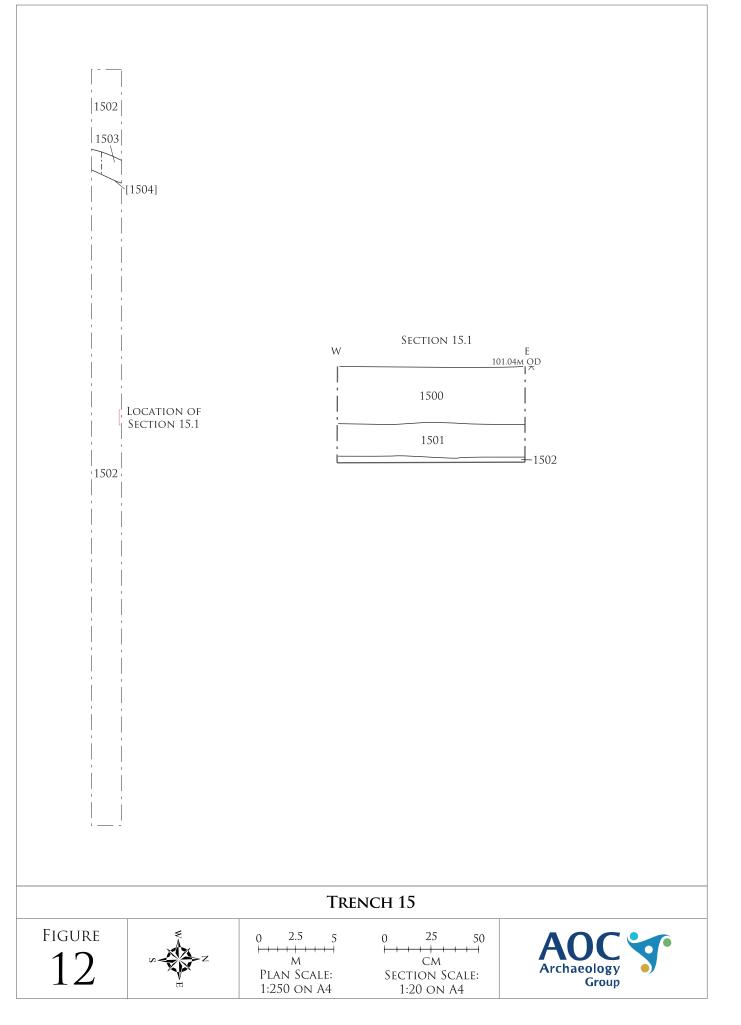


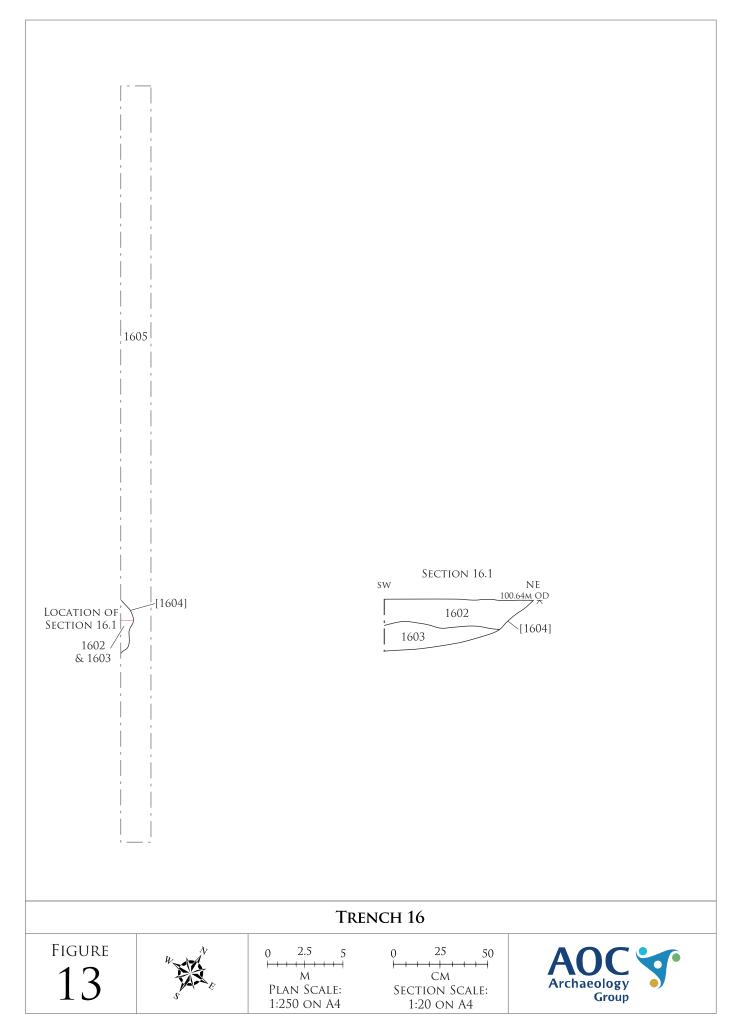


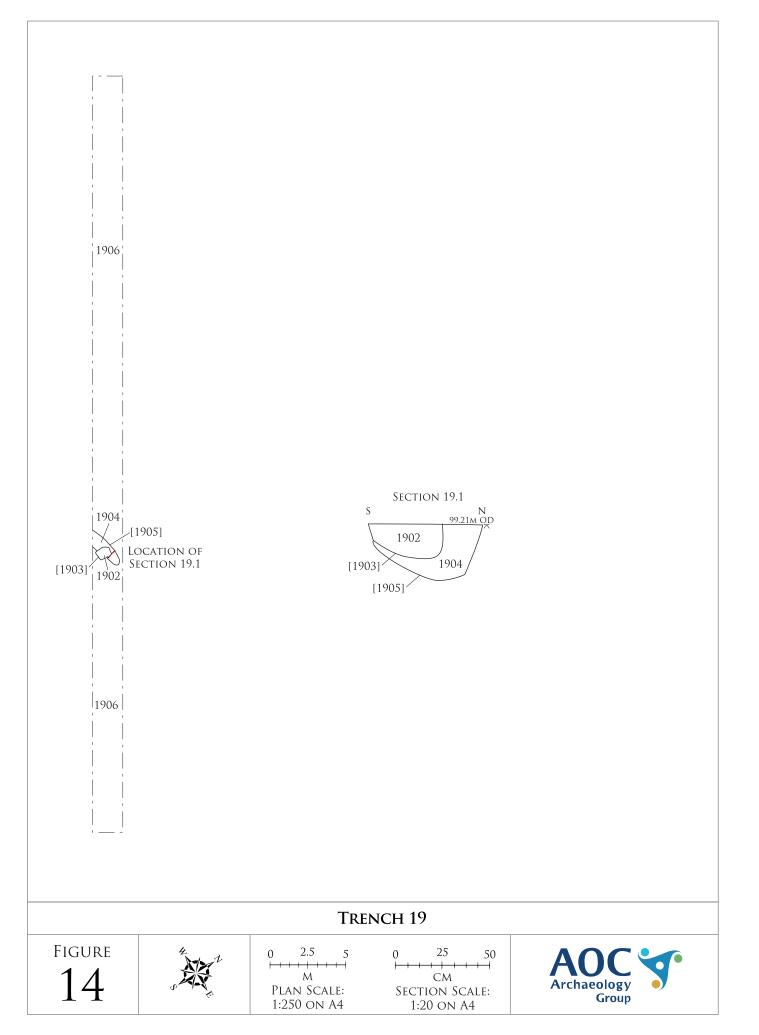


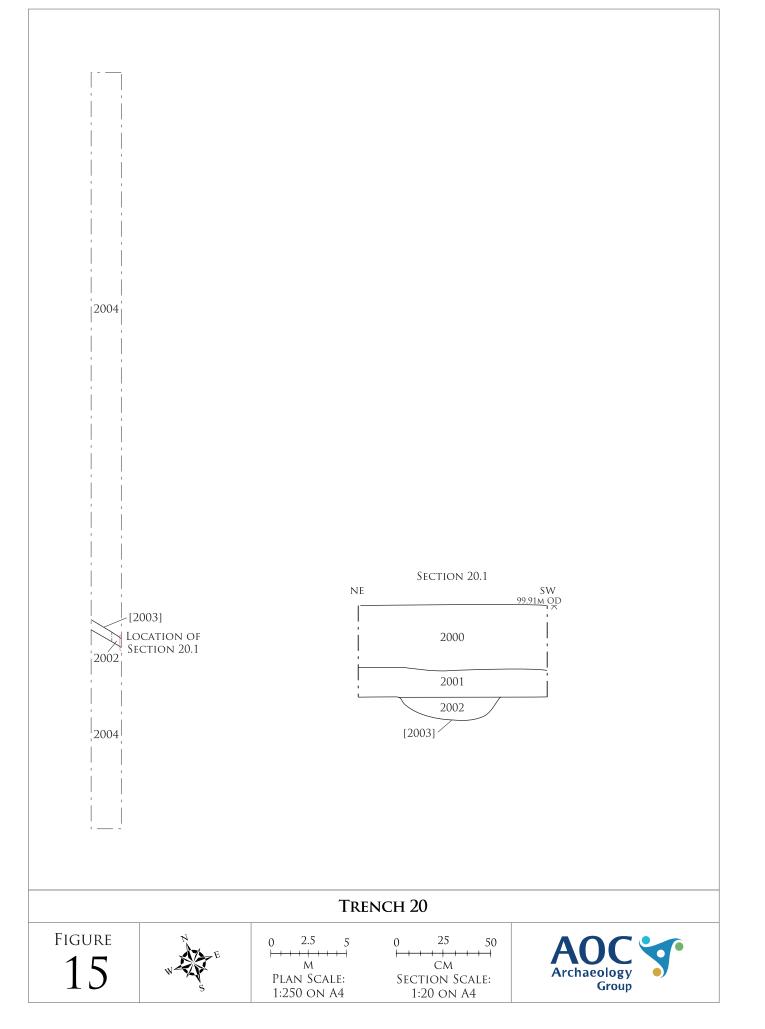


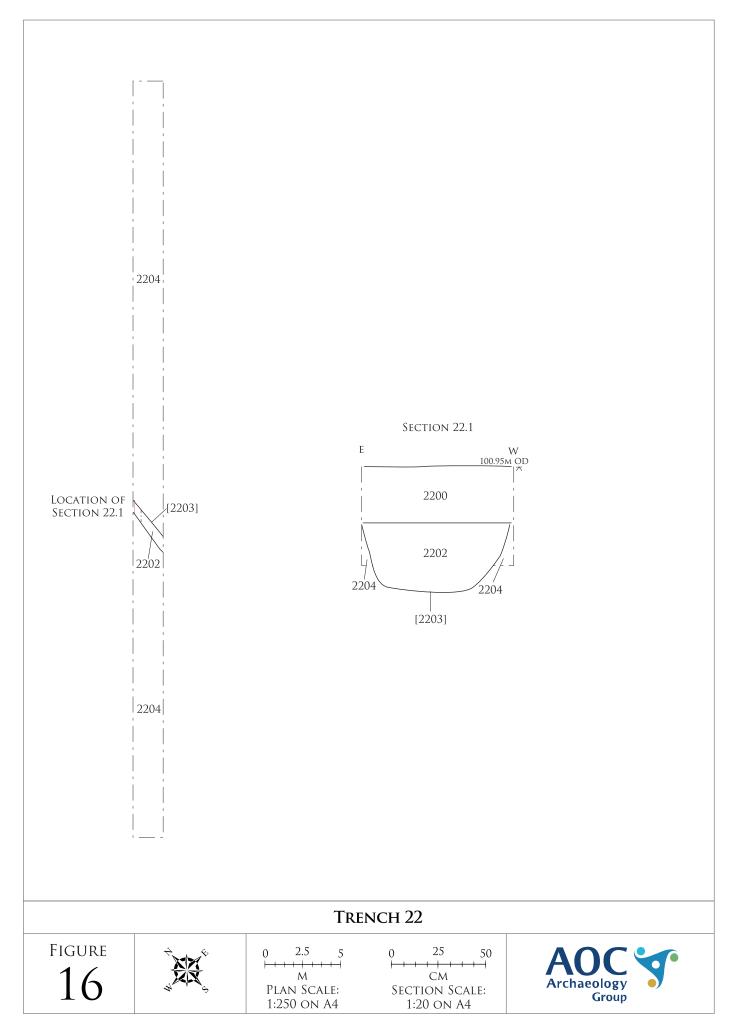


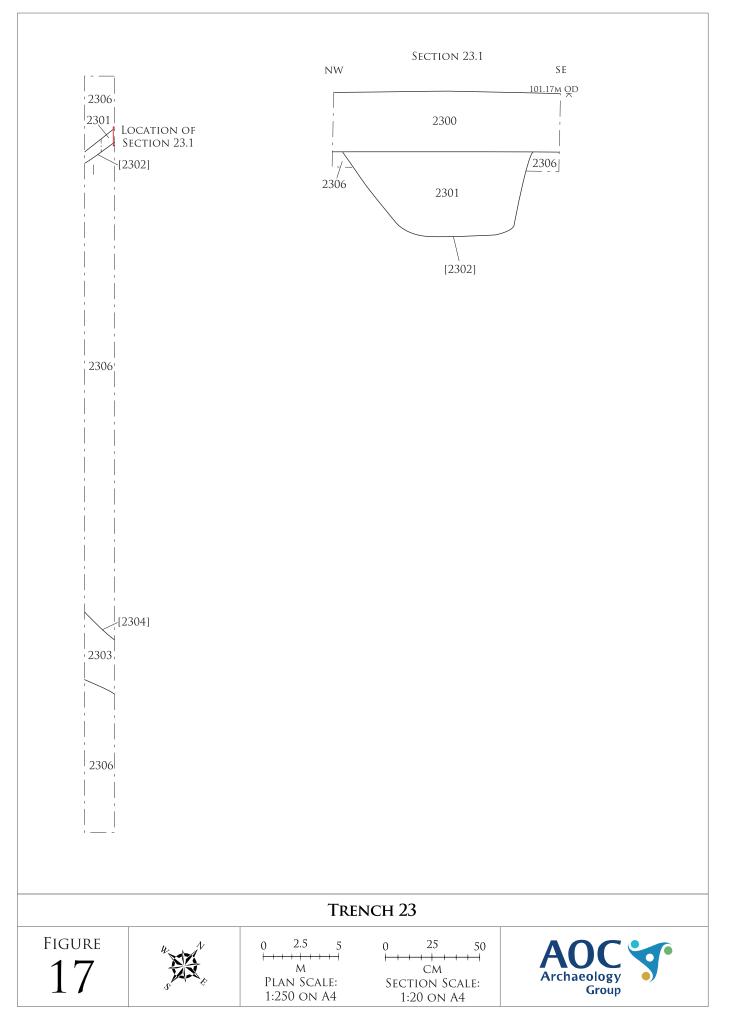


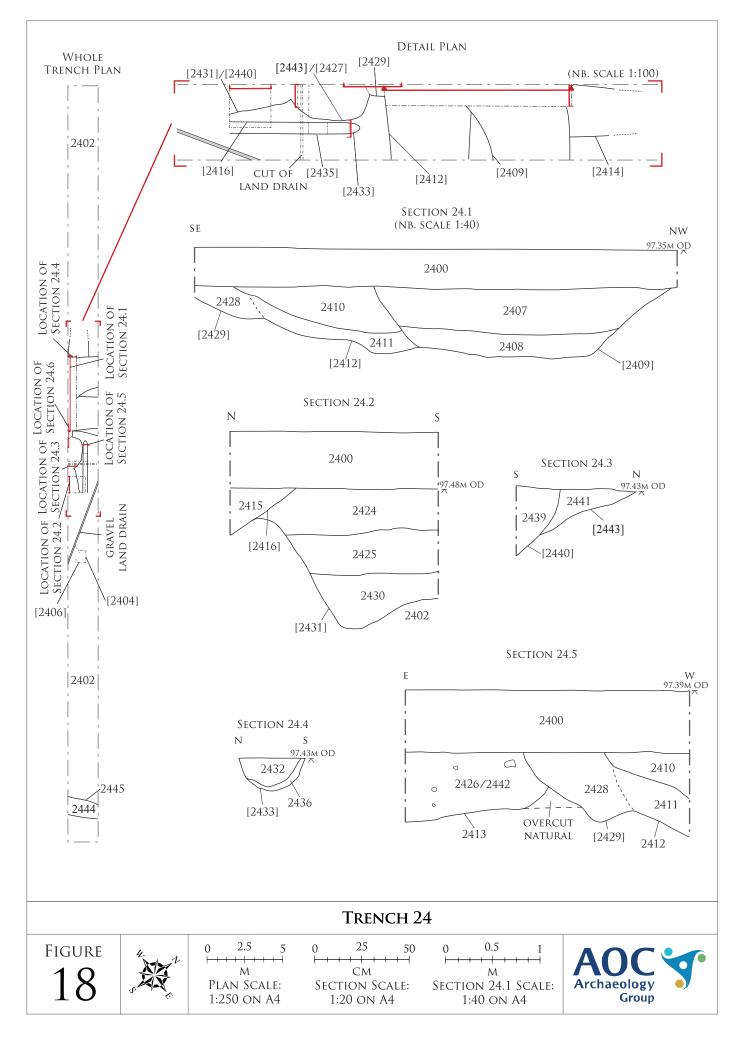


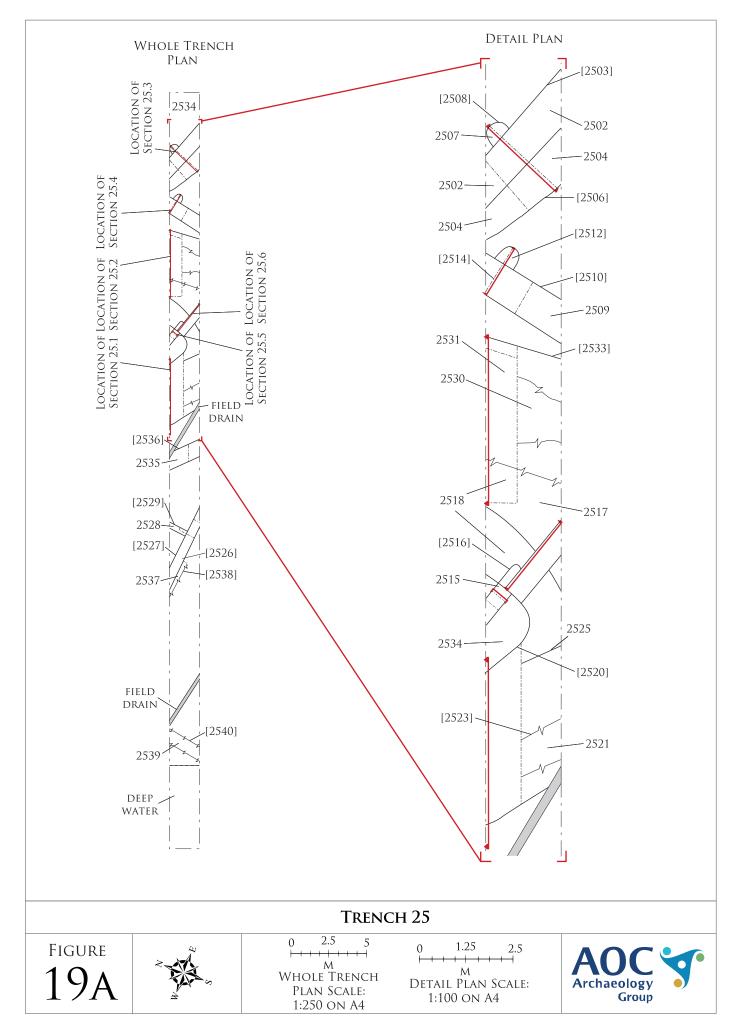


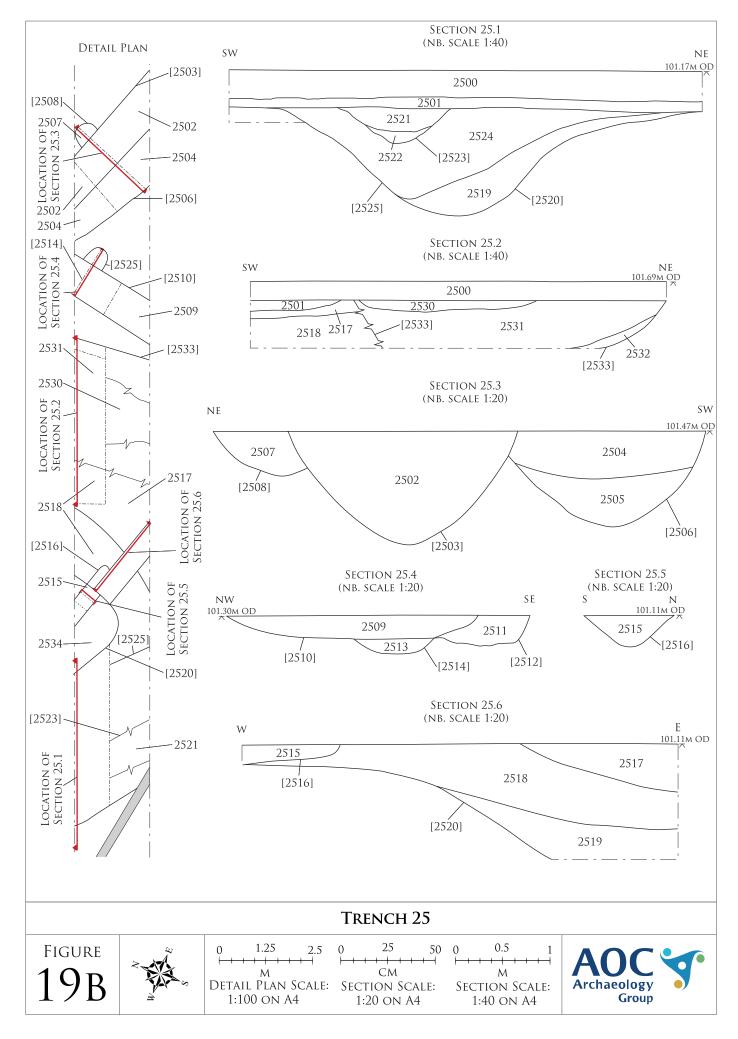


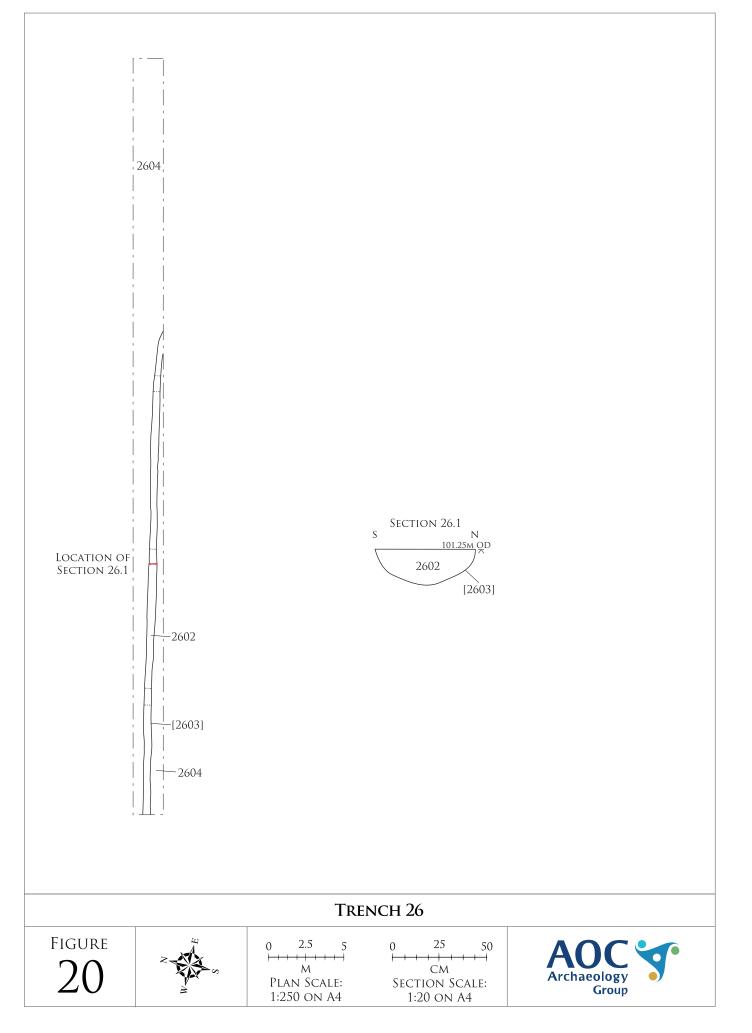


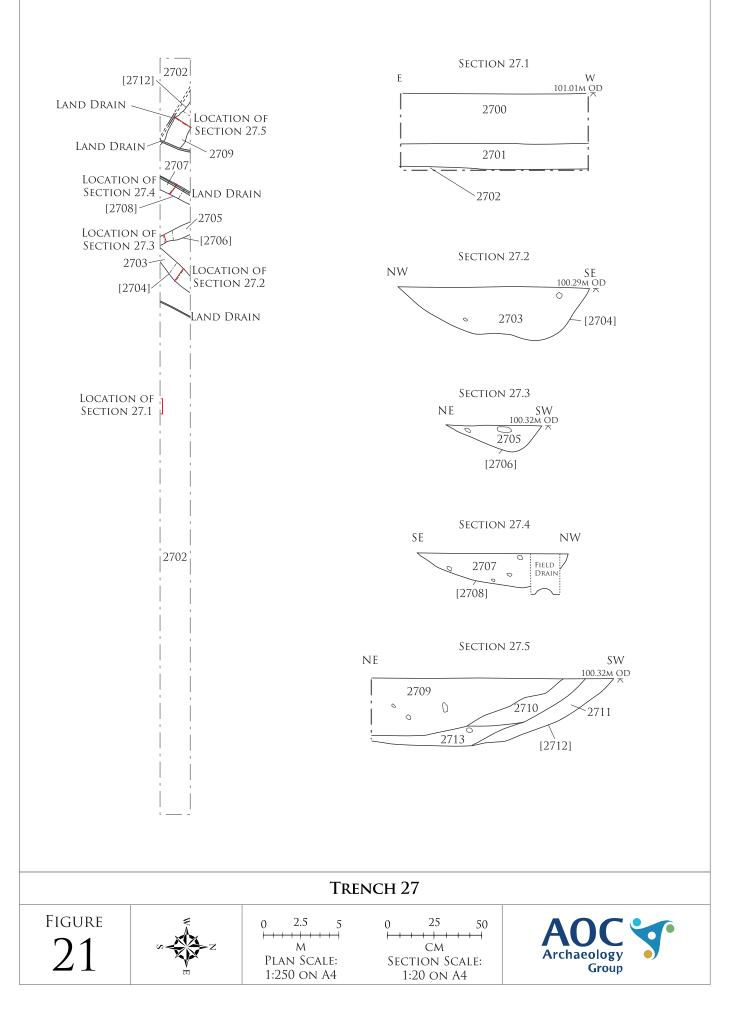


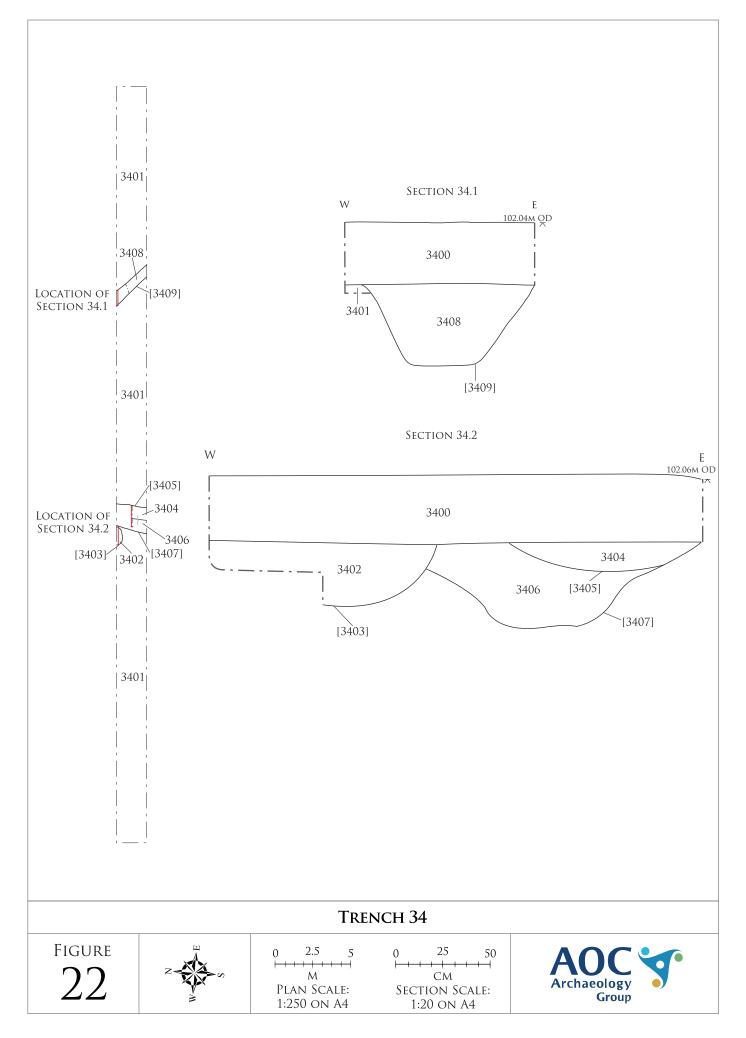


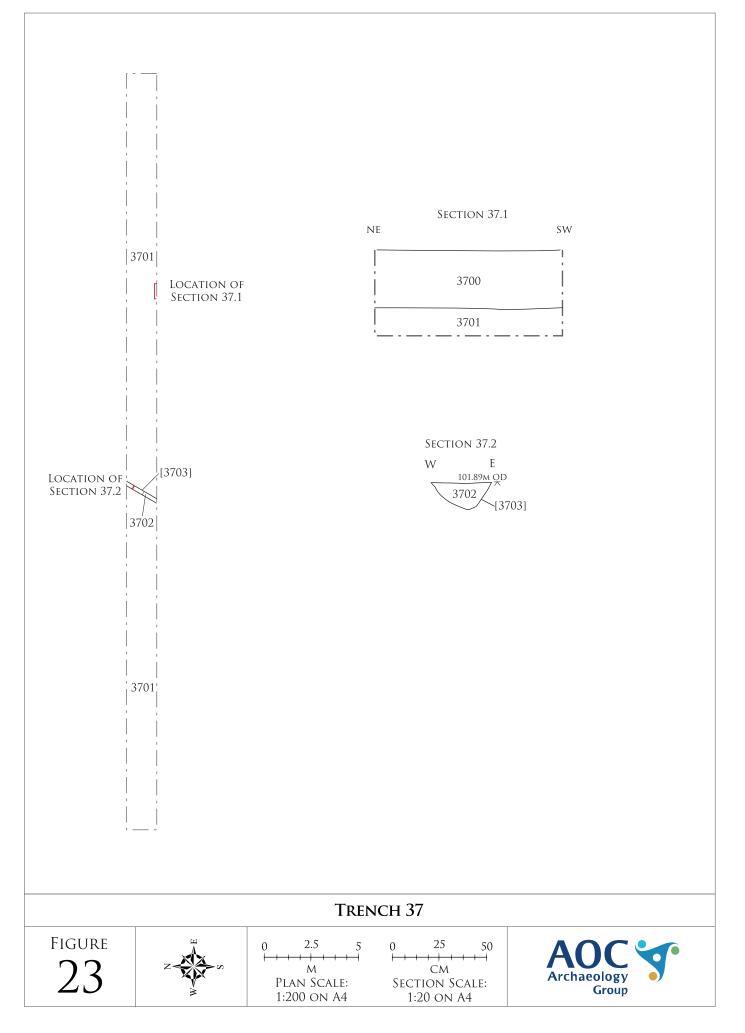


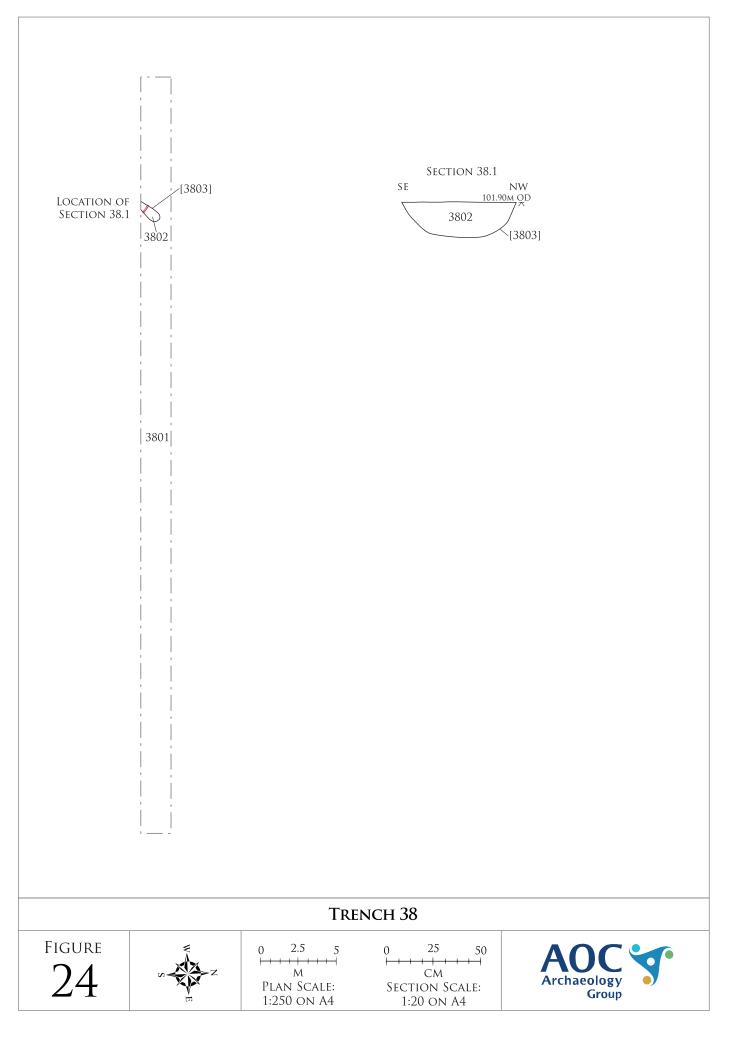


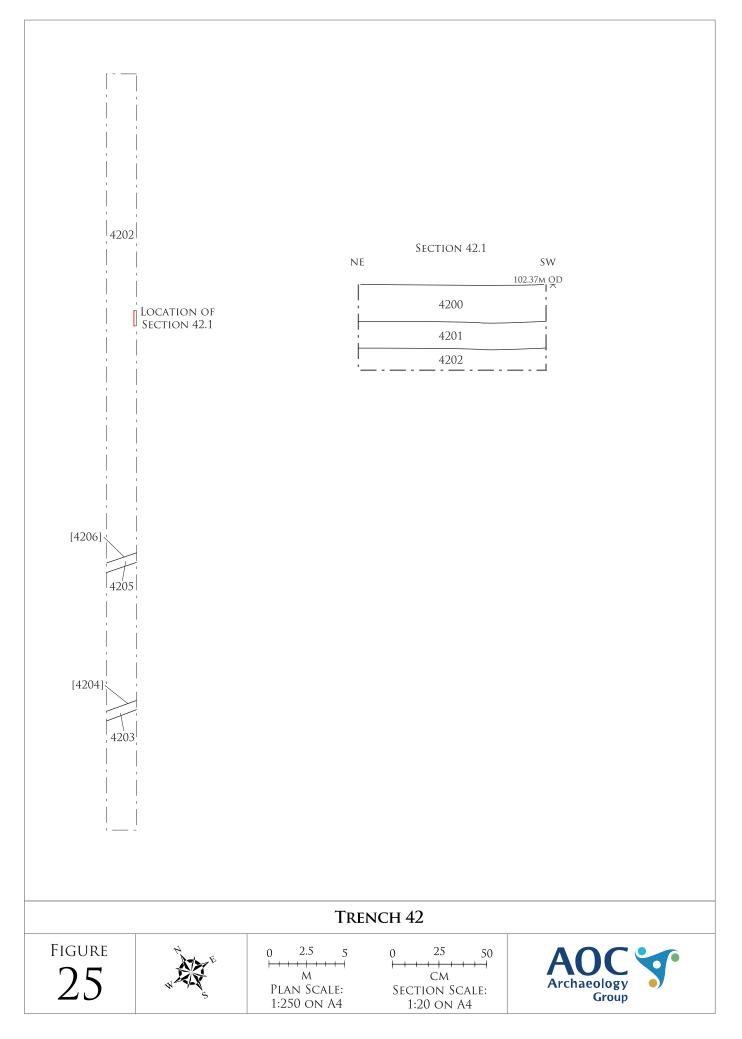


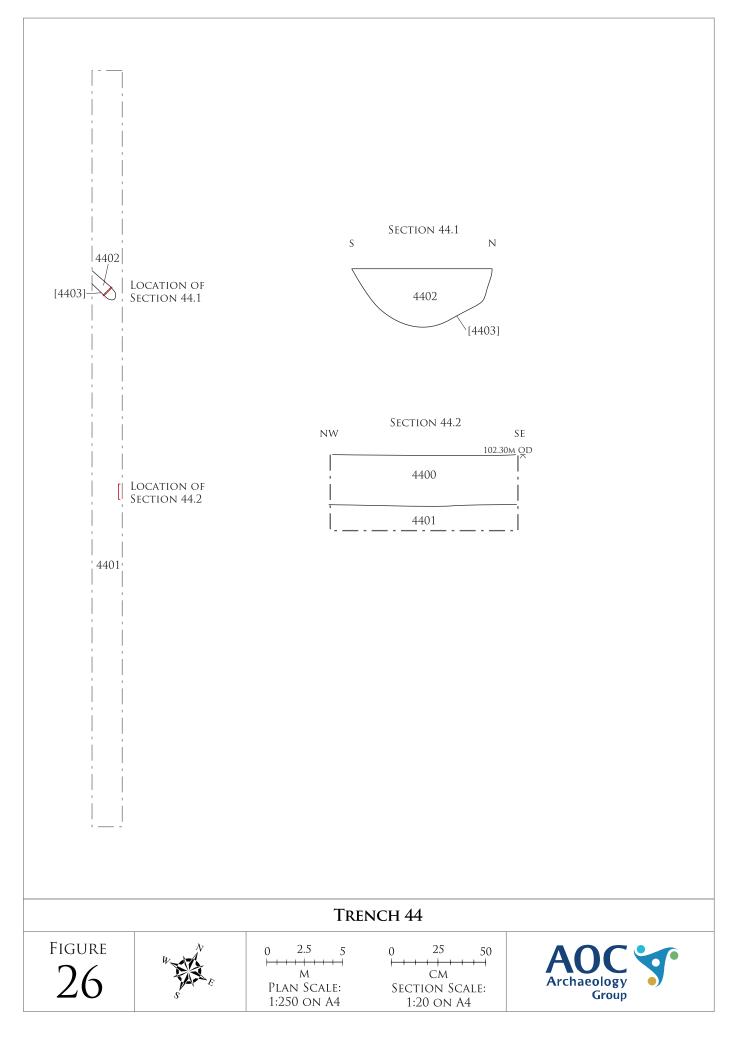


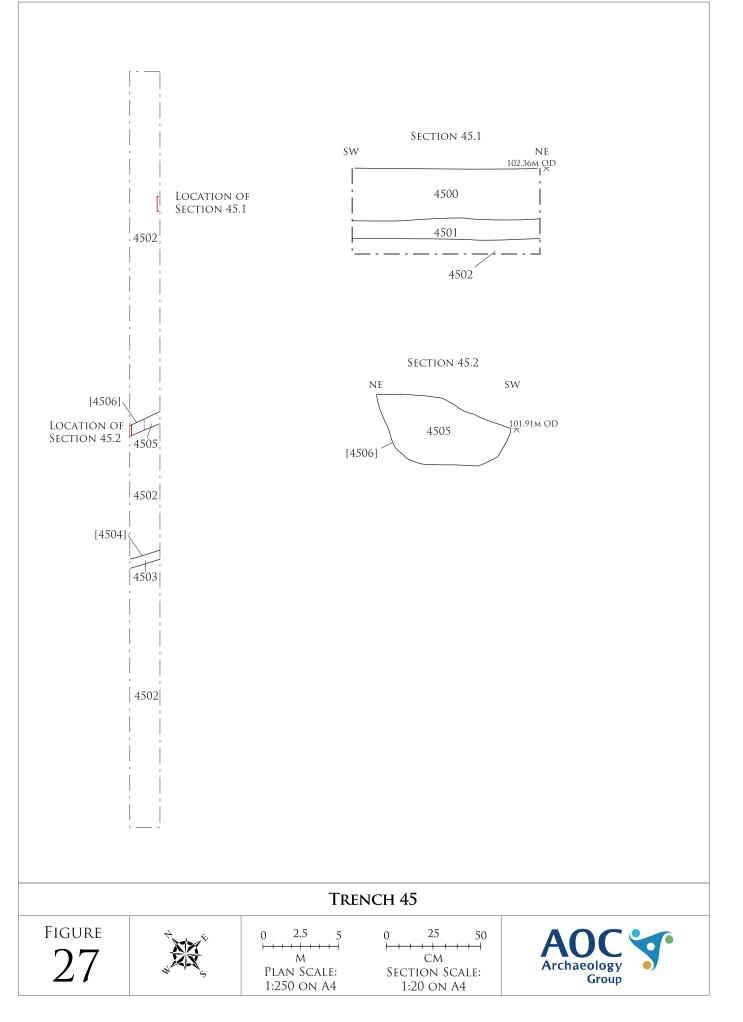


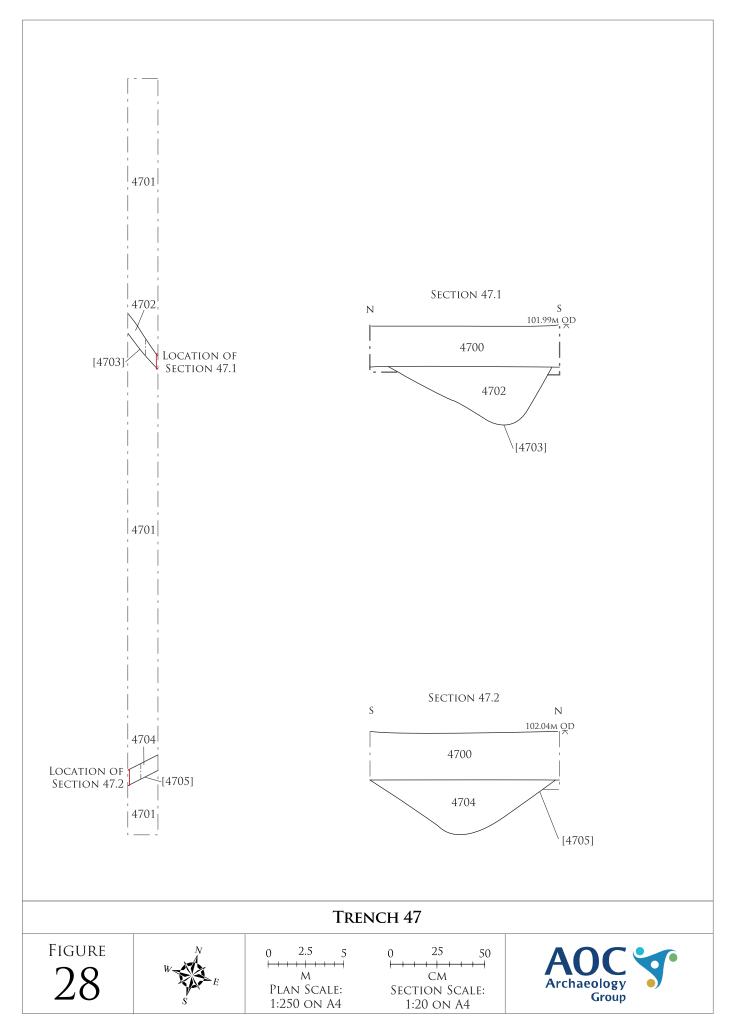


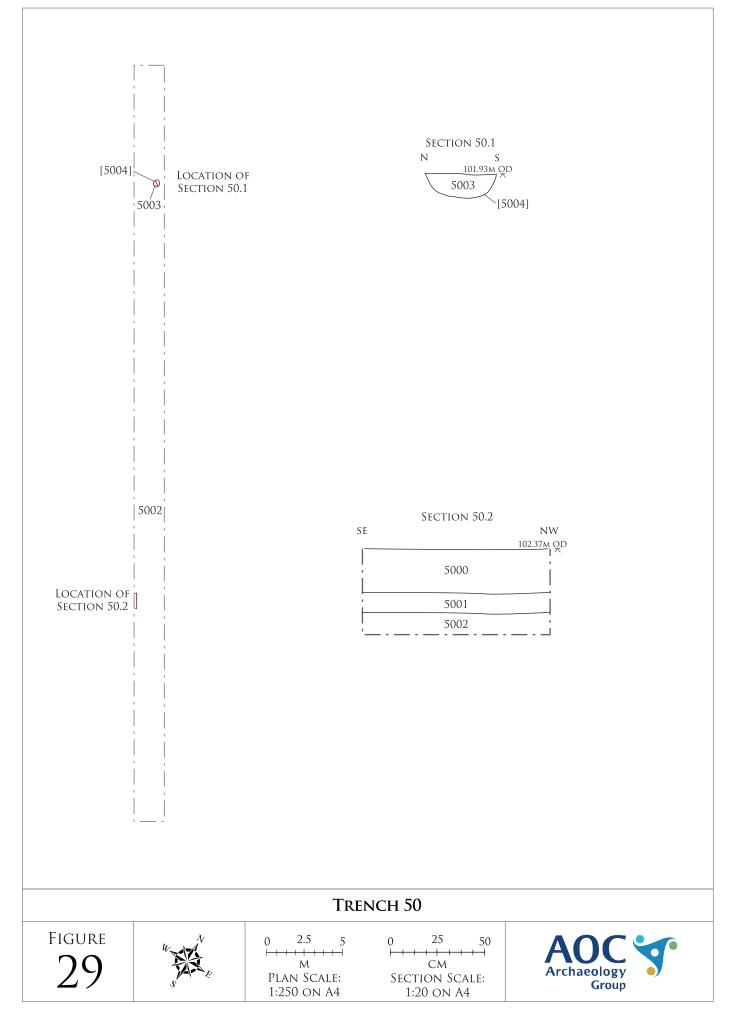


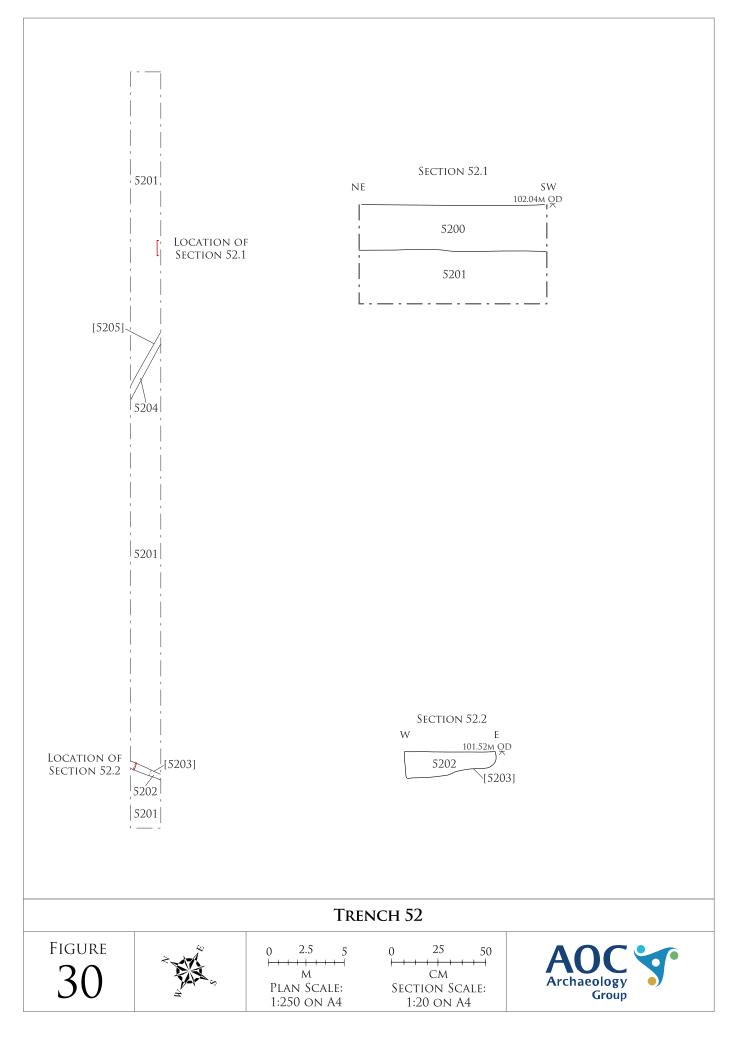


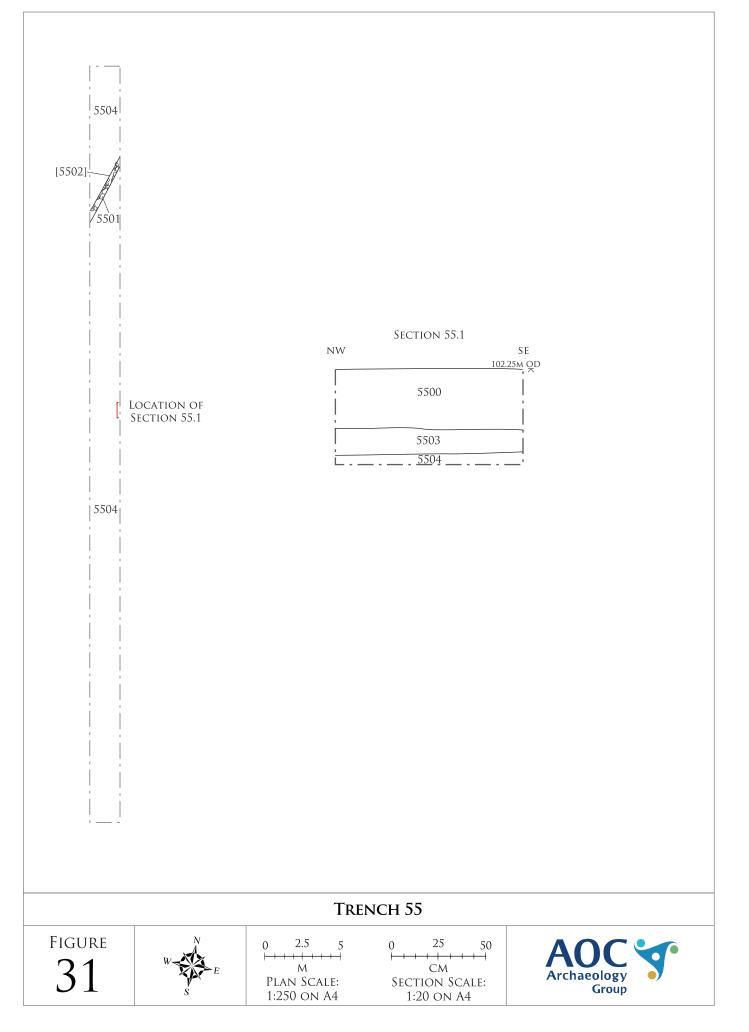




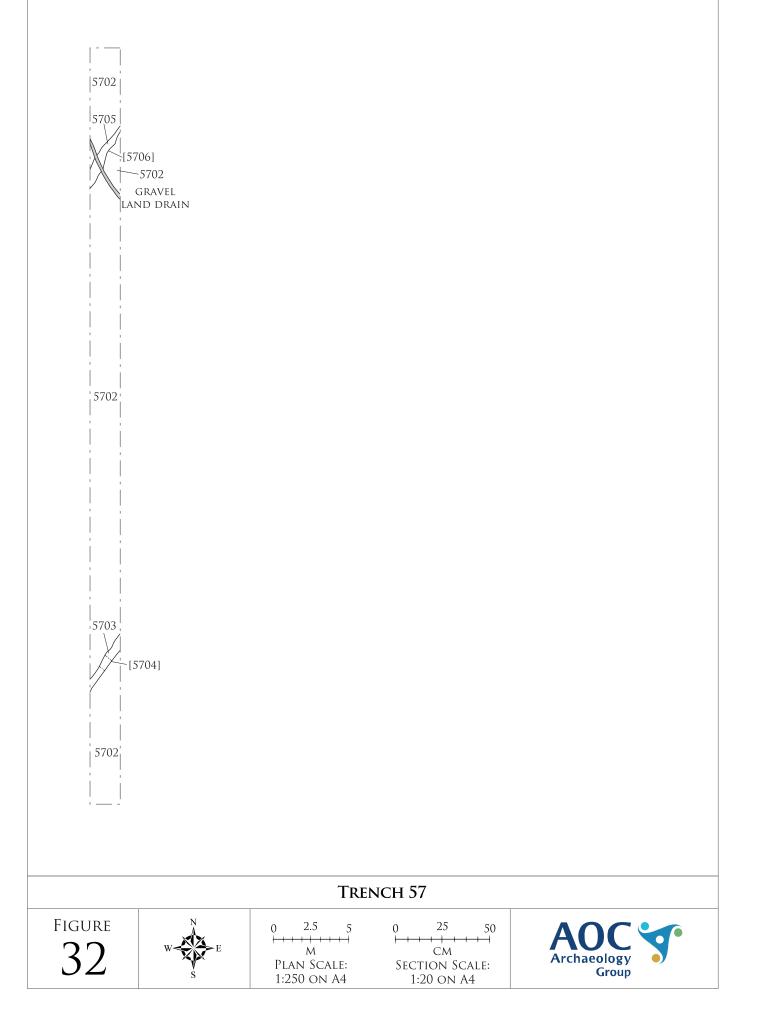








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Context No.	Context Description/Index code	Length	Width	Depth
100	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.25m
101	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.30m
102	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.18m
200	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.28m
201	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.20m
202	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.14m
203	Pit Fill	1.06m	0.30m	0.30m
204	Pit Cut	1.06m	0.30m	0.30m
300	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.24m
301	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.16m
302	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.10m
400	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.22m
401	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.16m
402	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.18m
403	Ditch Fill	2.30m	0.53m	0.12m
404	Ditch Cut	2.30m	0.53m	0.12m
500	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.20m
501	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.13m
502	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.07m
600	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.26m
601	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.20m
602	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.02m
603	Gully fill	1.80m	0.53m	0.16m
604	Cut of gully	1.80m	0.53m	0.16m
605	Fill of pit	0.66m	0.60m	0.22m
606	Cut of pit	0.66m	0.60m	0.22m
700	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.30m
701	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.30m
702	Fill of ditch	2.00m	1.05m	0.37m
703	Cut of ditch	2.00m	1.05m	0.37m
704	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.05m
800	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.22m
801	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.18m
802	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.08m
803	Fill of ditch	2.00m	1.05m	0.36m
804	Cut of ditch	2.00m	1.05m	0.36m
900	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.32m
901	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.10m
902	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.05m
903	Furrow fill	2.65m	1.50m	0.06m
904	Furrow cut	2.65m	1.50m	0.06m
905	Furrow fill	2.65m	1.50m	0.06m
906	Furrow cut	2.65m	1.50m	0.06m
1000	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.30m
1001	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.10m

Appendix A – Context Register

1002	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.05m
1100	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.30m
1101	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.09m
1102	Fill of gully	2.10m	0.70m	0.32m
1103	Cut of gully	2.10m	0.70m	0.32m
1104	Fill of gully	3.10m	0.90m	NFE
1104	Cut of gully	3.10m	0.90m	NFE
1106	Fill of gully	2.60m	1.00m	NFE
1107	Cut of gully	2.60m	1.00m	NFE
1107	Fill of gully	2.00m	1.40m	NFE
1109	Cut of gully	2.00m	1.40m	NFE
1110	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.05m
1200	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.25m
1200	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.25m
1201	Fill of gully	2.10m	0.53m	0.13m
1202	Cut of gully	2.10m	0.53m	0.32m
1203	Fill of gully	2.10m 2.10m	0.53m 0.90m	0.32m NFE
1204	Cut of gully	2.10m 2.10m	0.90m 0.90m	NFE
	0,			
1206	Fill of furrow	4.10m	2.00m	0.10m
1207	Cut of furrow	4.10m	2.00m	0.10m
1208	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.05m
1300	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.30m
1301	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.14m
1302	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.05m
1400	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.30m
1401	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.10m
1402	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.05m
1500	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.30m
1501	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.18m
1502	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.05m
1503	Fill of furrow	1.60m	2.00m	0.14m
1504	Cut of furrow	1.60m	2.00m	0.14m
1600	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.35m
1601	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.10m
1602	Secondary fill	2.60m	0.82m	0.17m
1603	Primary fill	2.60m	0.82m	0.10m
1604	Pit cut	2.60m	0.82m	0.27m
1605	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.05m
1700	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.35m
1701	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.23m
1702	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.02m
1800	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.34m
1801	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.14m
1802	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.02m
1900	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.30m
1901	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.23m
1902	Fill of pit	1.30m	0.85m	0.18m
1903	Cut of pit	1.30m	0.85m	0.18m

1904	Fill of gully	2.40m	0.60m	0.28m
1905	Cut of gully	2.40m	0.60m	0.28m
1906	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.02m
2000	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.32m
2001	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.14m
2001	Fill of gully	2.10m	0.56m	0.15m
2002	Cut of gully	2.10m	0.56m	0.15m
2000	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.03m
2100	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.25m
2100	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.15m
2101	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.03m
2200	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.30m
2200	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.24m
2201	Fill of gully	3.20m	0.78m	0.24m
2202	Cut of gully	3.20m	0.78m	0.36m
2203	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.03m
2204	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.030m
2300	Ditch fill	2.00m	1.04m	0.30m 0.46m
2301	Ditch cut	2.00m	1.04m	0.46m
2302	Ditch fill	2.00m 3.80m	2.00m	NFE
2303				
	Ditch cut	3.80m	2.00m	NFE
2305	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.08m
2306	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.05m
2400	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.30m
2401	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.15m
2402		Trench	Trench	0.03m
2403	Fill of Gully	1.80m	0.62m	0.13m
2404	Cut of gully	1.80m	0.62m	0.13m
2405	Fill of ditch	0.80m	2.00m	0.22m
2406	Cut of ditch	0.80m	2.00m	0.22m
2407	Fill of ditch	1.80m	2.00m	0.50m
2408	Fill of ditch	1.80m	2.00m	0.25m
2409	Cut of ditch	1.80m	2.00m	0.75m
2410	Fill of ditch	2.10m	2.00m	0.54m
2411	Fill of ditch	2.00m	1.80m	0.20m
2412	Cut of ditch	2.00m	1.80m	0.74m
2413	Fill of ditch	1.50m	1.30m	0.52m
2414	Cut of ditch	1.50m	1.30m	0.52m
2415	Fill of gully	3.50m	0.52m	0.26m
2416	Cut of gully	3.50m	0.52m	0.26m
2417	Void	_		
2418	Void			
2419	Void			
2420	Void			
2421	Void			
2422	Void			
2423	Void			
2424	Fill of ditch	2.00m	0.80m	1.05m

2425	Fill of ditch	2.00m	0.80m	1.05m
2426	Fill of ditch	2.10m	0.94m	0.36m
2427	Cut of ditch	2.10m	0.94m	0.36m
2428	Fill of pit	0.28m	0.55m	0.37m
2429	Cut of pit	0.28m	0.55m	0.37m
2430	Fill of ditch	2.00m	0.80m	1.05m
2431	Cut of ditch	2.00m	0.80m	1.05m
2432	Fill of gully	3.50m	0.52m	0.17m
2433	Cut of gully	3.50m	0.52m	0.17m
2434	Fill of gully	3.50m	0.52m	0.26m
2435	Cut of gully	3.50m	0.52m	0.26m
2436	Fill of gully	3.50m	0.52m	0.15m
2437	Fill of gully	3.50m	0.52m	0.15m
2438	Fill of ditch	0.45m	0.40m	0.15m
2439	Fill of ditch	0.45m	0.40m	0.13m
2440	Cut of ditch	0.45m	0.40m	0.58m
2441	Void	0.1011	0.1011	0.0011
2442	Fill of pit	2.10m	0.94m	0.36m
2443	Cut of pit	2.10m	0.94m	0.36m
2444	Fill of gully	2.20m	1.10m	NFE
2445	Cut of gully	2.20m	1.10m	NFE
2500	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.30m
2501	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.10m
2502	Fill of ditch	2.00m	1.20m	0.60m
2502	Cut of ditch	2.00m	1.20m	0.60m
2504	Fill of ditch	2.00m	1.05m	0.25m
2505	Fill of ditch	2.00m	0.92m	0.23m
2506	Cut of ditch	2.00m	1.05m	0.48m
2507	Fill of pit	0.60m	0.60m	0.40m
2508	Cut of pit	0.60m	0.60m	0.22m
2509	Fill of furrow	0.00111	0.0011	0.22111
2510	Cut of furrow			
2511	Fill of pit	0.45m	0.45m	0.15m
2512	Cut of pit	0.45m	0.45m	0.15m
2513	Fill of pit	0.40m	0.40m	0.20m
2514	Cut of pit	0.40m	0.40m	0.20m
2515	Fill of gully	0.45m	0.45m	0.16m
2516	Cut of gully	0.45m	0.45m	0.16m
2517	Fill of ditch	2.00m	1.80m	0.22m
2518	Fill of ditch	3.00m	3.00m	0.32m
2519	Fill of ditch	3.00m	3.00m	0.40m
2520	Cut of ditch	5.00m	3.00m	1.12m
2520	Fill of ditch	2.00m	1.10m	0.25m
2522	Fill of ditch	2.00m	0.30m	0.20m
2522	Cut of ditch	2.00m	1.10m	0.35m
2523	Fill of ditch	2.00m	4.00m	1.00m
2524	Cut of ditch	2.00m	4.00m	1.00m
2525	Fill of ditch	6.00m	4.00m 0.65m	0.30m
2020		0.0011	0.0011	0.3011

2527	Cut of ditch	6.00m	0.30m	0.65m
2528	Fill of gully	1.20m	0.42m	0.20m
2529	Cut of gully	1.20m	0.42m	0.20m
2530	Fill of ditch	2.00m	1.86m	0.20m 0.11m
2530	Fill of ditch	2.00m	3.30m	0.11m 0.50m
2531	Fill of ditch	2.00m	0.82m	0.50m 0.10m
2533	Cut of ditch	2.00m	3.30m	0.50m
2534	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.10m
2535	Fill of furrow	2.00m	1.00m	0.10m
2536	Cut of furrow	2.00m	1.00m	0.10m
2537	Fill of gully	2.50m	0.25m	NFE
2538	Cut of gully	2.50m	0.25m	NFE
2539	Fill of ditch	2.00m	0.80m	NFE
2540	Cut of ditch	2.00m	0.80m	NFE
2600	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.30m
2601	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.18m
2602	Fill of gully	32.00m	0.50m	0.22m
2603	Cut of gully	32.00m	0.50m	0.22m
2604	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.05m
2700	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.26m
2701	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.14m
2702	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.05m
2703	Fill of ditch	2.80m	1.00m	0.27m
2704	Cut of ditch	2.80m	1.00m	0.27m
2705	Fill of gully	2.10m	0.50m	0.13m
2706	Cut of gully	2.10m	0.50m	0.13m
2707	Fill of ditch	2.17m	0.80m	0.17m
2708	Cut of ditch	2.17m	0.80m	0.17m
2709	Fill of pit	2.50m	1.0m	0.30m
2710	Cut of pit	2.50m	1.0m	0.30m
2711	Fill of pit	1.25m	0.73m	0.36m
2712	Cut of pit	1.25m	0.73m	0.36m
2800	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.22m
2801	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.20m
2802	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.02m
2900	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.38m
2901	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.12m
3000	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.30m
3001	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.18m
3100	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.32m
3101	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.08m
3102	Fill of ditch	2.50m	0.40m	NFE
3103	Cut of ditch	2.50m	0.40m	NFE
3200	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.42m
3201	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.08m
3300	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.32m
3301	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.08m
3400	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.34m
		-	-	1

3401	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.07m
3402	Fill of pit	1.20m	0.38m	0.32m
3403	Cut of pit	1.20m	0.38m	0.32m
3404	Fill of ditch	2.00m	1.00m	0.20m
3405	Cut of ditch	2.00m	1.00m	0.20m
3406	Fill of ditch	2.00m	0.70m	0.38m
3407	Cut of ditch	2.00m	0.70m	0.38m
3408	Fill of ditch	2.50m	0.64m	0.43m
3409	Cut of ditch	2.50m	0.64m	0.43m
3500	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.30m
3501	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.14m
3600	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.34m
3601	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.10m
3700	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.34m
3700	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.34m 0.10m
3701	Fill of ditch	2.00m	0.32m	0.14m
3702	Cut of ditch	2.00m	0.32m	0.14m
3800		Trench	Trench	0.14m 0.32m
	Topsoil			
3801	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.08m
3802	Fill of ditch	1.50m	0.60m	0.18m
3803	Cut of ditch	1.50m	0.60m	0.18m
3900	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.30m
3901	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.12m
3902	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.08m
4000	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.28m
4001	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.15m
4100	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.40m
4101	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.18m
4200	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.30m
4201	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.10m
4202	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.10m
4203	Fill of ditch	2.00m	0.64m	NFE
4204	Cut of ditch	2.00m	0.64m	NFE
4205	Fill of ditch	2.00m	0.64m	NFE
4206	Cut of ditch	2.00m	0.64m	NFE
4300	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.30m
4301	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.12m
4400	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.24m
4401	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.12m
4402	Fill of ditch	2.90m	0.75m	0.30m
4403	Cut of ditch	2.90m	0.75m	0.30m
4500	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.28m
4501	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.15m
4502	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.08m
4503	Fill of ditch	2.20m	0.64m	0.28m
4504	Cut of ditch	2.20m	0.64m	0.28m
4505	Fill of ditch	2.20m	0.64m	0.36m
4506	Cut of ditch	2.20m	0.64m	0.36m

4600	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.22m
4601	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.18m
4602	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.10m
4700	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.24m
4701	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.12m
4702	Fill of ditch	2.60m	0.64m	0.30m
4703	Cut of ditch	2.20m	0.64m	0.30m
4704	Fill of ditch	2.30m	0.73m	0.28m
4705	Cut of ditch	2.30m	0.73m	0.28m
4800	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.28m
4801	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.10m
4900	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.28m
4901	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.14m
5000	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.28m
5000	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.10m
5002	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.12m
5002	Fill of pit	0.38m	0.38m	0.12m
5003	Cut of pit	0.38m	0.38m	0.13m
5100	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.13m 0.22m
5100	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.22m 0.14m
5102	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.08m
5200	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.26m
5200	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.20m
5201	Fill of ditch	2.40m	0.48m	0.23m 0.14m
5202	Cut of ditch	2.40m	0.48m	0.14m
5203	Fill of ditch	4.50m	0.48m	NFE
5204	Cut of ditch	4.50m	0.42m	NFE
5300	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.27m
5301	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.27m
5302	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.02m
5400		Trench	Trench	0.02m 0.28m
5400	Topsoil Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.20m
5401	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.02m
5500	Topsoil	Trench	Trench 0.25m	0.30m 0.10m
5501 5502	Wall footing Cut for wall footing	4.50m 4.50m	0.25m	0.10m
5502	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	
5503			Trench	0.16m 0.05m
	Natural	Trench		
5600 5601	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.28m
5601	Subsoil	Trench Trench	Trench	0.30m
	Natural		Trench	0.02m
5700	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.27m
5701	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.24m
5702	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.02m
5703	Fill of ditch	3.60m	0.38m	0.12m
5704	Cut of ditch	3.60m	0.38m	0.12m
5705	Fill of ditch	3.20m	0.34m	NFE
5706	Cut of ditch	3.20m	0.34m	NFE

5800	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.28m
5801	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.17m
5802	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.02m
5900	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.22m
5901	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.20m
5902	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.02m
6000	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.28m
6001	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.21m
6002	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.02m

Appendix B – Specialist Reports

Ceramics

Methodology

For each context, pottery was recorded by fabric type, vessel form, and quantified by minimum sherd count and weight. Ceramic building material, comprising Roman roof tile and fired clay, was recorded by fabric, and form where possible, and quantified by fragment count and weight. This information was entered onto an Access Table in the project database. Pottery was spot dated by individual fabric and/or form type, and will be a determinant in assigning contexts to chronological period.

Quantification

The assemblage comprises 279 sherds, weighing 5.1kg, including four sherds (22g) recovered from the sieved residues of environmental samples. The pottery is moderately fragmented, with an average sherd weight of 18g, and survives in fair condition. Five pieces of shell-tempered Roman roof tile (589g) and 12 fired clay fragments (93g) were collected.

Pottery Type Series and date range

Fabrics are listed below in chronological order (Table 1), using common names and type codes in accordance with the Bedfordshire Ceramic Type Series. No new fabric types were identified. The pottery spans the transitional late Iron Age / early Roman periods and ranges in date from the late 1st century BC to the mid 2nd century AD.

Fabric Type	Common name	Sherd	Wt (g)
Late Iron Age			
F03	Grog and sand	1	4
F05	Grog and shell	35	747
F06A	Fine grog	12	165
F06B	Medium grog	24	354
F06C	Coarse grog	10	411
F07	Shell	43	574
F08	Shell and grog	11	123
F09	Sand and grog	13	311
F18	Sand and shell	3	96
F24	Buff shelly	2	75
F33	Grog and calcareous	7	105
F34	Sand	5	32
		166	2,997
Romano-British	_		
R01	Samian ware	5	20
R03B	Gritty white ware	1	11
R03E	Fine white ware	2	9
R06A	Nene Valley grey	11	136
R06B	Coarse grey ware	9	71
R06C	Fine grey ware	18	323
R06G	Silty grey ware	4	64
R07B	Sandy black ware	3	49
R07C	Gritty black ware	1	16
R11A	Oxford white ware	1	10
R13	Shell	57	1437
R17	Smooth orange ware	1	1
		113	2,147

Table 1: Pottery Type Series

Provenance

Twenty features within four trenches yielded pottery, the majority concentrated in Trenches 24 and 25. Of these, five contained solely late Iron Age wares; ten contained pottery of mixed / transitional late Iron Age and Roman date, and five solely Romanised wares (Table 2).

Tr.	Feature	Date range	Sherd No.	Wt (g)
4	Ditch [404]	Late Iron Age	1	1
24	Gully [2404]	Late Iron Age	3	94
	Ditch [2406]	Late Iron Age	3	58
	Ditch [2409]	Late Iron Age / early	12	248
		Roman		
	Ditch [2412]	Late Iron Age / early	10	189
		Roman		
	Gully [2416]	Early Roman	2	28
	Pit [2427]	Early Roman	1	6
	Ditch [2431]	Early Roman	12	165
	Ditch [2440]	Late Iron Age / early	5	42
		Roman		
	Gully [2445]	Early Roman	4	10
25	Ditch [2503]	Late Iron Age / early	25	740
		Roman		
	Ditch [2506]	Late Iron Age	2	101
	Furrow [2510]	Early Roman (residual)	1	1
	Gully [2516]	Late Iron Age	4	48
	Ditch [2520]	Late Iron Age / early	83	1258
		Roman		
	Ditch [2525]	Late Iron Age / early	16	540
		Roman		
	Ditch [2527]	Late Iron Age / early	34	464
		Roman		
	Gully [2529]	Late Iron Age / early	6	70
		Roman		
	Ditch [2533]	Late Iron Age / early	45	1005
		Roman		
38	Ditch [3803]	Late Iron Age / early	10	76
		Roman		
Total			279	5,144

 Table 2: Pottery quantification by trench and feature

Twelve features contained less than 100g of pottery, and only one feature, ditch [2520], yielded in excess of 1kg. The largest single vessel, collected from the secondary fill (2518) of ditch [2520], comprises 28 base and lower body sherds (327g) from a sooted cooking pot (fabric F07).

Late Iron Age (166 sherds; weighing 2.9kg)

Fifty-eight percent of the assemblage (by weight) can be dated to the late Iron Age (late 1st century BC–mid 1st century AD). Shell is the dominant inclusion type, occurring in varying amounts in over half the pottery (types F05, F07, F09, F18, F24). This reflects the influence of local geology upon pottery manufacture, as outcrops of limestone and fossil shell occur readily in the area. A number of kilns producing shelly wares during the 1st century AD are known in north Bedfordshire; those at nearby Harrold are the most likely source of the recovered sherds (Brown 1994). Grog-tempered wares (fabrics F06A-C), and groggy wares containing admixtures of sand (F03, F09), and calcareous (F33) inclusions, constitute the remainder of the assemblage.

The majority of the late Iron Age vessels are wheel-thrown, a proportion are hand-made with wheel-finished shoulder and rim, and some are entirely hand-made. The latter mainly occur in fabrics F06C and F07, and

generally represent the largest vessels in the assemblage. Diagnostic forms are rare, and comprise mainly lid-seated jars, a prevalent early 1st-century AD vessel form in north Bedfordshire (Friendship-Taylor 1999, 18). Cordoned jars, some with smoothed or burnished surfaces, and the occasional horizontal groove are present; a single butt beaker, and a small number of storage-type vessels also occur. Decoration on the latter mainly comprises linear horizontal or vertical combing. A number of coarse ware vessels have heavily sooted exteriors, and / or internal sooty residues, indicating their use as cooking pots. One grog- / shell-tempered body sherd, recovered from the secondary fill (2407) of ditch [2409], has been crudely modified to form a large spindle whorl with a diameter of 80mm.

Roman (113 sherds; weighing 2.1kg)

Roman pottery totals 42% of the assemblage (by weight) and comprises a limited range of fabric types, the majority of which are of local origin. Shelly wares continue to dominate the assemblage, totalling 50% by sherd count and 67% by weight. Most are likely to be products of the Harrold kilns, with the early R13 complementing and eventually superseding the F07 shelly repertoire. Other kilns producing similar wares are known at Emberton, Bucks., (Marney 1989, 58), and further afield at Willington, Beds., (Albion Archaeology in prep). These wares are supplemented by a range of reduced sandy wares, which total 40% by sherd count and 31% by weight. Various sources are likely for these wares during the early Roman period, when small-scale localised manufacture would have been the main means of production. Grey wares include a small number of sherds from the Lower Nene Valley, datable to the mid 2nd century.

The few diagnostic Roman forms comprise: shelly lid-seated jars, many with combed decoration; cordoned vessels; grey ware dishes and single examples of a triangular rim bowl, a developed lid-seated jar, and a shallow bowl or lid.

Traded wares from more distant regional and continental production centres are poorly represented in the assemblage. They comprise four 2nd-century white ware body sherds from the Verulamium region and Oxfordshire, and five sherds of early Roman samian from sources in central and southern Gaul. A form 36 dish with trailed leaves applied to the rim is the only diagnostic samian form.

Ceramic building material

Abraded roof tile fragments were collected from ditches [2409], [2431], and [2503]. The shelly tile fabric is similar to pottery ware R13, and is also likely to derive from the production centre at Harrold. The fragments have an average weight of 118g, and measure 25mm in thickness. One piece is represented by a D-shaped flange.

The fired clay has an average fragments weight of 7g, and comprises battered and amorphous pieces in a sand and coarse shelly/calcareous fabric. Fired clay derived from ditches [2409], [2412], [2431], [2533]; and gully [2416].

References

Albion Archaeology, in prep, Excavations at Willington Quarry, Bedford.

Brown, AE., 1994, 'A Romano-British Shell-gritted Pottery and Tile Manufacturing Site at Harrold, Bedfordshire', *Bedfordshire Archaeology* 21, 19-107.

Friendship-Taylor, RM., 1999, '*Late La Tene Pottery of the Nene and Welland Valleys, Northamptonshire, with particular reference to Channel-rim Jars*', Brit. Archaeol. Rep. British Series 280.

Marney, P.T., 1989, *Roman and Belgic Pottery from excavations in Milton Keynes 1972-82,* Bucks. Arch. Soc. Monograph 2.

Assessment of the metal finds

Dawn McLaren

Introduction

A total of three metal finds were recovered during excavation, consisting of two fragmentary and heavily corroded iron objects and a bent and distorted copper alloy find.

The site evaluation revealed evidence of multi-period occupation and use of the land stretching from the Iron Age through to the recent past. No detailed contextual information relating to the find spots of the metal objects was available at the time of assessment.

Methodology and aims

The aim of this report is to outline the results of the initial assessment of the metal finds recovered during evaluation at Glebe Farm with a view to providing initial identifications of the possible function, date and significance of the artefacts in their context.

The objects were not available for first-hand study at the time of writing. Any statements on identification of function and chronology are necessarily provisional.

The iron

Two iron objects were recovered. One is a small, ?flat, sub-rectangular fragment of a larger object, perhaps a tool or fitting. The object is severely damaged at one corner and has broken along one edge where the object begins to taper. The surviving fragment is approximately 45 mm in length. The second object in an angular amorphous piece (approximately 22 mm in length), probably a spall from a larger object.

The surfaces of both iron objects are heavily corroded, obscuring the surface details and original form of the artefacts. The second fragment appears to have traces of wood adhering to the original corroded surface. This may be surviving traces of the object's original timber fitting or could be material associated with the metal find in its burial context.

The copper alloy

A single copper alloy find was recovered, consisting of an elongated tapering circular-sectioned two armed object, joined together mid-length by a series of loops. The two arms of the object are currently splayed but would originally have been folded over to meet at the tapering tips. In its current distorted condition, the object is approximately 110 mm in length but originally it would have been approximately 70 mm in length. It is likely that this is a heavily distorted two piece bow brooch of Roman date, the cluster of loops and coils towards the centre of the two arms representing the severely damaged spring. Bow brooches were used throughout the early Roman Period in southern Britain (Bayley & Butcher 2004). A similar plain bow brooch from Segontium Fort has been dated to the 1st century AD (Allason-Jones 1993, 165, Fig 10.1 (3)).

The brooch is currently coated in a layer of residual soil and corrosion meaning that the original surfaces are completely obscured and in its current state it is unclear whether the tapering tips of the brooch arms are complete. Although unlikely, the external surface of the high rising bow could be decorated but this will only be established after conservation. Conservation work has been carried out; therefore, no further work is required.

References

Allason-Jones, L 1993 'The small finds' in Casey, Davies & Evans 1993, 165-210.

Bayley, J & Butcher, S, 2004 Roman brooches in Britain: a technological and typological study based on the Richborough collection. London: Soc Antiq London.

Casey, P J, Davies, J L & Evans, J 1993 Excavations at Segontium (Caernarfon) Roman Fort, 1975-79. London: CBA report 90.

Mackreth, D 2011 Brooches in Late Iron Age and Roman Britain. Oxford: Oxbow.

Animal Bone Assessment

Matilda Holmes

Summary

This small assemblage of animal bone was in good condition, though friable. The sample size is not large enough to justify detailed investigation, though a record of the relative numbers of species represented should be made in any future publication report.

Methodology

The bones were scanned and basic information recorded for bones that could be identified to species or anatomy in order to give an idea of the size of workable data likely to be retrieved from a full catalogue. Sheep and goat bones are hard to distinguish, so were described as sheep/ goat ulness a definite identification could be made using criteria in Payne (1985) or Prummel and Frisch (1986). Data recorded included species, anatomy, condition (based on a score of 1-5, where 1 is excellent condition and 5 unrecognisable after Lyman, 1994), fresh breakage, gnawing and burning which can be used to assess the taphonomic factors likely to have affected the assemblage. The potential of the material for the recording of fusion, toothwear, butchery, pathology and bone working was also noted. Hand collected and sieved samples were present.

Taphonomy and Condition

The bones were in good condition, though the high number of fresh breaks and refitted fragments suggest that burial conditions rendered the bone fragile (Table 1). Only one fragment showed signs of burning, suggesting that they were not regularly exposed to fire, either through processing, cooking or for fuel. The high number of gnawed bones indicates that bones were not always buried immediately following discard, but were available for dogs to chew. There was little evidence for butchery, although the damage caused by gnawing may have destroyed butchery marks at the ends of bones. Bones from contexts 2504, 2518 and 2526 were covered in grey concretions consistent with being buried with cess.

Basic description of findings

The main domestic species were present (cattle, sheep/ goat, pig and horse), but no wild or accessory domestic species such as dog or cat (Table 2). High fragmentation and the presence of butchery marks suggests that carcasses underwent some form of processing, and the predominance of meat-bearing limb bones indicates that much of the assemblage resulted from domestic food waste.

Potential of the Material

There is potential for the assemblage to add to mortality profiles, both through analysis of bone fusion and tooth wear (Table 3), although the high fragmentation of the bones means that metrical analysis is of little use. One sheep metatarsal from context 2403 had been drilled in the proximal surface. One cattle phalange exhibited pathologies consistent with old age or the use of an animal for draught purposes. The number of identified fragments falls below the limits of 100 (Davis, 1995: 46) and 300 (Hambleton, 1999: 39) for a sample to be useful in the interpretation of the animal economy of a site.

Further Work

The preservation of bone suggests that the retrieval of further faunal assemblages is highly likely if further work is undertaken on the site. There is little need for any more analysis to be carried out on this material as it stands, although if other animal bones are retrieved from additional work on or close to the site, then this assemblage should be integrated into any subsequent analysis.

Bibliography

Davis, S. 1995. The Archaeology of Animals. London: Batsford

Lyman, R. L. (1994). Vertebrate Taphonomy. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press.

Payne, S. (1985). Morphological distinctions between the mandibular teeth of young sheep and goats. *Journal of Archaeological Science* 12: 139-147.

Prummel, W. and H. Frisch (1986). A guide for the distinction of species, sex and body side in bones of sheep and goat. *Journal of Archaeological Science* 13: 567-577.

Table 1: Condition and taphonomic factors affecting the assemblage (excluding teeth)

Condition	n
Fresh	
Good	38
Fair	16
Poor	1
Very poor	
Total	55
Taphonomic factors	
Burnt	2%
Gnawed	32%
Butchery	6%
Fresh Break	37%

Table 2: Species present and anatomical representation of the assemblage

Anatomy	Cattle	Sheep/ Goat	Sheep	Pig	Horse	Large mammal	Medium mammal
1st cervical vertebra	e					1	
Cervical vertebrae	1	1					
Mandible	2	2	1	1	1	1	
Occipitale	1						
Loose Teeth	3	5		1			
Scapula	3	1				1	1
Humerus	5	1					
Radius		4			1		
Ulna				1			
Pelvis	2	1					
Femur	2	2					
Tibia	2	3					
Astragalus	1						
Calcaneus	1	1					
Metapodial	1						

Metacarpal		1					
Metatarsal	1	1					
Lateral phalange				1			
1st phalange	3	1					
2nd phalange	1						
Total	29	24	1	4	2	3	1

Table 3: Potential of the assemblage for further analysis

Potential data	
Pathology	3%
Working	3%
Fusion	43%
Tooth wear	22%
Metrical	12%

Processing of environmental bulk soil samples

Paul Fitz

SUMMARY

Three 10 litre bulk samples were collected from three different feature fills. The samples were sieved through an environmental processing tank and then again later, by bowl-hand method, to break down firmer clay peds in the soil matrix. Flot was collected in a 300 micron sieve and the residue in a 1mm mesh and then later, 1mm sieve.

RESULTS

Flot from samples 1 (2424) and 2 (2407) are very small (2grams and 1 gram respectively) with the odd minute charcoal fragment, but mostly silt dust and root fibre. No carbonised plant remains were present. The flot from sample 3 (1902) weighing 5 grams, has tiny charcoal fragments visible but no carbonised plant remains.

Residues from all samples broke down to between 1.5 and 2.5 litres volume. Due to the relative small nature of the residue it was sorted (in confidence) in one session and not graded through different sieve sizes. The bone retrieved is mostly splinter fragments of small mammal, with a couple of rodent bones also noticeable. A magnet was run over the residue from sample <3> due to the possible burnt nature of the context. The clay peds in the residue appeared baked reddish-purple brown colour. No hammer scale was visible and the particles that were magnetised had been through being heat affected. Some small fractured pieces of burnt flint were present but they are not thought to be pot boilers. A number of stones do appear heat affected. Some smaller red and black clay peds have been retained as they may have been fired purposefully ie.- kiln lining fragments, however it is likely they are natural clay pieces burnt in a fire.

Inclusions are listed below:

Sample <1>, context (2424)

Material	number of	weight
Pottery	2	5 grams
Animal bone	11	17 grams

Sample <2>, context (**2407**)

Material	number of	weight
Pottery	4	19 grams
Animal bone	20	25 grams
Sample <3>, context (1	1902)	
Material	number of	weight
Clay pieces	24	30 grams
Magnetised particles	numerous	2 grams

Discussion/Recommendations

The samples show that the potential for dietary/environment evidence is negligible. The finds from the residues mirror those collected manually from the contexts, and will be amalgamated with the bulk find assemblage for final archive deposition.

No further work is recommended on the flots

An Assessment of Other Finds

Paul Fitz

Glass

A sherd of green bottle glass (likely a wine bottle) weighing 5 grams was found in context (**3404**). It is very fresh and likely to be 20th or 21st century in date.

Molluscs

Eight small Capaea – Helix Hortensis (commonly 'hedgerow snail'), weighing 14 grams, were found in context (2526).

Flint

A single small piece of grey-white flint was found in context (**403**) it is 30mm x 11mm x3mm and weighs just 2 grams. There is no bulb of percussion or any time of working visible. This is almost certainly a natural shatter flake.

Stone-mineral

Context **(2519)** has a small lump of chalk limestone with what appears to be part of a scallop type shell fossil imprint. It Weighs 27 grams and 40 x 30 x23mm in size.

Discussion/Recommendations

The finds discussed do not add to the archaeological record of the site..

The flint piece is natural and can be discarded, as can the snails

The glass sherd is modern and, given the date and nature of the site, may also be discarded after confirmation with the receiving museum.

The fossil can be retained as a curio.

Material for illustration None

Analysis of potential

n/a

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

Bag and catalogue the fossil, ask the museum about discarding the glass sherd.

Appendix C – Oasis Form

OASIS ID: aocarcha1-144749

Project details

Project name Glebe Farm Eval

Following a watching brief carried out on geotech test pits, an 60 trench archaeological evaluation was carried out on site. The trenches measuring Short description 50.00m x 2.00m were laid out across the site to give good coverage. Archaeological remains dating to four separate phases were recorded on site including prehistoric gullies, late Iron Age to Early Roman intensive activity, Early Roman reuse and late post-medieval/modern activity.

Project dates Start: 18-03-2013 End: 05-04-2013

Previous/future work Yes / Not known

Any associated project reference BEDFM:2013.12 - Museum accession ID codes

Any associated project reference GBF12 - Sitecode codes

Any associated project reference 32372 - Contracting Unit No. codes

Any associated project reference 1-138365 (7) - OASIS form ID codes

Any associated project reference 32319 - Contracting Unit No. codes

Any associated project reference 2012.79 - Museum accession ID codes

Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 2 - Operations to a depth less than 0.25m
Monument type	DITCH Late Iron Age
Monument type	DITCH Roman
Monument type	GULLY Late Prehistoric
Monument type	DITCH Modern
Monument type	PIT Late Iron Age
Monument type	WALL Modern
Monument type	PIT Roman
Significant Finds	CERAMICS Late Iron Age
Significant Finds	CERAMICS Roman
Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Late Iron Age
Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Roman
Significant Finds	CERAMICS Modern
Significant Finds	GLASS Modern
Methods &	* """Sample Trenches"""
Development type	Solar Farm

Prompt Area of archaeological sensitivity

Position in the Pre-application planning process

Project location Country Site location	England 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
Height OD / Depth	Min: 96.00m Max: 101.00m
Project creators Name o Organisation	f AOC Archaeology
Project brie originator	f Bedford Borough Council
Project desigr originator	AOC Archaeology
Project director/manager	Melissa Melikian
Project supervisor	Tara Fidler
Project supervisor	Catherine Edwards
Type o sponsor/funding body	f developer
Name o sponsor/funding body	f vento ludens ltd.

Project archives Physical Archive recipient Bedford Museum

Physical Archive BEDFM;2013.12

Physical Contents "Animal Bones", "Ceramics"

Physical Archive mostly IA and Roman notes

Digital Archive Bedford Museum

Digital Archive ID BEDFM: 2013.12

Digital Contents "Stratigraphic"

Digital Media "Images raster / digital photography" available

Digital Archive Museum closed until 2014

Paper Archive Bedford Museum

Paper Archive ID BEDFM: 2013.12

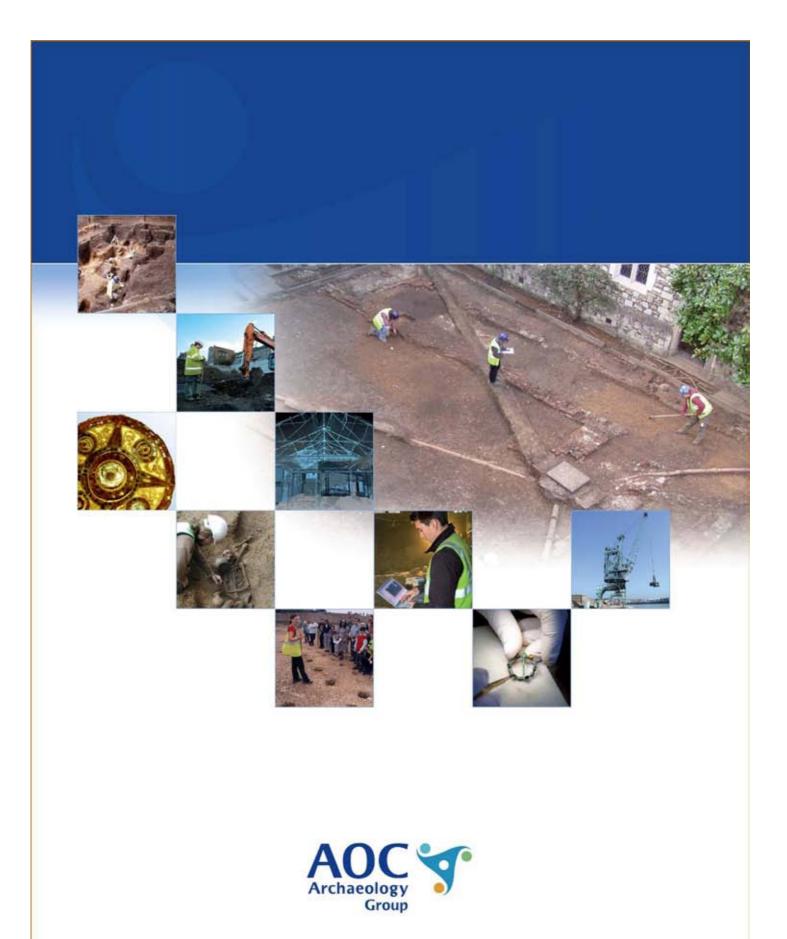
Paper Contents "Stratigraphic"

 Paper
 Media "Context

 available
 sheet","Microfilm","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section","Unpublished Text"

Paper Archive Museum closed until 2014

Project bibliography 1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Glebe Farm, Podington, Bedfordshire: An Archaeological Watching Brief Report on Site Investigation Works
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Fidler, T.
Date	2012
Issuer or publisher	AOC Archaeology
Place of issue o publication	r London
Description	A4 text and illustration
Project bibliography 2	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	GLEBE FARM, PODINGTON, BEDFORDSHIRE: AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Edwards, c
Date	2013
Issuer or publisher	AOC Archaeology
Place of issue o publication	r London
Description	A4 Bound document with text, illustrations and finds reports
Entered by Entered on	catherine edwards (catherine.edwards@aocarchaeology.com) 30 April 2013



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