

CHJT/01



THE SITE OF THE FORMER CLARENCE HOTEL, ST JOHN'S STREET, BEDFORD

Archaeological Evaluation

commissioned by The Environmental Dimensions Partnership
on behalf of MBK Contracts Ltd

13/02450/MAF

June 2015

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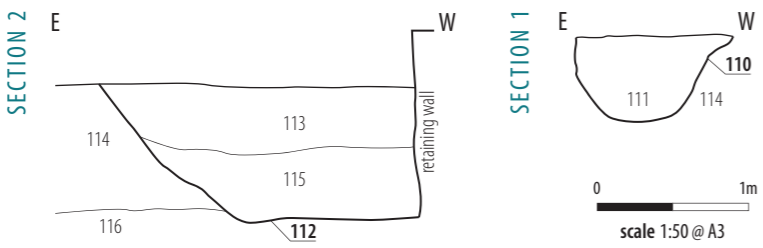
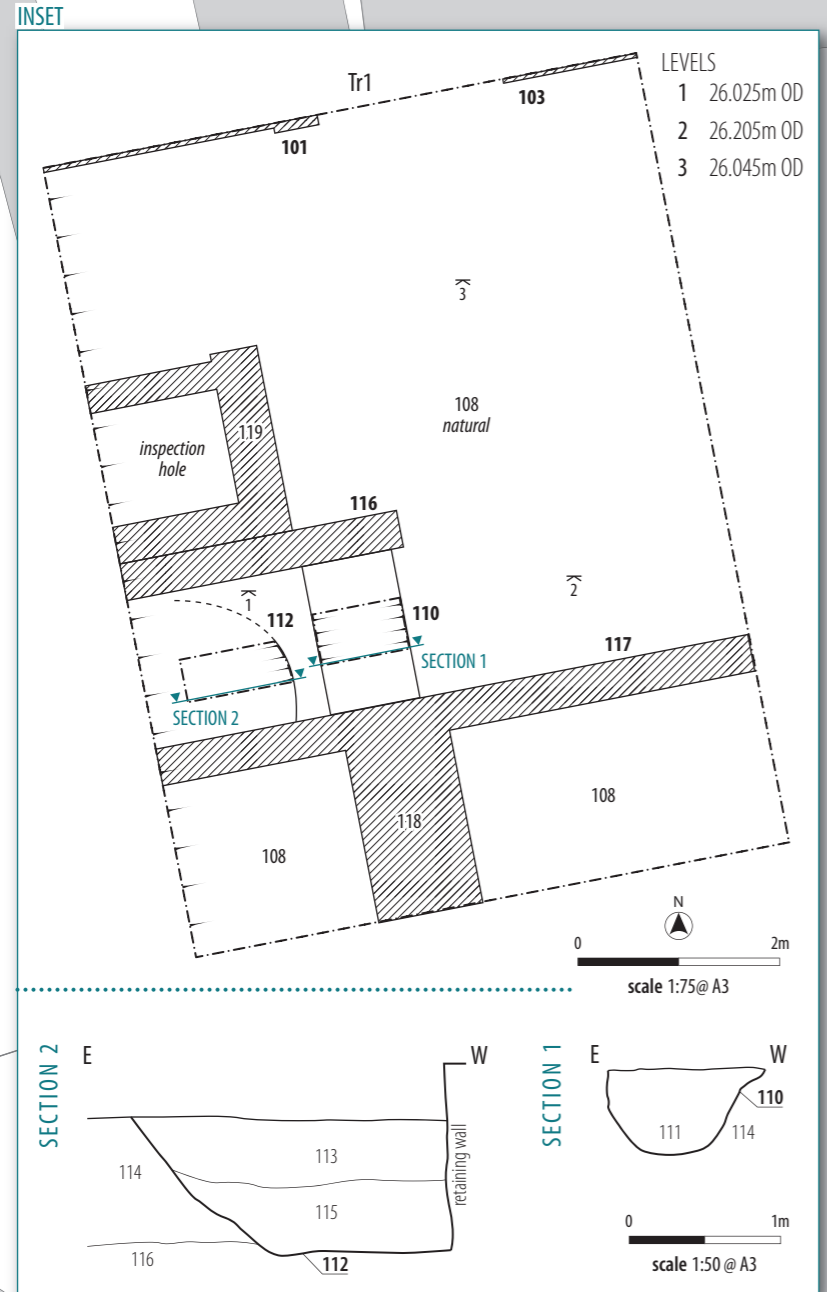
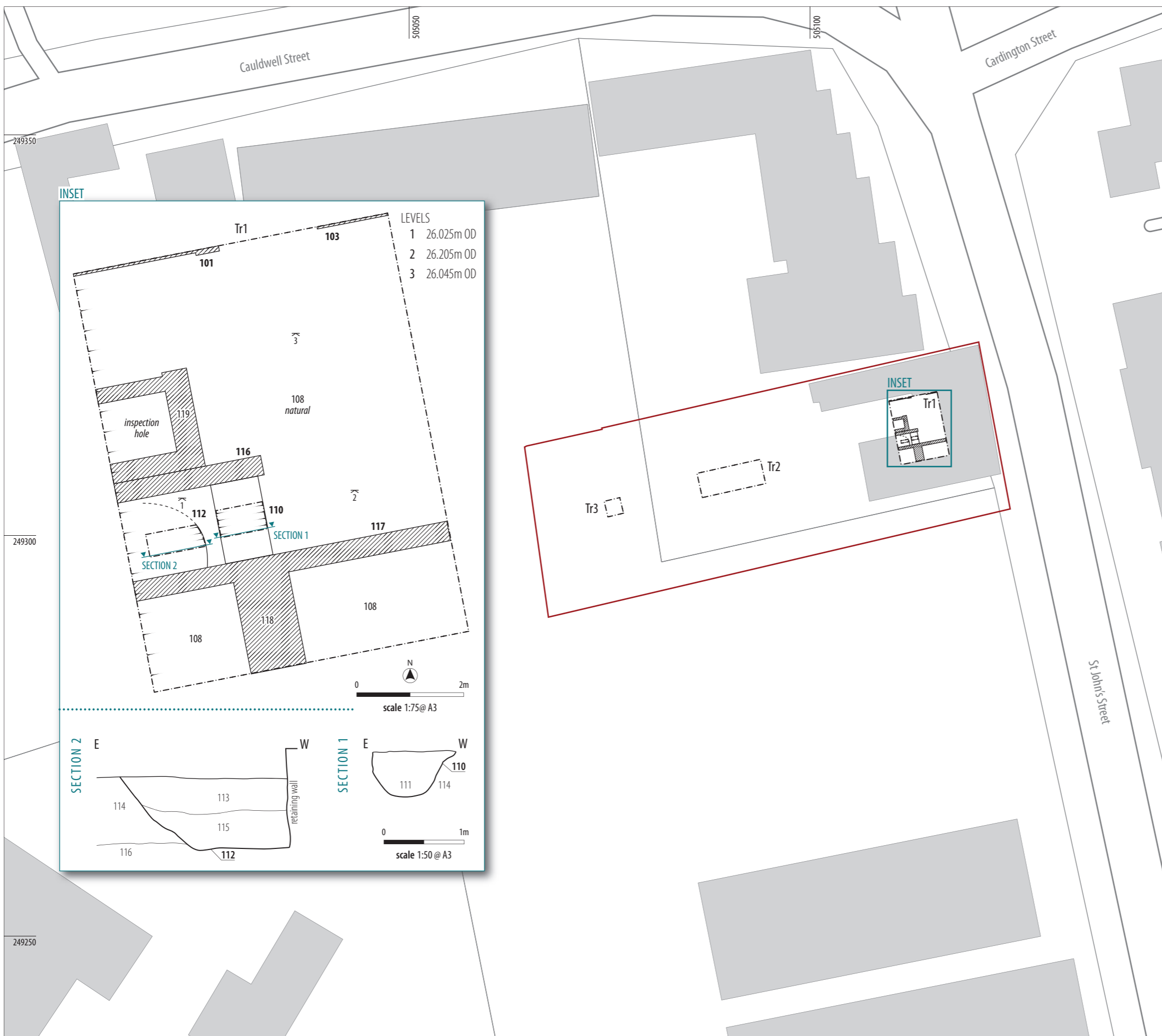
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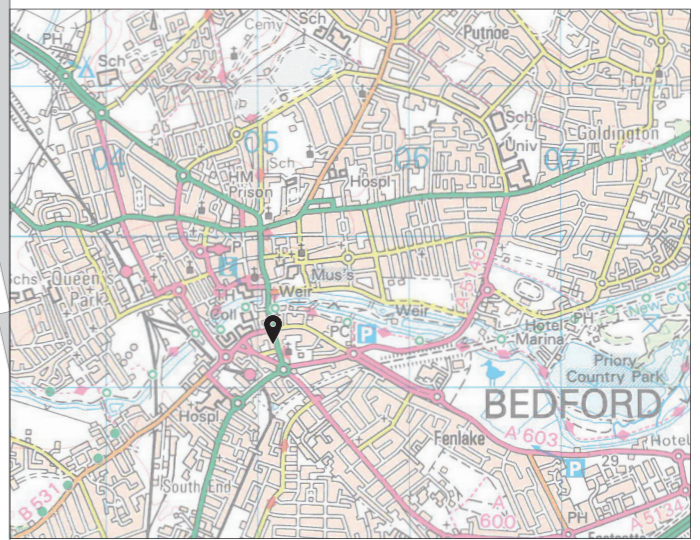
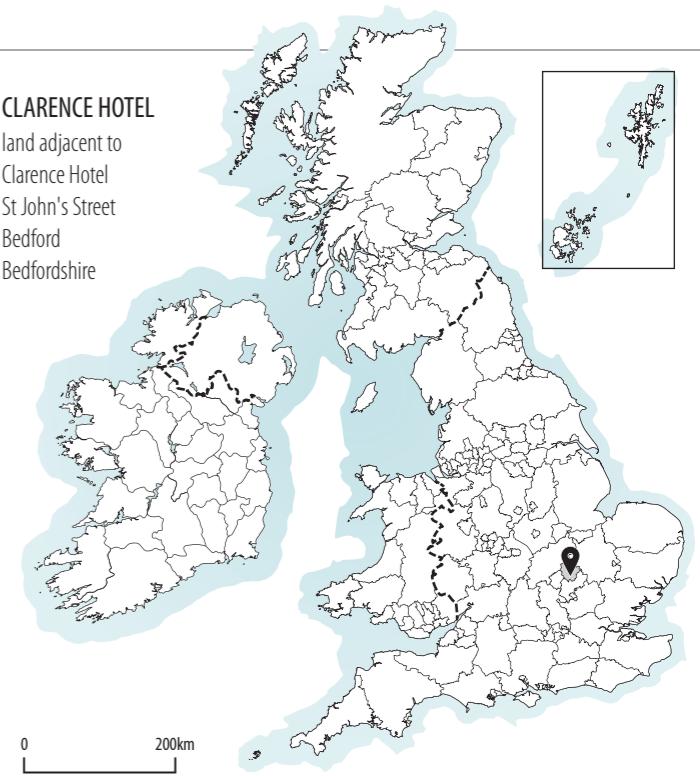
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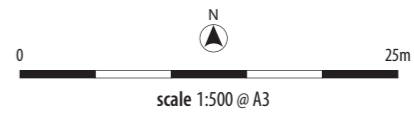
CLARENCE HOTEL
 land adjacent to
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- KEY**
- development boundary
 - trench location
 - wall



ILLUS 1
 Site location and feature plan

THE SITE OF THE FORMER CLARENCE HOTEL, ST JOHN'S STREET, BEDFORD

Archaeological Evaluation

Headland Archaeology Ltd conducted a trial-trench archaeological evaluation on the site of the former Clarence Hotel, St John's Street, as part of a programme of archaeological evaluative works carried out as a condition of planning permission for re-development of the site. The Clarence Hotel is known to be located within an area of Saxon settlement, comprising a fortified burgh lying to the south of the River Ouse. Previous evaluation to the immediate south recorded a palaeosol thought to be of Anglo Saxon/Norman age truncated by subsequent medieval and later gravel extraction and rubbish pits. Trial trenching for the purposes of this investigation revealed evidence for possible post medieval activity in the eastern part of the site adjacent to St John's Street. Foundations relating to early 19th century and late 19th century phases of the hotel were also identified.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 PLANNING BACKGROUND

MBK Contracts Ltd. (the client) has been granted planning permission (Application No 13/02450/MAF) for demolition of the former Clarence Hotel Building at St John's Street, Bedford and the redevelopment of the site. This land is henceforth referred to as the Development Area (DA) and covers c 1,150m².

The local planning authority's Archaeological Officer (AO) advised that the DA is archaeologically sensitive and, therefore requested that an archaeological evaluation be carried out to assess the impact of the proposals on potential sub-surface heritage assets. Therefore, as a condition of the planning application, the developer has been required to undertake an archaeological evaluation of the site comprising trial trench investigation. A condition was also placed on the permission requesting a programme of historic building recording on the hotel prior to and during demolition.

To date, desk based assessment has been prepared by The Environmental Dimension Partnership (EDP 2014). In addition, the Environmental Dimensions Partnership, acting on behalf of the client, commissioned Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd to undertake a programme of building recording (Headland Archaeology 2014b), to prepare a WSI for the trenching evaluation (Headland Archaeology 2014a), carry out the fieldwork, and produce a report on the results

(this document). The WSI was approved by Bedford Borough Council Historic Environment Team (BBCHET) prior to commencement of fieldwork.

The trial trenching evaluation was carried out in order to assess the extent, nature and survival of archaeological features within those parts of the site where intrusive development will take place. The results will be used by BBCHET to determine the significance of any archaeological remains within the DA, as well as the impact of the proposed development on the archaeological resource.

1.2 SITE DESCRIPTION

The DA occupies a c.1150m² plot, the eastern edge of which fronts St Johns Street with the former hotel directly abutting the footpath. Prior to the evaluation, land to the rear of the hotel comprised a tarmac parking area with outbuildings and a brick wall along its northern boundary. The western boundary and southern boundary are both delineated by trees; several smaller specimens are also found on the northern boundary. Land within the DA is flat and lies at approximately 26.5m OD.

The undisturbed natural geology consists of middle Jurassic oolitic limestone and the mudstones of the Kellaways formation. This is overlain by Quaternary river terraces associated with the River Great Ouse (Barron et al 2010).



1.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

Existing knowledge of the archaeology of the DA and the surrounding area is detailed in a desk-based assessment (EDP 2014) with further information being gained from a further desk-based assessment produced by Albion Archaeology in 2005. The most salient evidence is summarized below.

There are indications of prehistoric to Romano British activity in the vicinity of the DA.

Evidence of Anglo-Saxon activity from the sixth century onwards is significant. A defended settlement or burgh was constructed south of the River Ouse by 919AD and is defined by a semi-circular bank and ditch feature – known as the Kings Ditch, parts of which are still visible approximately 200m to the south of the DA along Rope walk. St John's Street and its continuation St Mary's street formed the main N-S thoroughfare within the burgh and led to the bridging point of the River Great Ouse. Throughout the Middle Ages, the street frontage of this route would have been lined with structures. Indeed, a Saxon timber framed building was also found to the north of the DA. Directly to the south, at the former BT Building, an evaluation by Albion Archaeology in 2005 identified a Saxo-Norman palaeosol and a number of rubbish pits. This was truncated by later medieval and post medieval activity.

Evidence suggests continuous occupation from the 10-12th century onwards, with dense late medieval and post-medieval occupation, with the Kings Ditch continuing to form an important boundary well into this period.

During the 16th and 17th centuries, Bedford was subject to a significant episode of rebuilding, evidence of which is now restricted to buildings on nearby Cardington Street. Map evidence indicates that the frontage of St John's Street was fully occupied by buildings by 1841. However, the first map evidence of the Clarence Hotel is from the 1807 Survey of Bedford which shows that the current DA was divided into two plots. These were amalgamated by 1841, by which time the hotel had been extended into the adjacent plot to the south (Headland Archaeology 2014b). These activities have led to significant truncation of medieval deposits.

2 METHODOLOGY

2.1 OBJECTIVES

The general aim of the trenching evaluation was to obtain useful information concerning the presence, character, date, status and level of preservation of surviving archaeological remains within the DA. It will also allow the curatorial authority to determine the impact of the proposed development on the archaeological resource, and to discuss the necessity for the preservation by record and/or the possibilities which may exist (via Masterplanning changes) to preserve certain areas of archaeological remains in-situ if appropriate.

The local and regional research contexts are highlighted by Bedfordshire Archaeology Research and Archaeology: Resource Assessment, Research Agenda and Strategy (Oake et al 2007). The regional research frameworks for the East of England – Brown

and Glazebrook's Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties (2000), and Medlycott's Research and Archaeology Revisited: A Revised Framework for the East of England (2011) – will also be considered. Any evidence retrieved during the works will be analysed in light of the objectives contained in these frameworks.

Specifically the aims of the investigation include:

- establishing the depth and character of archaeologically 'sterile' overburden;
- identifying, characterising and dating any potential archaeological remains within the site; and
- defining any constraints encountered during the evaluation and any potential constraints for preservation in situ and/or further archaeological fieldwork (e.g. areas of disturbance, service locations, etc.)

The resulting archive (finds and records) will be organised and deposited in a registered museum (Bedford Museum, under accession number BEDFM 2014.56) to facilitate access for future research and interpretation for public benefit.

2.2 FIELD METHODOLOGY

Trial trenching was carried out between 14th August and 19th August 2014 (**Illus 1**). A total of 3 trenches were excavated across the DA, comprising 1x 6m by 8m trench

(Trench 1), 1x 3m by 8m trench (Trench 2) and 1x 2m by 1.6m test-pit (Trench 3).

The remit of the archaeological trial trenching programme was outlined by EDP Ltd and the trench plan was agreed by EDP with the BBCHET. The trench layout was designed to evaluate the DA using a systematic trenching array. All evaluative works were carried out with the agreement of BBCHET.

A JCB CX3 backhoe equipped with a toothless bucket was used to remove topsoil under direct archaeological control. Excavation continued until clean geological sediments or archaeological deposits were encountered.

Further excavation required to satisfy the objectives of the evaluation was continued by hand. A representative sample, sufficient to meet the objectives of the evaluation, of identified features was investigated by hand and all features were recorded. The stratigraphy of each trench was recorded in full.

2.3 RECORDING

All recording was in accordance with the code of practice of The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) and in line with the approved WSI (Headland Archaeology 2014a). All trenches and contexts were given unique numbers. All recording was undertaken on pro forma record cards that conform to accepted archaeological standards. All stratigraphic relationships were recorded.

A full photographic record comprising black and white print photographs was taken, supplemented with digital photography. A metric scale was clearly visible in record photographs.



ILLUS 2

N facing view of Trench 2

ILLUS 3

N facing view of Trench 1, showing [110] and [112]



3 RESULTS

3.1 INTRODUCTION

Full trench descriptions, including orientation, length, and depth are presented in Appendix 1. Technical details of individual contexts are presented in Appendix 2. Contexts are numbered by trench number: i.e. Trench 1 (101), Trench 2 (201). Cut features are shown as [101] whilst their fills are expressed as (102), for example.

Undisturbed natural deposits comprised compact red brown alluvium in the eastern edge of the site, this was underlain by yellow grey fine to coarse grained sands and gravels (108), (201), (302), likely to be of alluvial origin.

Trench 1 was placed over the footprint of the former Clarence Hotel, during excavation this substantial modification was evident across much of the trench to a depth of 1.3m. This comprised courses of brickwork (101), (103) and backfill containing crushed brick, mortar and tile (102), (106). The most substantial anthropogenic deposit was (105) which was composed of intercalated layers of what appeared to mixed topsoil, sands and gravels and lenses of building rubbish. This is underlain by (108) which was situated at a depth of approximately 1.1m. The southern and eastern areas of the trench were bisected by the substantial foundations of what is likely to be part of the second phase of the building dated between 1841 and 1881 (Headland Archaeology 2014b).

No archaeological deposits were identified in Trenches 2 or 3. They consisted of modern tarmac, which was underlain in some areas by cobbles. This gave way to heavily modified subsoil in both trenches (200), (300). Trench 3 was slightly more complex and contained a layer of subsoil which had been subject to slightly less disturbance (301), the neck of a bottle was also recovered from this trench during excavation. Both trenches were underlain by the yellow grey alluvial sands and gravels (108), (201) and (302) identified in Trench 1.

Archaeological evidence was restricted to the eastern section of Trench 1, two features were identified; a linear feature, possibly the remains of a ditch [110] and an amorphous pit like feature which contained a dump of post-medieval waste material [112]. Remains associated with early 19th and late 19th century phases of the Clarence hotel were also identified.

The minimum depth at which are features of archaeological interest were encountered was 26.025m OD and the maximum depth (based on the excavated features was 25.445m). The Saxon-Medieval land-surface is likely to have been truncated, the degree of truncation may vary over the development area. (Saxon-Medieval).

3.2 MEDIEVAL/EARLY POST MEDIEVAL PERIOD

Feature [110] was a linear cut, possibly the remains of a ditch, which was truncated to the north and south by the hotel foundations. Further investigation indicated that this feature did not continue beyond the foundation to the north (116) and it is likely that it was removed by the N-S wall foundation to the south (118) which forms part of the late 19th century phase of the Clarence Hotel

itself. The feature was asymmetric with a maximum depth of 0.55m and contained one fill (109) which consisted of dark brown, open textured clay and silt with some fine sand; inclusions included animal bone and pot sherds datable to the late Saxon period and medieval periods as well as a fragment of intrusive post-medieval tile. A large triangular trivet, possibly used for supporting a cooking pot over a fire was also contained within the ditch fill. Based on its morphology its date is uncertain, however, its association with medieval and Saxon pottery might indicate a relatively early date for this find. It is also possible that Ditch [110] was in use for an extended period. Indeed, the relatively homogeneous fill indicates it formed as a result of gradual silting, with domestic waste being thrown in during this process. This could explain the large date range.

The second feature identified, [112] lay due east of [110] and was capped by a substantial deposit of what was deemed to be in situ rubble associated with the construction of the Clarence Hotel. The two features lay approximately 0.1m apart. It was initially thought that [110] and [112] were part of the same feature, however, closer investigation indicated that [112] was an amorphous feature, within which a dump of semi waterlogged material (113) had been deposited. (113) was composed of an olive coloured, fine grained material consistent with degraded, waterlogged faecal matter. It contained crushed brick and mortar, post-medieval tile, abundant animal bone, degraded metal objects, potsherds, angular cobbles, and shells from *Ostrea edulis* (edible oyster) and *Mytilus edulis* (blue mussel). This deposit overlay a deposit of sterile fine grained clays (115) which may have formed the primary fill of this feature. It is possible that the feature represents the remains of a cess pit or midden, with the rubble and other materials being used as capping deposits.

The Clarence Hotel

Trench 1 contained the remains of foundations associated with the Clarence hotel. These remains appeared to relate to two phases of the hotel. Walls (101) and (103) were aligned broadly N-S and were located along the northern edge of Trench 1. They and were solely built of brick into construction trenches (Illus 5). (101) matches with the southern face and SE corner of the cellar which forms part of the earliest construction phase (1807–41) for the hotel, which stood prior to demolition in August 2014 (Headland Archaeology 2014b). However, (103) does not fit with any extant walls and is likely to represent a wall demolished during the extension and remodelling of the hotel in the late 19th century.

Foundations (116) (117) and (118) were made of concrete and match with the layout of walls built on Phase 2 (1841–81) of the hotel's construction (Headland Archaeology 2014b). Wall (119) represents a brick built inspection hole which would have allowed access to the sewers which served the adjacent toilets at the rear of the hotel. This matches with a man-hole observed on the ground at this location prior to demolition of the hotel.

3.3 DESCRIPTION OF THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE HERITAGE ASSETS

The features within the DA have been divided into Heritage Assets (HA) and assigned significance (outlined in Table 1) with respect to the following research agendas. Local and regional research contexts are



ILLUS 4

N facing view of Trench 3

ILLUS 5

Trench 1 foundations, looking N



provided by Bedfordshire Archaeology Research and Archaeology: Resource Assessment, Research Agenda and Strategy (Oake et al 2007).

The Heritage Assets (HAs) have been assigned with regard to location, period and function. HA1 and HA2 represent the truncated remains of medieval/post-medieval activity. Although they contain a reasonable assemblage of artefacts and palaeoenvironmental information, their limited size and survival and the fact that neither can be definitively dated means that they have limited scope to contribute to our understanding medieval and post-medieval Bedford. They are considered to be of local significance.

HA3 represents remains of brick-built wall foundations likely to be associated with the late 18th/early 19th century phase of the Clarence hotel. HA4 represents the remains of concrete wall foundations associated with the late 19th century phase of the Clarence Hotel. Both HA3 and HA4 provide some supporting evidence on the construction layout of the hotel and its phasing, however, they add little to our understanding of construction methods or the history of the hotel in general. They are considered to be of local significance.

Description of HA	TR	Feature	Significance of HA on Local, Regional, National, International scale
HA1	1	[110]	Local
HA	1	[112]	Local
HA3	1	(101) (103)	Local
HA4	1	(116) (117) (118) (119)	Local

TABLE 1

Significance of Heritage Assets (HA)

4 FINDS

JACKIE WELLS, JULIE FRANKLIN

4.1 INTRODUCTION

The finds numbered 84 sherds of pottery, 17 of ceramic building material, 14 metal objects and smaller collections of glass, ironworking waste and lithics. Most of the finds are datable to the late Saxon and early medieval periods, with some later medieval or early post-medieval finds and a piece of modern glass. But for the one unstratified glass sherd, all the finds derive from two features: Ditch [110] (Fill 109); Cut [112] (Fill 113).

4.2 RESULTS

Pottery

Eighty-four pottery sherds, representing approximately 64 vessels (472g), were found. Pottery was examined by context and quantified using minimum sherd count and weight. The sherds are fragmented,

with an average weight of 6g, although survive in fair condition, displaying only moderate surface abrasion. Most were collected from the sieved residues of environmental samples.

Nine fabric types were identified using type codes and common names in accordance with the Bedfordshire Ceramic Type Series (Table 2). The material is typical of assemblages recovered from town centre excavations (cf Baker et al 1979).

Late Saxon (c AD 900–1150)

Twenty-five sherds of shell-tempered St Neots-type ware (124g) occurred as residual finds in later features. No diagnostic forms are present, although sooting on the exterior surfaces of some sherds suggests their use as cooking pots. The wares are likely to be locally manufactured, although no specific production centres are known.

Early medieval (c 1150–1250)

Early medieval pottery comprises 31 shell-tempered sherds (102g) known to derive from production sites on the borders of Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Northamptonshire. Nineteen locally manufactured contemporary sand-tempered sherds (243g) also occur. A square rim jar with a diameter of 160mm is the sole diagnostic vessel form. Feature sherds are three flat bases, and a fine-walled body sherd with horizontal incised decoration. External sooting and internal white (limescale?) residues on a number of sherds indicate use as kitchen wares.

Late medieval/early post-medieval (c 1400–1700)

Nine tiny sherds (3g) of Tudor Green ware were found in possible pit [112]. They probably derive from a cup and represent a regional whiteware import from Surrey.

Ceramic building material

Seventeen sand-tempered pieces of late medieval/post-medieval flat roof tile (769g) were collected, all but one deriving from Cut [112]. One piece was collected from within the fill of ditch [110] which may indicate that items were being deposited in the ditch at this time, or equally may be intrusive. They range in thickness from 13 to 15mm. One fragment retains a partial, circular peg hole.

Metalwork

The most notable of the iron finds was a large triangular trivet, possibly used for supporting a cooking pot over a fire. With the exception of the post-medieval tile, all other finds retrieved from this feature are of early medieval date. Such large iron finds are unusual before the modern industrial period as they would have had a considerable scrap value. If it is indeed medieval then this is a noteworthy find as few trivets are known from the medieval period (Egan 1998, 153). However, the presence of a piece of late medieval/post-medieval tile within the same context indicates it could also be post-medieval. Other iron finds include nails and a small piece of sheet. Two non-ferrous finds, of cooper alloy and lead are small and unidentifiable.

Industrial waste

A total of 40g of ironworking waste was recovered from sample retents of both Ditch [110] and possible pit [112]. It took the form

of small slag fragment and magnetic residues. They indicate that ironworking was probably being undertaken in the general vicinity, though the quantities recovered are too small to suggest this was happening close by.

Other finds

The 8 lithic finds were burnt, in poor condition, mostly indeterminate and clearly residual. The glass bottle neck was the only find recovered from Trench 3 and can be dated between the mid 18th and early 19th century.

Feature	Pottery (Sax)	Pottery (Medi/PM)	CBM	Metalwork	Glass	Industrial Waste	Lithics	Spot Date
Ditch 110	23	37	1	5		17g	7	medieval?
Pit?	2	22	16	9		23g	1	late medi/early post-med
Tr.3 U/S					1			modern
Total	25	59	17	14	1	40	8	

TABLE 2
Quantification of finds by context, with spot dating (quantification by sherd count unless otherwise stated)

4.3 DISCUSSION

The pottery from Ditch [110] may all date to the 12th century, though equally may have been deposited over a considerably longer period, from the 10th to mid 13th centuries. A single fragment of later medieval/post-medieval abraded tile from the same context is probably intrusive. The trivet is of uncertain date. Given the lack of any pottery that can be dated to the late 13th century or later it seems reasonably certain that deposition had largely ceased by this time.

The finds from Cut [112] are fewer and more mixed, but the presence of fragments of Tudor Green pottery and pieces of late medieval to early post-medieval tile indicate the feature could not have been filled before the late medieval period. The assemblage also includes amounts of residual earlier medieval material.

The assemblage is for the most part small and unremarkable. The trivet, however, if it can be confirmed as 12th century, is worthy of note.

Period	Fabric code	Common name	Sherds	Weight (g)	[110] (sherds)	[112] (sherds)
Late Saxon	B01	St Neots-type ware	17	46	16	1
Late Saxon	B01A	St Neots-type ware (orange)	6	65	6	
Late Saxon	B01B	St Neots-type ware (fine)	2	13	1	1
Early medieval	B07	Shell	31	102	29	2
Early medieval	C01	Sand	4	53	4	
Early medieval	C03	Fine sand	6	27	4	2
Early medieval	C04	Coarse sand	2	137		2
Early medieval	C05	Sand (red margins)	7	26		7
Late medieval/ early post-medieval	P13	Tudor Green	9	3		9

TABLE 3
Pottery type series and distribution

5 ENVIRONMENTAL

LAURA BAILEY

5.1 INTRODUCTION

Two 20 litre samples recovered during an evaluation at St John's street Bedford, were received for palaeoenvironmental assessment. The samples were taken from the fill (109) of ditch [110] and deposit (113) from possible pit [112], both located in Trench 1. The aims of the assessment were to assess the presence, preservation and abundance of any environmental remains in the samples. The environmental remains are quantified in Appendix 3.1 and 3.2. Animal bone recovered from the samples is discussed as the subject of a separate report.

5.2 METHOD

The samples were subjected to flotation and wet sieving in a Siraf-style flotation machine. The floating debris (the flot) was collected in

a 250µm sieve and, once dry, scanned using a binocular microscope. Any material remaining in the flotation tank (retent) was wet-sieved through a 1mm mesh and air-dried. This was then sorted and any material of archaeological significance removed. All plant macrofossil samples were analysed using a stereomicroscope at magnifications of x10 and up to x100 where necessary to aid identification. Identifications, where provided, were confirmed using modern reference material and seed atlases including Cappers et al (2006).

5.3 RESULTS

Results of the assessment are presented in Appendix 3.1 (Retent samples) and 3.2 (Flot samples). Material suitable for AMS (Accelerated Mass Spectrometry) radiocarbon dating is shown in the tables.

Wood charcoal

Fragmented non-oak charcoal was present in both samples.

Cereal grain

Charred cereal grain was recovered from both samples. The fill (109) of ditch [110] contained abundant Barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) and Rye (*Secale cereale*) with smaller amounts of Bread/club wheat



(*Triticum aestivo-compactum*) and Oat (*Avena* sp). Wheat was the most abundant taxon in deposit (113).

Charred nutshell

Charred hazel (*Corylus avellana*) nutshell was found in small quantities in the retents from the fill (109) of ditch [110]. The nutshell was weighed as part of the assessment and is quantified in Appendix 3.1.

Other charred plant remains

Charred plant remains were abundant in the fill (109) of ditch [110] and included elder (*Sambucus nigra*), docks (*Rumex* sp), Corn spurry (*Stellaria media*), Oraches (*Atriplex* sp), henbane (*Hyoscyamus niger*) and charred apple/crab apple (*Malus pumila/Sylvestris*) pips. A small number of charred elder seeds were recovered from the fill (113) of feature [112]. The presence of elder suggests an open scrubby or hedgerow environment and nitrogen rich soils. Henbane grows on disturbed ground or in farmyards (Clapham et al 1962).

Shell

Marine shell including oyster (*Ostrea edulis*) and mussel (*Mytilus edulis*) were recovered from the retents of the fill (113) of ditch [112]. A small amount of fragmented mussel and oyster shell was also recovered from the fill (109) of ditch [110]. A small number of terrestrial snail shells were also recovered from deposit (113).

Other remains

Finds including pottery, lithics, tile and metal objects recovered from the retents will be discussed as the subject of separate finds reports.

5.4 DISCUSSION

The charred plant remains recovered from both features were very well preserved and together with the animal bone assemblage offer valuable insight into the economy of the site. The assemblage indicates that the inhabitants had a varied diet, consuming shellfish, domestic and wild animals, fish, nuts and fruit.

The recovery of charred rye, barley, wheat, and a small number of oat grains are consistent with a medieval ate for the site. Weed seeds, such as corn spurry are commonly found on arable field margins and may have been brought to site as contaminants of the cereals. The presence of henbane in the sample is interesting. It is both a weed of disturbed ground and has medicinal properties. The plant macrofossils may have been incorporated into the assemblage incidentally, perhaps through food processing, preparation and fuel and discarded with other domestic waste.

Feature [112] was interpreted on site as either as a possible cess pit or midden. The majority of remains were charred and it seems likely that the bulk of the material derived originally from the kitchen hearth. These may have been used as a capping deposit for the cess.

The material recovered from the fill (109) of ditch [110] is also suggestive of domestic waste and mixed debris from a variety of sources. The recovery of uncharred elder seeds, which are

particularly resistant to decay, might suggest either that the ditch was open for a short period after deposition or that there has been a degree of contamination by, for example, the action of worms.

6 ANIMAL BONE

LAURA BAILEY

6.1 INTRODUCTION

The animal bone assemblage comprises two bags of hand recovered specimens and material recovered from environmental retents. The assemblage was recovered from the fill (109) of ditch [110] and deposit (113) of pit [112]. Results of the assessment are provided in Appendix 4.

6.2 METHODOLOGY

The aims of the assessment were to provide a basic quantification of the available data and to characterize the assemblage as far as possible. Identifiable fragments were recorded, together with the preservation and any signs of modification of the bone in order to assess the quality, quantity and potential of the assemblage. Where possible fragments were identified to species level using Schmid 1972.

6.3 RESULTS

Species present

Both domestic and wild animals were present in the assemblage. A small number of cattle, sheep/goat and pig bones were present in the hand collected assemblage from the fill 109 of ditch 110. Elements present included sheep/goat distal humerus, ulna, tibia and phalanx, pig mandible and cow ulna. Bone recovered from the retents was heavily fragmented. However, possible rodent longbone fragments were present. Bone recovered from deposit 113 included sheep/goat skull, canine and distal tibia, cow phalanx, small mammal rib, vertebra and claw fragments. Fish bone was also recovered from this deposit.

Condition

A brief description of the bone condition is given in Appendix 4.

Generally the hand collected bone was in good condition, whole bones were rare but complete articular ends were present and would permit the retrieval of metrical data and provide anatomical measurement as well as information on age at death, butchery and pathology. Bone recovered from the retents of both samples was heavily fragmented. The surface condition was good and butchery marks (knife cuts and chop marks) are visible on some of the bones. Many of the bones were medially and longitudinally split, possibly for marrow extraction.

6.4 DISCUSSION

The archaeological remains identified within the evaluation are limited to artefacts and ecofacts which offer some insight into site

economy, indicating that the main domestic species, cattle, sheep/goat and pig, were present and that wild species were also exploited. Given the small amount of material recovered, it is unlikely that any meaningful statistical analyses could be undertaken and little more could be said regarding relative abundance of species due to the limited size of the assemblage.

7 CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological remains within the evaluation trenches comprise two features (ditch HA1 and pit HA2) associated with medieval and post-medieval activity and the remains of foundations associated with the 19th century phases of the Clarence Hotel (HA3 and HA4).

The date of HA1 and HA2 cannot be accurately defined because they contain mixed artefactual assemblages; in the case of HA1 dating from the late Saxon, medieval and post-medieval periods and in HA2 from the medieval and Tudor periods. In HA1, the majority of material could have been deposited in the 12th century and this is perhaps the most likely date for the infilling of the feature. The ecofactual evidence included a varied assemblage of charred cultivars, including apple pips and species of open and disturbed ground and it is likely therefore, that these were open features which were eventually used for the dumping of reworked domestic waste during the post-medieval period. Both the artefactual and ecofactual assemblages represent an extend period of human activity from the late Saxon period to the post-medieval period hinting at continued domestic occupation in within the DA. However the limited size and survival of the features and the fact that neither can be definitively dated means that they have limited scope to contribute to our understanding medieval and post-medieval Bedford. They are considered to be of local significance as they have the potential to be informative on both a culturally, palaeoecologically and continued urban expansion within the Kings Ditch The research framework highlights establishing urban origins in the middle-late Saxon period of key importance (Oake et al 2007)

HA3 represents remains of brick-built wall foundations associated with the earliest phase of the Clarence hotel (1807–41) whilst HA4 represents the remains of concrete wall foundations associated with its late 19th century phase (1841–81). This evidence provides some supporting context for the layout and phasing of the hotel, however they add little to our understanding of construction methods or the history of the hotel in general. They are considered to be of local significance, largely as they contribute to the existing corpus of work, elucidating the expansion and urbanisation of Bedford. The Bedfordshire Research Framework suggest that post-medieval archaeology, should not be seen as an 'add-on' to excavations focused ore heavily on earlier periods (Oake et al 2007)

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9 APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 SITE REGISTERS

Appendix 1.1 Trench register

TR	Orientation	Dimensions LxWxD (m)
1	N/S	6x8
2	E/W	3x8
3	N/S	2x1.6

Appendix 1.2 Context register

Context	Trench	Description	Dimensions (m)
100	1	Modern concrete layer – compact, pale blue and white abuts (101), seals (103) and (105).	3.3 x 6 x 1.5
101	1	Modern brickwork and wall light grey/red, upper-most free standing structure, abutted by (102) and (100).	0.2 x 0.4 x 1.05
102	1	Modern CBM and backfill – light grey red consisting of loose rubble brickwork and med to large pieces of CBM.	0.55 x 1
103	1	Modern brickwork underlying (100) mid grey red brick, part of an internal wall, four rows remain cemented by grey white mortar.	0.40 x 1.4 x 0.33
104	1	Modern concrete slab – light yellow grey sealed by (103), truncates (105).	0.32 x .47
105	1	Modern made layers underlying (103) – silty sand, main backfill deposit truncated by a dump of rubbish (102) and substantial foundations. Mixed backfill, layers of dark mid yellow/brown sand with loose, dark grey brown topsoil with loose light yellow brown sand. Six distinct layers of dumping visible. Back fill.	6 x 2.9 x 0.93
106	1	Modern made layers underlying (105) lower backfill – from footings? Seals natural (108). Rubble – construction waste.	6 x 3 x .31
107	1	Modern concrete slab foundation – concrete light grey/brown white. Associated with (101), precedes (101)/(102) and truncates (108). Inclusions of small stones.	0.4 x 0.7 x 0.23
108	1	Natural – sand and gravel, yellow brown becomes sandier with depth, truncated by (107) and sealed by (106).	8 x 6 x 0.25
109	1	Fill of [110] Open textured, clay rich dark brown friable material with some fine sand, inclusions of animal bone, pottery – appears to be relatively homogeneous.	1.6 x 1.15 x 0.65

Context	Trench	Description	Dimensions (m)
110	1	Ditch situated in the western section of the trench, orientated N-S – a 0.5m slot was excavated to establish the morphology, sandwiched between two concrete foundations.	1.6 x 1.15 x 0.65
111	1	Natural – matrix supported yellow/brown alluvial sands and gravels – similar to (108)/(201)/(302) cut by [110] and [112].	1.6 x 1.15 x 0.65
112	1	Cut if possible pit [112], amorphous in plan containing a possibly a dump of waste which appears to include dung, animal bone, oyster and mussel shells. (113) also contains pottery.	In plan approx 0.75 diameter
113	1	Fill of [112] blue grey clay containing animal bone, pottery, oyster and mussel shell and potsherds. Rich in charcoal.	–
114	1	Natural – blue grey clay with small pebbles and residual flecks of charcoal.	–
115	1	Fine silts and clays, primary fill of [112].	–
116	1	Concrete wall foundation aligned E-W.	2.3 x 0.4 x 0.4
117	1	Concrete wall foundation aligned E-W	6 x 0.4 x 0.4
118	1	Concrete wall foundation aligned N-S	1.3 x 1.05 x 0.4
119	1	Brick-built inspection hole, abuts the northern side of (117).	1.8 x 1.3 x 0.6
200	2	Made ground overlain by degraded Tarmac – CBM, building waste, burnt material inc. ash. Dense and compact with inclusions of tile, large stones, cobbles and charred waste. Underlain by (201) – similar (105).	6 x 3 x 1.3
201	2	Alluvial sands and gravels – matrix supported fine to medium sand and gravel.	3 x 3 x 1.3
300	3	Made ground – CBM, other demolition was – similar to (105)/(200)	2x1.6 x 0.5
301	3	Subsoil – heavily modified – containing intrusive deposits of building waste similar to (105)/(200)/(301)	2x1.6 x 0.65
302	3	Alluvial sands and gravels – similar to the deposit (201), fine to medium sands with gravels and small pebbles possibly mid Holocene alluvium	2x1.6

Appendix 1.3 Photographic register

Photo	B/W	Digital	Direction facing	Description
001	–	001	E	Pre ex Trench 1
002	–	002	N	Pre ex Trench 1
003	–	003	E	Pre ex Trench 1
004	–	004	N/A	Open manhole
005	–	005	N/A	Open manhole
006	–	006	N/A	Damaged wall, no fencing

Photo	B/W	Digital	Direction facing	Description
007	—	007	E	First appearance of building foundations
008	—	008	E	First appearance of building foundations
009	—	009	S	Exposed cellar
010	—	010	W	Exposed cellar
011	—	11	N	Foundations
012	—	12	W	Foundations
013	1/12		OH	ID Shot
014	—	13	W	Trench 2 and 3 pre excavation shot
015	—	14	W	Trench 2 and 3 pre excavation shot
016	—	15	N/A	N/A
017	—	16	NNW	Trench 2 excavated
018	—	17	E	Deep section Trench 2
019	—	18	E	Deep section Trench 2
020	—	19	NNW	Deep section Trench 2
021	1/11	20	N	S facing section in Trench 1 showing (100)
022	—	21	NW	General shot of section dwg 1
023	—	22	NE	General shot of section dwg 1
024	—	23	N	General shot of Trench 3
025	—	24	N	General shot of Trench 3
026	—	25	N	General shot of Trench 3
027	1/10	26	W	General shot of ditch and rubbish pit
028	1/9	27	W	General shot of ditch
029	1/8	28	W	General shot of pit
030	1/7	29	W	General shot of pit
031	—	30	N	General shot of safety fence round Trench 2
032	—	31	E	General shot of safety fence round Trench 2
033	1/6	32	S	N facing section of ditch [110] Trench 1
034	1/5	33	S	N facing section of feature [112] Trench 1
035	—	34	OH	General shot of ditch [110] and feature [112]
036	—	1	N	General shot of base of Trench 3
037	—	2	N	General shot of base of Trench 3
038	—	3	N	General shot of base of Trench 3
039	—	4	N	Reinstatement shot Trench 1

Photo	B/W	Digital	Direction facing	Description
040	—	5	N	Reinstatement shot Trench 2
041	—	6	N	Reinstatement shot Trench 3

Appendix 1.4 Sample register

Sample	Context	Description
1	109	Dark grey, orange brown sandy silt – loose fill of ditch
2	113	Blue grey alluvium with dung, shell and bone

Appendix 1.5 Drawing register

Drawing	Scale	Plan/Section	Description
1	1:10	Section	S facing section of Trench 1
2	1:30	Plan	Plan of Trench 1
3	1:10/1:20	Section	Cut [110] and [112]



APPENDIX 2 FINDS CATALOGUE

Trench	Context	Feature	SF	Sample	Qty	Weight (g)	Material	Object/Fabric	Description	Spot date	Period
1	109	Ditch 110	—	1	13	17	Pottery (Sax)	B01	—	900–1150	Sax
1	109	Ditch 110	—	—	2	22	Pottery (Sax)	B01	1 vess; ext soot	900–1150	Sax
1	109	Ditch 110	—	—	1	6	Pottery (Sax)	B01	Abr	900–1150	Sax
1	109	Ditch 110	—	1	4	11	Pottery (Sax)	B01A	1 vess	900–1150	Sax
1	109	Ditch 110	—	—	2	54	Pottery (Sax)	B01A	1 vess; flat base; ext soot	900–1150	Sax
1	109	Ditch 110	—	—	1	9	Pottery (Sax)	B01B	leached	900–1150	Sax
1	109	Ditch 110	—	1	21	36	Pottery (Medi)	B07	—	1150–1250	Medi
1	109	Ditch 110	—	—	4	18	Pottery (Medi)	B07	—	1150–1250	Medi
1	109	Ditch 110	—	—	2	26	Pottery (Medi)	B07	2 x base angle; 1 ext soot	1150–1250	Medi
1	109	Ditch 110	—	1	1	12	Pottery (Medi)	B07	Base angle; ext soot	1150–1250	Medi
1	109	Ditch 110	—	—	1	6	Pottery (Medi)	B07	Ext soot	1150–1250	Medi
1	109	Ditch 110	—	1	2	4	Pottery (Medi)	C01	—	1150–1250	Medi
1	109	Ditch 110	—	—	1	11	Pottery (Medi)	C01	Ext soot	1150–1250	Medi
1	109	Ditch 110	—	—	1	38	Pottery (Medi)	C01	Flat rim jar; D160mm	1150–1250	Medi
1	109	Ditch 110	—	1	2	5	Pottery (Medi)	C03	—	1150–1250	Medi
1	109	Ditch 110	—	1	2	10	Pottery (Medi)	C03	1 vess; int wh res	1150–1250	Medi
1	109	Ditch 110	—	—	1	4	CBM	CAL	Abr flat roof tile	Late med/early post-medieval	Medi/PM
1	109	Ditch 110	—	1	7	—	Lithics	Flake & chip	Flake, chip and burnt indeterminate pieces	—	—
1	109	Ditch 110	—	1	—	9	Industrial Waste	Iron slag	—	—	—
1	109	Ditch 110	—	1	—	8	Industrial Waste	Mag res	—	—	—
1	109	Ditch 110	—	1	1	—	Iron	Nail	Small nail, flat round head	—	—
1	109	Ditch 110	—	1	1	—	Copper Alloy	Object	Small flat, lobed object, possibly part of a decorative binding or pendant, possibly waste	—	—
1	109	Ditch 110	—	1	1	—	Iron	Plate	Small piece of sheet, sub-square	—	—
1	109	Ditch 110	—	1	1	—	Lead	Strip	Small thin strip	—	—
1	109	Ditch 110	2	—	1	—	Iron	Trivet	Large triangular trivet with curving feet, 285 x 185mm	—	—
1	113	Cut 112	—	2	1	1	Pottery (Sax)	B01	—	900–1150	Sax
1	113	Cut 112	—	—	1	4	Pottery (Sax)	B01B	—	900–1150	Sax
1	113	Cut 112	—	2	2	4	Pottery (Medi)	B07	—	1150–1250	Medi
1	113	Cut 112	—	—	2	12	Pottery (Medi)	C03	—	1150–1250	Medi
1	113	Cut 112	—	2	2	137	Pottery (Medi)	C04	1 vess; base angle	1150–1250	Medi
1	113	Cut 112	—	—	3	16	Pottery (Medi)	C05	1 fine-walled vess; hor gr	1150–1250	Medi
1	113	Cut 112	—	2	4	10	Pottery (Medi)	C05	1 vess; (same as hand-collected)	1150–1250	Medi
1	113	Cut 112	—	2	1	—	Lithics	Flake	Burnt	—	—

Trench	Context	Feature	SF	Sample	Qty	Weight (g)	Material	Object/Fabric	Description	Spot date	Period
1	113	Cut 112	–	2	–	20	Industrial Waste	Iron slag	–	–	–
1	113	Cut 112	–	2	–	3	Industrial Waste	Mag res	–	–	–
1	113	Cut 112	–	2	9	–	Iron	Nails	Small nails	–	–
1	113	Cut 112	–	–	1	1	Pottery (Medi/PM)	P13	–	1400–1700	Medi/PM
1	113	Cut 112	–	2	8	2	Pottery (Medi/PM)	P13	1 vess (same as hand-collected)	1400–1700	Medi/PM
1	113	Cut 112	–	–	5	252	CBM	SDY	Coarse sand; flat roof tile T13mm	Late medi/early post–medieval	Medi/PM
1	113	Cut 112	–	2	6	306	CBM	SDY	Coarse sand; peg tile (round); T13–15mm	Late medi/early post–medieval	Medi/PM
1	113	Cut 112	–	–	2	206	CBM	SDY	Fine sand; flat roof tile T14mm	Late medi/early post–medieval	Medi/PM
1	113	Cut 112	–	2	3	1	CBM	SDY	Fine sand; tile slivers	Late medi/early post–medieval	Medi/PM
3	U/S	–	–	–	1	–	Glass	Bottle	Green wine bottle neck, missing rim, hand made	1750–1810	Mod



APPENDIX 3 ENVIRONMENTAL TABLES

Appendix 3.1 Flotation sample results

Context	Sample	Total flot vol (ml)	Cereal grains							Other plant remains	Charcoal		
			Avena sp.	Hordeum vulgare	Triticum sp.	Secale cereale	Chaff	Cerealia indent.	Qty		Max size (mm)	Material available for AMS dating	Comments
113	2	30	-	+	++	-	-	++	Sambucus nigra +	++	1	Yes	Also contains terrestrial snail shell and vesicular fragments. Cereal grains are heavily abraded.
109	1	50	++	+++	++	+++	+	++	Rumex sp. ++, Sambucus nigra +, Atriplex sp +, Hycosyamus niger +, Malus sp. +	++	10	Yes	Charcoal non-oak. Also contains fish scales, invertebrate pupae and uncharred seeds. Preservation excellent.

Key: += rare (0–5), ++ = occasional (6–15), +++ = common (16–50) and ++++ = abundant (>50)
NB charcoal over 1cm is suitable for identification and AMS dating

Appendix 3.2 Retent sample results

Context	Sample	Sample vol (ml)	Pottery	Ceramic	Stone	Metal	Industrial waste	Burnt bone	Unburnt bone	Shell	Charred plant	Charcoal						
												Lithics	Cu	Pb	Fe	Fe slag	Mag. res.	Mammal
109	1	20	++++	+	+	+	+	+	+++	++	+++	++	++	+	+++	2	Yes	Hazelnut shell (1g). Contains unburnt fish bone and heavily fragmented mammal bone including sheep skull, canine, and distal tibia (unfused epiphysis). Claw – small mammal. Large and small mammal, heavily fragmented long bone fragments.
113	2	20	+++	+	-	-	++	+	+++	+	++	+	++	-	++	1.8	Yes	Contains heavily fragmented animal bone – small mammal including vertebrae fragments, rib and skull. Possible rodent fragments.

Key: += rare (0–5), ++ = occasional (6–15), +++ = common (16–50) and ++++ = abundant (>50)
NB charcoal over 1cm is suitable for identification and AMS dating

APPENDIX 4 ANIMAL BONE CATALOGUE

Context	Sample	Weight (g)	Cattle	Sheep/goat	Pig	Condition	Comments
113	112	50	x	x	—	Good	<p>Hand collected bone includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st Phalanx (cow); • IM- small mammal, rib fragments and fragmented vertebrae fragment. Little surface abrasion. <p>Bone recovered from the retent comprises:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • skull, canine, and distal tibia (unfused epiphysis) – sheep; • IM – small mammal – claw; • IM – large and small mammal, heavily fragmented long bone fragments; • fish bone.
109	110	422	x	x	x	Good	<p>Hand collected bone includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • rib fragments IM – small and medium sized mammal; • Mandible fragment (pig), M1 very worn; • Ulna fragment (cow); • dhumerus fragments, proximal metacarpal fragments, Ulna and tibia fragments and phalanx (sheep/goat); • IM – small mammal, longbone fragments. <p>Bone recovered from retent includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IM – small mammal vertebrae fragments, rib and skull (possible rodent fragments); • bone heavily fragmented – surface condition good, chop and fine cut marks visible, some long bone fragments vertically split.

Key: x = Species present; IM = Indeterminate mammal



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