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**THE SHIP INN, ST CUTHBERT'S STREET, BEDFORD,
BEDFORDSHIRE MK40 3JB**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL
MONITORING AND RECORDING

Authors: Gareth Barlow (Field work and report)	
NGR: TL 505312 249914	Report No: 5362
District: Bedford Borough	Site Code: AS1806
Approved: Claire Halpin CMIfA	Project No: P6525
	Date: 19 April 2017 Revised: 30/06/2017

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OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

Project details			
Project name	<i>The Ship Inn, St Cuthbert's Street, Bedford, Bedfordshire MK40 3JB</i>		
<p><i>In April 2017 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out archaeological monitoring and recording at the Ship Inn, St Cuthbert's Street, Bedford MK40 3JB (NGR 505312 249914). The monitoring was carried out on the advice of Bedford Borough Council (Vanessa Clarke, Historic Environment Team). It was undertaken in compliance with a condition attached to planning approval for the construction of a single storey rear extension (BBC Planning Reference 16/00233/FUL).</i></p> <p><i>The monitoring recorded Pit F2009 which contained two sherds of medieval (13th-14th century) pottery. The pit also contained four residual Saxo-Norman sherds (three St Neots and one Thetford ware sherd). Buried Soil L2001 also contained a sherd of St Neots ware and an early medieval coarse ware sherd with a date centred on the 11th-13th centuries.</i></p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	April 2017		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	N	Future work	TBC
P. number	P6525	Site code	AS1806
Type of project	Archaeological monitoring		
Site status	-		
Current land use	Public House back yard		
Planned development	Small rear extension		
Main features (+dates)	Pit		
Significant finds (+dates)	Residual Saxon (10 th – 12 th C) pottery sherds. Medieval (13 th – 14 th century) pottery		
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	Bedfordshire	Bedford Borough	Bedford
HER/ SMR for area	Bedford Historic Environment Record (BBHER)		
Post code (if known)	MK40 3JB		
Area of site	c.100m ²		
NGR	TL 505312 249914		
Height AOD (min/max)	c.34m AOD		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	Bedford Borough Council		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	Archaeological Solutions Ltd		
Funded by	PDS Design & Build		
Full title	The Ship Inn, St Cuthbert's Street, Bedford, Bedfordshire MK40 3JB. Archaeological Monitoring and Recording		
Authors	Barlow, G.		
Report no.	5362		
Date (of report)	19 April 2017 (Revised 30/06/2017)		

**THE SHIP INN, ST CUTHBERT'S STREET, BEDFORD, BEDFORDSHIRE
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ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND RECORDING

SUMMARY

In April 2017 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out archaeological monitoring and recording at the Ship Inn, St Cuthbert's Street, Bedford MK40 3JB (NGR 505312 249914). The monitoring was carried out on the advice of Bedford Borough Council (Vanessa Clarke, Historic Environment Team). It was undertaken in compliance with a condition attached to planning approval for the construction of a single storey rear extension (BBC Planning Reference 16/00233/FUL).

The Ship Inn lies in an area believed to have been occupied since at least the early 10th century. Remains of 10th century, Saxo-Norman, medieval and post-medieval date have been found nearby. The building itself is Grade II listed. It was first identified in a will of 1765 but may have developed from a cottage recorded as being held by a clay pipe maker in 1681, with the cottage becoming the Ship Inn around 1758.

A trial pit evaluation was undertaken (Barlow 2016). It revealed only a pit of possible Saxon (10th – 12th century) date, a modern brick structure, modern service trenches and made ground. A residual Saxon (10th – 12th century) sherd was found within Service Trench F1014 (Trench 1). The dating of Pit F1005 (Trench 1) is tentative as only a single sherd of pottery was found.

There was no evidence of the anticipated back yard activities within the trenches. A possible buried garden soil (L1004) of post-medieval or modern date was present and it contained a range of finds including clay pipe stems but no bowls. The quantity of the finds present was relatively low, and not the sort of quantity that might be expected if clay pipes were being manufactured on the site.

The monitoring recorded Pit F2009 which contained two sherds of medieval (13th-14th century) pottery. The pit also contained four residual Saxo-Norman sherds (three St Neots and one Thetford ware sherd). Buried Soil L2001 also contained a sherd of St Neots ware and an early medieval coarse ware sherd with a date centred on the 11th-13th centuries (Pottery Report below). The charred plant remains from Pit F2009 L2010 demonstrate the use, if not cultivation, of free-threshing type wheat and oat at the site during the early 13th-14th century (Environmental Report below). This complements evidence for free-threshing type wheat and barley from 10th-12th century Pit Fill L1006, which was sampled during previous trial trenching (Barlow 2016). This indicates continuation of domestic activity on the site during the 13th-14th century, although the evidence of two environmental samples is insufficient for a detailed comparison of diet and economy over time.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In April 2017 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out archaeological monitoring and recording at the Ship Inn, St Cuthbert's Street, Bedford MK40 3JB (NGR 505312 249914; Figs. 1 - 2). The monitoring was carried out on the advice of Bedford Borough Council (Vanessa Clarke, Historic Environment Team). It was undertaken in compliance with a condition attached to planning approval for internal alterations and the construction of a single storey rear extension to the public house to form a dining and food preparation area and re-site existing toilets (BBC Planning Reference 15/00494/PREAPP).

1.2 The monitoring was undertaken in accordance with a brief issued by the Bedford Borough Council Historic Environment Team (BBC HET *Brief for a Programme of Archaeological Observation, Investigation, Recording, Analysis and Publication at The Ship Inn, St Cuthbert's Street, Bedford, Bedfordshire MK40 3JB* (dated 5th May 2016), and a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by AS and approved by CBC (dated 9th May 2016).

1.3 The monitoring conformed to the guidelines cited in the brief, in particular the ClfA Code of Conduct and relevant *Standards* documents, English Heritage *Management of Archaeological Projects* (1991), Historic England *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment; the MoRPHE Project Managers Guide* (2015) and *Preparing Archaeological Archives for Deposition in Registered Museums in Bedfordshire* (2010).

1.4 The project objective was to identify and record any features of interest that are exposed during groundworks for the proposed development. The archaeological investigation was to determine and understand the nature, function and character of an archaeological site in its cultural and environmental setting. Specific attention was paid to:

- Establishing the date, nature and extent of activity or occupation on the development site;
- establishing the relationship of any remains identified to the surrounding contemporary landscapes;
- Recovery of artefacts to assist in the development of a regional type series; and
- Recovery of palaeo-environmental remains in order to determine local environmental conditions

Planning Policy Context

1.5 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2012) states that those parts of the historic environment that have significance because of their historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest are heritage assets. The NPPF aims to deliver sustainable development by ensuring that policies and decisions that concern the historic environment recognise that heritage assets are a non-renewable resource, take account of the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits of heritage conservation, and recognise that intelligently managed change may sometimes be necessary if

heritage assets are to be maintained for the long term. The NPPF requires applications to describe the significance of any heritage asset, including its setting that may be affected in proportion to the asset's importance and the potential impact of the proposal.

1.6 The NPPF aims to conserve England's heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance, with substantial harm to designated heritage assets (i.e. listed buildings, scheduled monuments) only permitted in exceptional circumstances when the public benefit of a proposal outweighs the conservation of the asset. The effect of proposals on non-designated heritage assets must be balanced against the scale of loss and significance of the asset, but non-designated heritage assets of demonstrably equivalent significance may be considered subject to the same policies as those that are designated. The NPPF states that opportunities to capture evidence from the historic environment, to record and advance the understanding of heritage assets and to make this publicly available is a requirement of development management. This opportunity should be taken in a manner proportionate to the significance of a heritage asset and to impact of the proposal, particularly where a heritage asset is to be lost.

2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE

2.1 The Ship Inn occupies the eastern side of St Cuthbert's Street in the historic core of Bedford (within the area of Anglo-Saxon and medieval settlement) and within Bedford Town Conservation Area (DBD3234). An extension to the building is proposed in the rear yard/beer garden, which was the target of the forerunning evaluation.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 The public house building occupies the western part of the site, with a rear yard area and patio with outbuildings. The building is Grade II listed and sits within an urban landscape of further Grade II structures fronting St Cuthbert's Street some 17th and 18th century (BBHER 1253, 1254, 1255 & 1256). More locally listed buildings lie to the south. The Ship Inn's list description ascribes a 17th or 18th century date (BBHER 1257), though records note building works in the 1950s revealed medieval (15th century) masonry re-used in a later fireplace. It was first identified in a will of 1765 but may have developed from a cottage recorded as being held by a clay pipe maker in 1681, with the cottage becoming the Ship Inn around 1758 and another cottage becoming its washhouse.

3.2 The postulated area of late Anglo-Saxon and medieval occupation in the core of Bedford is a locally designated Area of Archaeological Interest (Bedford Borough Historic Environment Record BBHER10530). The Ship Inn lies in an area believed to have been developed/occupied since the early 10th century or before, 100m to the north east of the 11th century castle and inside the line of the 10th century ditch demarcating the town extent (BBHER

1010366). The site of St Cuthbert's Church is close by to the south and is believed to have been on the eastern edge of the town extent in the 10th/11th centuries (BBHER 8855). Although the present church only dates back to the 19th century, previous works on the site have revealed remains of the Saxon and Medieval town.

3.3 Archaeological investigations have revealed surviving remains in the vicinity. Archaeological remains of 10th century, Saxo-Norman, medieval and post-medieval date have been found at 2 St Cuthbert's Street some 25m to the south west on 1997-8 (BBHER EDB9). A trial trench evaluation opposite at 8-10 St Cuthbert's Street identified foundations and a doorway of the post-medieval building and a 10th-11th century rubbish pit (EBD257; BBHER15659), and human remains were discovered during building works at 14 St Cuthbert's Street c.50m to the north-west (BBHER15821).

3.4 The current site therefore retains a potential for late Saxon, medieval and post-medieval activity associated with its position in the historic core (in particular for 'back-yard' features such as refuse pits, property boundaries, structures and industrial activity such as evidence of clay pipe making).

4 PREVIOUS INVESTIGATION

4.1 An archaeological trial pit evaluation was undertaken (Barlow 2016). In summary:

The Ship Inn lies in an area believed to have been occupied since at least the early 10th century. Remains of 10th century, Saxo-Norman, medieval and post-medieval date have been found nearby. The building itself is Grade II listed. It was first identified in a will of 1765 but may have developed from a cottage recorded as being held by a clay pipe maker in 1681, with the cottage becoming the Ship Inn around 1758.

The trial pits excavated revealed a single pit of possible Saxon (10th – 12th century date; F1005 Trench 1), a modern brick structure, modern service trenches and modern made ground. A residual Saxon (10th – 12th century) sherd was found within Service Trench F1014 (Trench 1). The dating of Pit F1005 (Trench 1) is tentative as only a single sherd of pottery was found. The charred remains from Pit F1005 L1006 demonstrate the use, if not cultivation, of free-threshing type wheat and hulled barley at the site during the 10th-12th century (Environmental Report below).

There was no evidence of the anticipated back yard activities within the trenches. A possible buried garden soil (L1004) of post- medieval or modern date was present and it contained a range of finds including clay pipe stems but no bowls. The quantity of the finds present was relatively low, and not the sort of quantity that might be expected if clay pipes were being manufactured on the site.

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 The archaeological investigation comprised the observation of all groundworks likely to affect archaeological remains, the inspection of the subsoil and natural deposits for archaeological features, the examination of spoil heaps and the recording of soil profiles. Encountered features and deposits were cleaned by hand and recorded using *pro-forma* recording sheets, drawn to scale and photographed as appropriate. Excavated spoil was checked for finds.

5.2 The foundation trenches were excavated using a mini, tracked 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a 500mm toothless ditching bucket.

6 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

6.1 The encountered stratigraphy was recorded in three sample sections:

<i>Sample section 1</i> 0.00 = 39.19m AOD		
0.00-0.28m	2000	Modern made ground: Friable, pale brown yellow silty sand with frequent small sub-rounded limestone hardcore
0.28-0.70m	2001	Buried ?garden soil: Firm, dark grey brown sandy silt with occasional small to medium sub-rounded & sub-angular flint
0.70-0.95m+	2002	Natural deposits: Firm, pale to mid brown orange, silty sand with occasional small to medium sub-rounded & sub-angular flints and patches of pale brown orange & very pale yellow grey fine sub-rounded gravels

<i>Sample section 2</i> 0.00 = 39.19m AOD		
0.00-0.14m	2000	Modern made ground: As above.
0.14-0.22m	2004	Modern made ground: Firm, dark brown grey, clayey silt with patched of pale yellow brown sand with occasional small to medium sub-angular & sub-rounded flints
0.22-0.54m	2001	Buried ?garden soil: As above.
0.54-0.83m+	2002	Natural: As above.

<i>Sample section 3</i> 0.00 = 34.19m AOD		
0.00-0.20m	2016	Concrete surface
0.20-0.32m	2000	Modern made ground: As above.
0.32-0.95m	2001	Buried ?garden soil: As above.
0.95-1.06m+	2002	Natural deposits: As above.

<i>Sample section 4</i> 0.00 = 34.18m AOD		
0.00-0.23m	2005	Brick garden wall.
0.23-0.36m	2007	Concrete slab.
0.36m+	2014	Fill of modern Service Trench F2013.

<i>Sample section 5</i> 0.00 = 39.18m AOD		
0.00-0.10m	2015	Concrete patio: Pale grey
0.10-0.22m	2006	Preparatory layer for Patio M2015: Friable, pale brown yellow coarse sand with moderate medium sized pale brown yellow, sub-rounded limestone.
0.22-0.71m	2001	Buried ?garden soil: As above.
0.71-0.81m	2012	Fill of Pit F2009
0.81-0.84m	2011	Fill of Pit F2009
0.84m+	2010	Fill of Pit F2009

Description: Pit F2009, modern Service Trenches F2013 and F2017, brick Wall M2005 and patio surface (M2015) were recorded. Pit F2009 contained residual Saxon and medieval (13th-14th century) pottery.

M2005 was a small brick garden wall (0.3+ x 0.23 x 0.22m), constructed with mid orange frogged bricks (210 x 110 x 70mm) bonded with a pale grey cement mortar. The bricks are 17th and late 19th century in date (CBM report below). M2005 overlay a concrete wall footing (L2007), and abutted M2015.

L2008, a modern made ground layer comprised a firm, dark brown grey clayey silt with occasional to moderate sub-angular and sub-rounded flints. It overlay L2001 and was sealed by L2006. It contained no finds.

Pit F2009 was ill defined in plan (1.8+ x 1.0+ x 0.70m+). It had a moderately sloping eastern side, but its profile was not determined due to truncation along its western side by modern service F2013. Also it was not bottomed as it would have exceeded the safe working depth. F2009 contained three fills: L2010, L2011 and L2012. Its lower fill (L2010) comprised a very firm, dark orangey grey brown sandy silt with occasional to moderate small to medium sized sub-angular and sub-rounded flints. It was overlain by L2011, a firm, mid orange brown silty sand with occasional small sub-angular and sub-rounded flints. The uppermost fill (L2012) comprised a firm, dark grey brown sandy silt with occasional to moderate small sub-angular and sub-rounded flints and limestone. L2010 and L2012 contained residual Saxon and medieval pottery (85g) and animal bone (5g), and L2010 yielded a single piece of slag (10g).

Modern Service Trench F2013 was linear in plan (1.0+ x 0.40+ x 1.05+). It had vertical sides and its base was unseen. It contained plastic and ceramic pipes. Its backfill (L2014) comprised a very pale yellow brown large sized sub-rounded limestone.

Patio surface M2015 (5.0+ x 5.0+ x 0.07m) was constructed of un-mortared grey unfrogged bricks (220 x 110 x 70mm). It overlay L2006 and abutted M2005.

Modern Service Trench F2017 was linear in plan (0.6+ x 0.60 x 0.9+). It had vertical sides and its base was unseen. It contained a large ceramic pipe. Its backfill (L2018) comprised a firm, mid orange brown silty sand with moderate medium sized sub-rounded flints.

7 CONFIDENCE RATING

7.1 It is not felt that any factors restricted the identification of archaeological features or finds.

8 DEPOSIT MODEL

8.1 The site was devoid of any Topsoil. The present ground surface varied across the site, the most prevalent being L2000, a modern made ground preparatory layer which comprised a friable, pale brown yellow silty sand with frequent sub-rounded limestone hardcore (c.0.19 - 0.25m thick), observed in Sample Sections 1-3. Deposits L2016 a pale grey concrete patio edging (c.0.10m thick) observed in Sample Section 3 was recorded overlying L2000; whilst a pale grey brick patio surface (c.0.07m thick) was observed in the southern most footing trench; which abutted a brick wall structure M2005 and overlaid L2006 and L2007 (See below). Commonly observed sealed beneath L2000 was L2001, a ?buried garden soil comprised of firm, dark grey brown sandy silt with occasional sub-angular and sub-rounded flints. L2001 yielded two sherds of 11th-13th century AD pottery (21g) along with CBM (29g) and animal bone (14g). An exception to this was the presence of a modern made ground layer (L2004) positioned above L2001 encountered in Sample Section 2. Sealed beneath patio surface L2015 was a made ground layer L2006, which comprised a friable, pale brown yellow coarse sand with moderate pale yellow brown sub-rounded limestone (c.0.11m thick). L2006 overlaid a pale grey concrete slab (L2007) and modern made ground (L2008) which comprised firm, dark brown grey clayey silt. Sealed beneath both L2007 and L2008 was ?buried garden soil, L2001, and the backfill of modern service trench F2013 (L2014).

8.2 Underlying L2001 was the natural: L2002, a firm, pale mid brown orange silty sand with patches of pale yellow grey/pale brown orange fine sub-rounded gravel.

9 DISCUSSION

<i>Feature</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Date/Finds</i>
M2005	Brick wall structure	Modern
F2009	Pit	13 th -14 th century
F2013	Service trench	Modern
M2015	Patio	Modern
F2017	Service trench	Modern

8.2 The Ship Inn lies in an area believed to have been occupied since at least the early 10th century. Remains of 10th century, Saxo-Norman, medieval and post-medieval date have been found nearby. The building itself is Grade II listed. It was first identified in a will of 1765 but may have developed from a cottage recorded as being held by a clay pipe maker in 1681, with the cottage becoming the Ship Inn around 1758.

8.3 The trial pits excavated in March 2016 (*Barlow 2016*) revealed a single pit of possible Saxon (10th – 12th century date; F1005 Trench 1), a modern brick structure, modern service trenches and modern made ground. A residual Saxon (10th – 12th century) sherd was found within Service Trench F1014 (Trench 1). The dating of Pit F1005 (Trench 1) is tentative as only a single sherd of pottery was found.

8.4 There was no evidence of the anticipated back yard activities within the trenches. A possible buried garden soil (L1004) of post- medieval or modern date was present and it contained a range of finds including clay pipe stems but no bowls. The quantity of the finds present was relatively low, and not the sort of quantity that might be expected if clay pipes were being manufactured on the site.

8.5 The monitoring recorded Pit F2009 which contained two sherds of medieval (13th-14th century) pottery. The pit also contained four residual Saxo-Norman sherds (three St Neots and one Thetford ware sherd). Buried Soil L2001 also contained a sherd of St Neots ware and an early medieval coarse ware sherd with a date centred on the 11th-13th centuries (Pottery Report below). The charred plant remains from Pit F2009 L2010 demonstrate the use, if not cultivation, of free-threshing type wheat and oat at the site during the early 13th-14th century (Environmental Report below). This complements evidence for free-threshing type wheat and barley from 10th-12th century Pit Fill L1006, which was sampled during previous trial trenching (*Barlow 2016*). This indicates continuation of domestic activity on the site during the 13th-14th century, although the evidence of two environmental samples is insufficient for a detailed comparison of diet and economy over time.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) would like to thank PDS Design & Build for funding the works (in particular Mr Richard Cotton for assistance) and Mr Mick Harvey of Stroods for assistance.

AS would like to acknowledge the input and advice of Ms Vanessa Clarke of Bedford Borough Council Historic Environment Team.

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APPENDIX 1 CONCORDANCE OF FINDS

Feature	Context	Segment	Trench	Description	Spot Date (Pot Only)	Pot Qty	Pottery (g)	CBM (g)	A. Bone (g)	Other Material	Other Qty	Other (g)
2009	2001			Buried Soil	11th -13th C	2	21	29	14			
	2010			Fill of Pit	Early 13th-14th C	4	68		2	Slag	1	10
	2012			Fill of Pit	13th-14th C	2	17		3			

APPENDIX 2 SPECIALIST REPORTS

The Pottery

Peter Thompson

The archaeological monitoring recovered 9 medieval sherds weighing 101g from a pit and a buried soil. Pit F2009 (L2010 and L2012) contained four Saxo-Norman sherds (three St Neots and one Thetford ware), but these were residual as the feature also contained a sherd of Lyveden coarse shelly ware and an unglazed sherd of Potterspury ware providing a 13th-14th century date. Buried Soil L2001 also contained a sherd of St Neots ware and an early medieval coarse ware sherd together with a date centred on the 11th-13th centuries.

Methodology

The sherds were analysed and recorded in keeping with the Post-Roman Pottery Research Group Guidelines (Slowikowski 2001, Table 1). Relevant fabric codes are provided in brackets. The Bedfordshire fabric codes are included in the Key in italics and enclosed with square brackets.

KEY:

SNEOT: St Neots type ware [B1] 10th-mid 12th

THET: Thetford type ware [C8] 10th – mid 12th

MCW1: Medieval coarseware 1 [C3] 11th-13th - common fine to medium sub-rounded to rounded quartz and few other inclusions. Black surfaces, core mottled red brown and dark grey/black

LYVE: Lyveden type ware [B9] late 12th-14th

POT: Potterspury ware [C10] early 13th- 16th

Feature	Context	Quantity	Date	Comment
Buried soil	2001	1x12g SNEOT 2x6g MCW1	11 th - 13 th	MCW1: conjoining sherds
Pit 2009	2010	2x49g SNEOT 1x7g THET 1x10g POT	early 13 th - 14 th	THET: faint girth grooves
	2012	1x8g SNEOT 1x9g LYVE	13 th - 14 th	SNEOT: cooking pot rim c.18cm diameter LYVE: rounded base/body angle

Table 1: Quantification of sherds by context

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The Ceramic Building Materials

Andrew Peachey MCIfA

A single fragment of highly abraded post-medieval brick (29g) was recovered from Buried Soil L2001. No dimensions or technological traits remained extant, but the soft red brick was manufactured in a fine silty fabric with inclusions of sparse fine mica and sparse cream/red clay pellets (generally <3mm). Such a brick could potentially have been manufactured between the 17th and late 19th centuries.

The Environmental Samples

Dr John Summers

Introduction

A single bulk soil sample for environmental archaeological assessment was taken and processed from L2010 (Pit F2009) during monitoring at the Ship Inn, Bedford. The deposit contained pottery dated to the early 13th-14th century AD. This report presents the results from the assessment of the bulk sample light fraction, and discusses the significance and potential of any remains recovered.

Methods

Samples were processed at the Archaeological Solutions Ltd facilities in Bury St. Edmunds using standard flotation methods. The light fractions were washed onto a mesh of 500µm (microns), while the heavy fractions were sieved to 1mm. The dried light fractions were scanned under a low power stereomicroscope (x10-x30 magnification). Botanical remains were identified and recorded using a semi-quantitative scale (X = present; XX = common; XXX = abundant). Reference literature (Cappers *et al.* 2006; Jacomet 2006) and a reference collection of modern seeds was consulted where necessary. Potential contaminants, such as modern roots, seeds and invertebrate fauna were also recorded in order to gain an insight into possible disturbance of the deposits.

Results

The assessment data from the bulk sample light fraction is presented in Table 2. The sample from L2010 contained grains of both free-threshing type wheat (*Triticum aestivum/ turgidum* type) and oat (*Avena* sp.), along with a single fragment of cereal culm. This could represent crop processing by-products but could also have originated as thatch (e.g. de Moulins 2007). A single seed of stinking chamomile (*Anthemis cotula*), a common medieval weed of heavy loam and clay soils (e.g. Monckton 2012, 159). Diffuse porous charcoal was common in the sample and is likely to represent fuel debris from domestic hearths.

Contaminants

Few modern contaminants were present in the sample, indicating that this is likely to represent a secure deposit unaffected by bioturbation.

Conclusions and statement of potential

The remains from L2010 demonstrate the use, if not cultivation, of free-threshing type wheat and oat at the site during the early 13th-14th century. This complements evidence for free-threshing type wheat and barley from 10th-12th century pit fill L1006, which was sampled during previous trial trenching at the site (Summers 2016). This indicates continuation of domestic activity on the site during the 13th-14th century, although the evidence of two samples is insufficient for a detailed comparison of diet and economy over time.

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Site code	AS1806	Sample number	1	Context	2010	Feature	2009	Description	Fill of Pit	Spot date	Early 13th-14th C	Volume (litres)	20	Cereal grains	X	Cereal chaff	X	Notes	FTW (1), Trit (1), Oat (1), NFI (6), Culm (1)	Seeds	X	Notes	<i>Anthemis cotula</i> (1)	Hazelnut shell	-	Charcoal	Charcoal>2mm	XX	Notes	Diffuse porous	Molluscs	Molluscs	-	Notes	-	Molluscs	-	Roots	X	Molluscs	-	Modern seeds	X	Insects	-	Earthworm capsules	-	Other remains	-
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Table 2: Results from the assessment of bulk sample light fractions from The Ship Inn, Bedford. Abbreviations: FTW = free-threshing type wheat (*Triticum aestivum/ turgidum*); Trit = wheat (*Triticum* sp.); Oat = *Avena* sp.; NFI = not formally identified (indeterminate cereal grain).

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



1
Sample Section 1 looking south-east



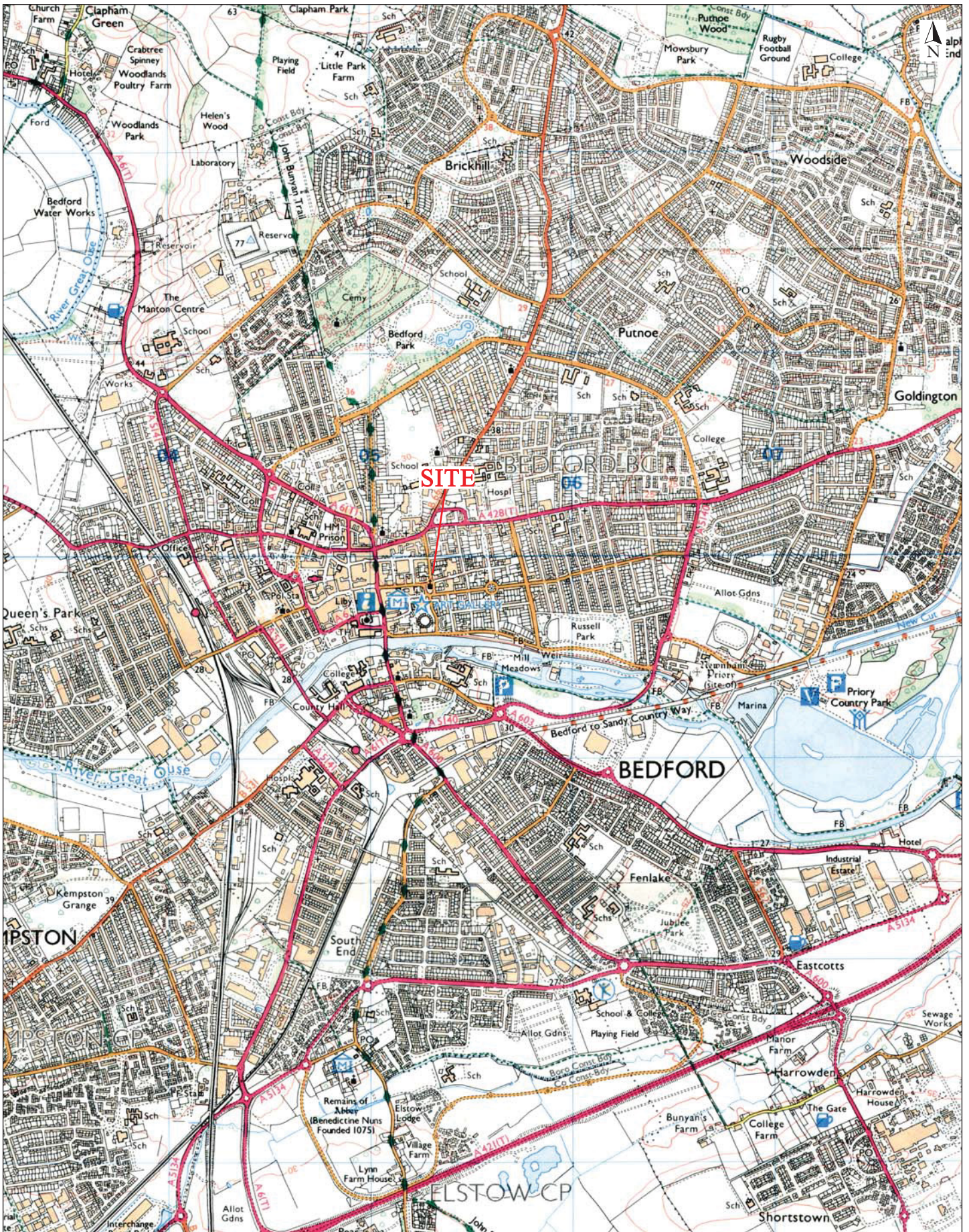
2
Sample Section 2 looking south-east



3
Sample Section 3 looking north-east

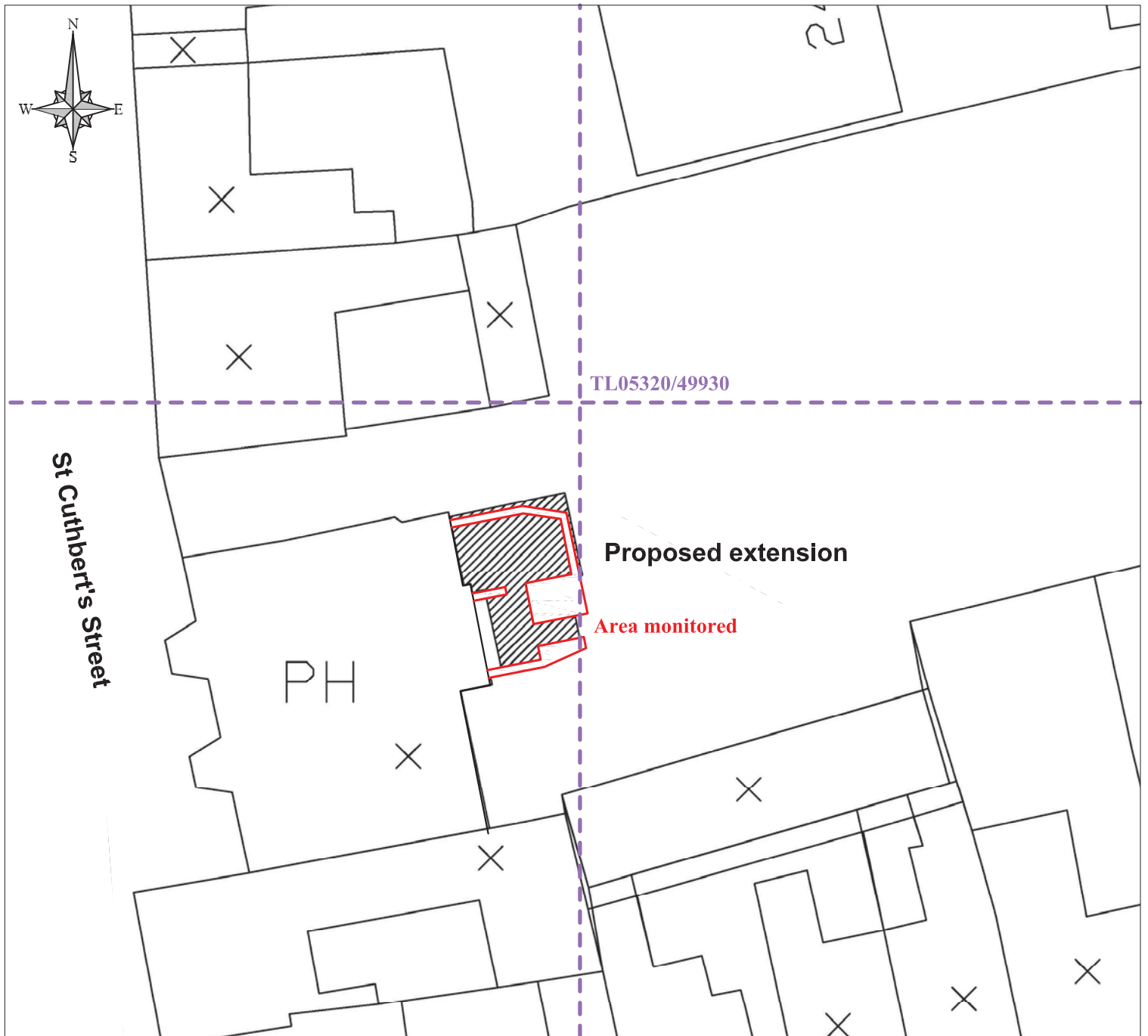


4
Sample Section 4 looking south-east

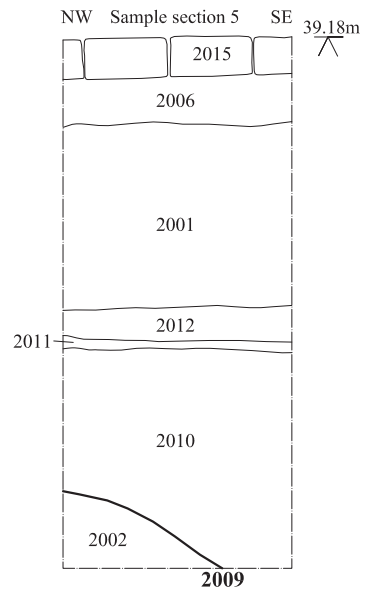
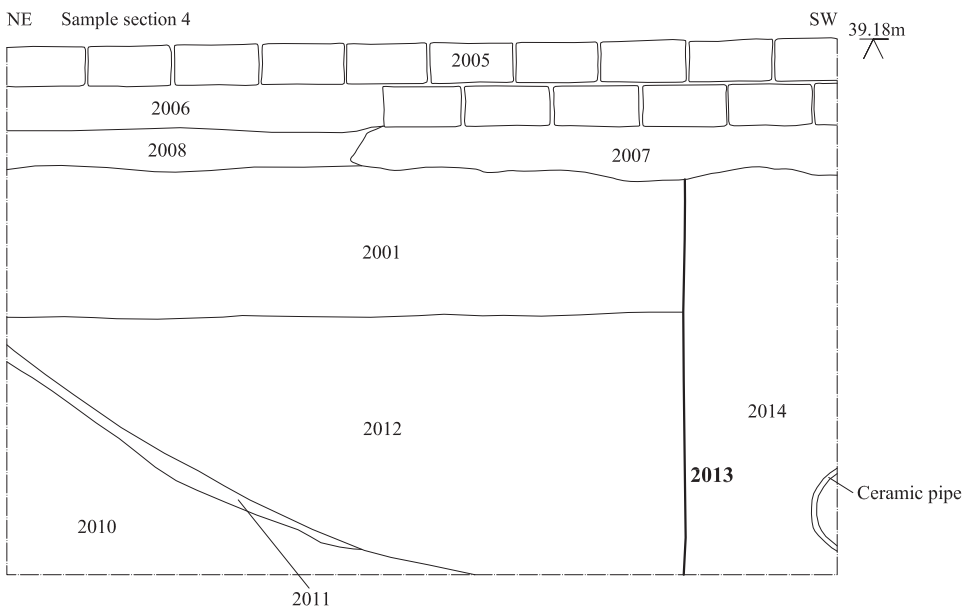
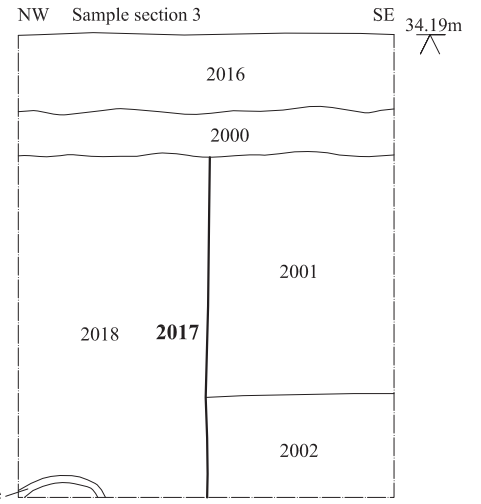
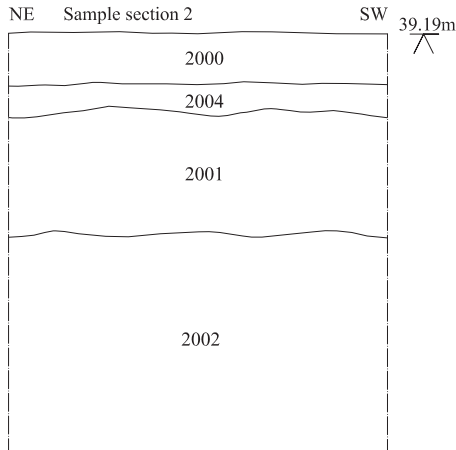
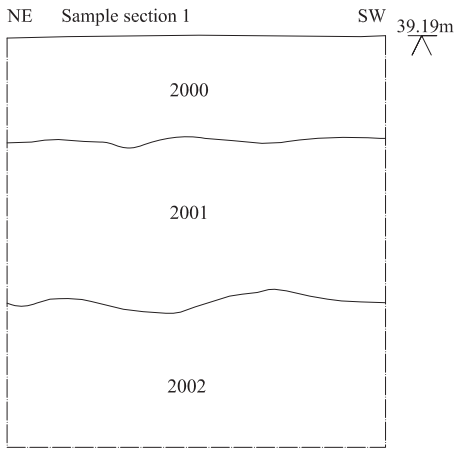
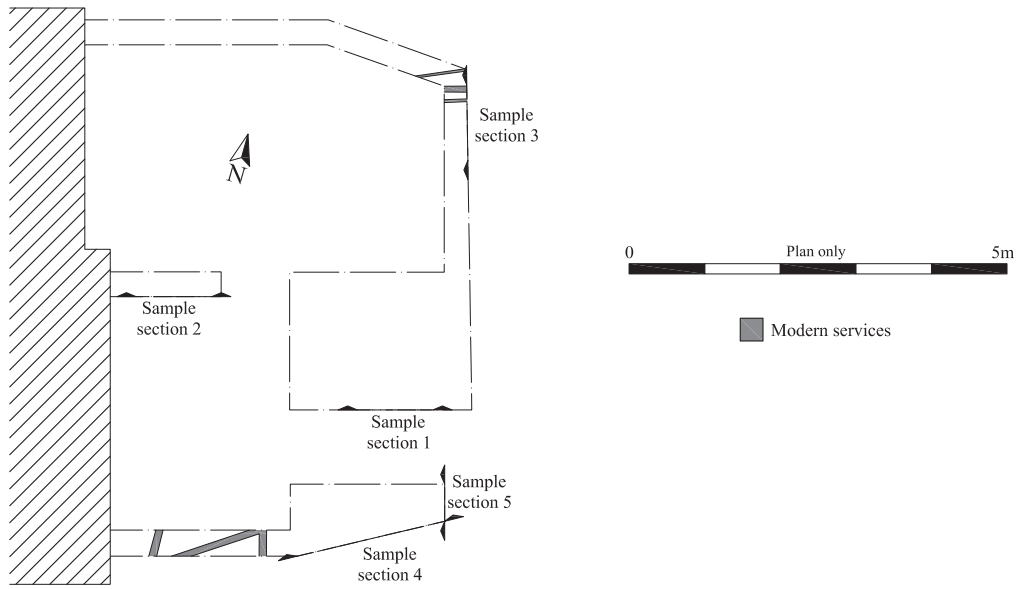


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Fig. 1 Site location plan
 Scale 1:25,000
 The Ship, 7 St Cuthberts St, Bedford (P6525)



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Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan
Scale 1:250 at A4
The Ship, 7 St Cuthberts St, Bedford (P6525)



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Fig. 3 Trench plans and sections

Scale 1:40 and 1:20 at A3

The Ship, 7 St Cuthberts St, Bedford (P6525)