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**LAND ADJACENT TO THE BUNGALOW, DOVE LANE,
HARROLD, BEDFORDSHIRE**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING & RECORDING

Authors: Matthew Adams BA (Fieldwork and Report) Kathren Henry (Graphics)	
NGR: SP 95224 56975	Report No. 3552
District: Bedford	Site Code: AS 1308
Approved: Claire Halpin MIFA	Project No. P3562
Signed:	Date: May 2010

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CONTENTS

OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

SUMMARY

- 1 INTRODUCTION**
- 2 DESCRIPTION OF SITE**
- 3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS**
- 4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**
- 5 METHODOLOGY**
- 6 RESULTS**
- 7 CONFIDENCE RATING**
- 8 DEPOSIT MODEL**
- 9 DISCUSSION**

DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

BIBLIOGRAPHY

APPENDIX 1 CONCORDANCE OF FINDS

APPENDIX 2 SPECIALIST REPORTS

OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

Project details			
Project name	<i>Land Adjacent to the Bungalow, Dove Lane, Harrold, Bedfordshire. Archaeological Monitoring and Recording</i>		
<i>In May 2010 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording during groundworks associated the construction of a residential dwelling at land adjacent to The Bungalow, Dove Lane, Harrold, Bedfordshire (NGR: SP 95224 56975). The monitoring was commissioned by Mr & Mrs Watts, and was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition required by Bedford Borough Council (Planning Ref. 09/03872/FUL).</i>			
<i>The monitoring revealed three undated pits, two undated postholes, three tree hollows and a modern field drain. None of the features contained datable finds. Subsoil L1001 contained a Roman sherd</i>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	<i>5th – 6th & 20th May 2010</i>		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	<i>N</i>	Future work (Y/N/?)	<i>N</i>
P. number	<i>3562</i>	Site code	<i>AS 1308</i>
Type of project	<i>Monitoring and Recording</i>		
Site status	<i>Area of Archaeological Interest</i>		
Current land use	<i>Orchard/grassland</i>		
Planned development	<i>Single residential dwelling</i>		
Main features (+dates)	<i>Undated pits (3) & postholes (2)</i>		
Significant finds (+dates)	<i>Roman sherd from subsoil</i>		
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	<i>Bedfordshire</i>	<i>Bedford</i>	<i>Harrold</i>
HER/ SMR for area	<i>Bedfordshire</i>		
Post code (if known)	<i>-</i>		
Area of site	<i>c. 0.1ha</i>		
NGR	<i>SP 95224 56975</i>		
Height AOD (max/ min)	<i>43m AOD</i>		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	<i>Bedford Borough Council (BBC) (Geoff Saunders)</i>		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	<i>Matthew Adams BA</i>		
Funded by	<i>Mr L Watts</i>		
Bibliography			
Full title	<i>Land Adjacent to the Bungalow, Dove Lane, Harrold, Bedfordshire. Archaeological Monitoring and Recording</i>		
Authors	<i>Matthew Adams BA</i>		
Report no.	<i>3552</i>		
Date (of report)	<i>May 2010</i>		

LAND ADJACENT TO THE BUNGALOW, DOVE LANE, HARROLD, BEDFORDSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND RECORDING

SUMMARY

In May 2010 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording during groundworks associated the construction of a residential dwelling at land adjacent to The Bungalow, Dove Lane, Harrold, Bedfordshire (NGR: SP 95224 56975). The monitoring was commissioned by Mr Lee Watts, and was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition required by Bedford Borough Council (Planning Ref. 09/02872/FUL).

The monitoring revealed three undated pits, two undated postholes, three tree hollows and a modern field drain. None of the features contained datable finds. Subsoil L1001 contained a Roman sherd

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In May 2010 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording during groundworks associated the construction of a residential dwelling at land adjacent to The Bungalow, Dove Lane, Harrold, Bedfordshire (NGR: SP 95224 56975; Figs. 1-2). The monitoring was commissioned by Mr Lee Watts, and undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval for the construction of a residential dwelling (Planning reference no. 09/02872/FUL).

1.2 The monitoring was conducted in accordance with a brief issued by the Archaeological Officer of Bedfordshire County Council (BCC) (dated 02/07/2009) and a specification compiled by AS (dated 25/11/2009). It adhered to the Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct* (revised 2008), and the procedures described in the *IfA Standard and Guidance for Watching Briefs* (revised 2008) and *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).

1.3 The project aimed to:

- Ensure the archaeological excavation and monitoring of all aspects of the development programme likely to affect buried archaeological remains;
- Secure the adequate recording of any archaeological remains revealed by the development programme;

- Secure the full analysis and interpretation of the site archive and the appropriate publication of the project results, if required; and
- Secure the analysis, long-term conservation and storage of the project archive

Specifically to:

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

Planning Policy Context

1.4 PPG16 (1990), the national Planning Policy Guidance Note which applies to archaeology and PPG15 (1994) the national Planning Policy Guidance Note which applies to conservation of the historic environment (by protecting the character and appearance of Conservation Areas and protecting listed buildings (of architectural or historical interest) from demolition and unsympathetic change and safeguarding their settings as far as is possible) have been replaced by Planning Policy Statement 5 (2010), the national Planning Policy Statement that applies to the historic environment

1.5 PPS5 (2010) states that those parts of the historic environment that have significance because of their historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest are heritage assets. The Planning Policy Statement 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. It aims to conserve England's heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance. It states that opportunities to capture evidence from the historic environment and to contribute to our knowledge and understanding of our past, and to make this publicly available, should be taken, particularly where a heritage asset is to be lost.

2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE (Figs. 1 & 2)

2.1 The site lies within the core of the settlement of Harrold, on Dove Lane which runs north-west from the mid-point of the High Street. It comprises a small (c. 0.1ha) former orchard/grassed area to the south-east of The Bungalow. The

site lies in the valley of the river Ouse which lies to the south, on gravel deposits, at an average height of 43m AOD

3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS

3.1 The site lies on a geology of argillic brown earths and fine loamy soils over the valley gravels of the great Ouse which overlie Great Oolitic Limestone.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 Harrold is known for its priory which was founded in 1136/8 on land granted by Sampson Le Fort to the Abbey of St Nicholas of Arrouaise (HER 62). The priory housed nuns and was originally governed by a prior and a few canons, before being released by the parent abbey in 1181 and being governed by a prioress. At this time the settlement is thought to have focused around the church and along the trackway which is now represented by Church Walk and Dove Lane (Albion 2003). The importance of Harrold as a medieval town is also evident from a number of features including the ancient six arched Harrold Bridge (HER 999) which is mentioned in documentary sources as early as 1136 – 46, and the watermill which is mentioned in Domesday Book. In addition, Harrold is known as the centre of pottery production and a kiln (HER 1183) has been excavated to the west of the site which produced jugs with stabbed handles, cooking pots and large bowls of a coarse shelly fabric varying in colour from pink to buff to grey. The kiln has been dated to the early 13th century from finds of its products in local stratified deposits.

4.2 During the 1950s investigations of the gravel quarries to the north of the development area revealed extensive evidence for occupation from the Bronze Age through to the Saxon period (HER 64). Finds included 17 or 18 complete and partial Anglo-Saxon burials, complete with grave goods which included pot sherds, beads, a possible sword, a small knife and part of a scramasax. The excavation also revealed 16 – 18 ploughed out possible Bronze Age barrows, as well as evidence of roundhouses and the recovery of several querns.

4.3 Excavations adjacent to these in the former Bridgman Works (HER 16942) identified a spread of archaeological features dating from the late Bronze Age through to the post-medieval period. Survival of archaeological deposits across the site was variable, with preservation being best in the east of the site where the former factory had not caused disturbance. The features recorded included a number of late Iron Age to early Roman-British rectilinear enclosures and a driveway, and evidence of Romano-British domestic occupation represented by a stone-lined pit which showed signs of burning and is thought to represent a corn-drying or malting oven (Albion 2002).

4.4 The area adjacent to Town Farm, to the south-west of the site, contained extensive areas of prehistoric and Saxon occupation. These included pits, ditches and the remains of a medieval Holloway. It seems that these deposits are likely to extend into the adjacent area. Excavations to the south of this at Harrold Priory Middle School identified extensive medieval remains including evidence of building foundations which might be associated with Harrold Manor, which is believed to have been built on the site of Harrold Priory (HER 6757, HER 62, HER 1068). Excavations in the area of Harrold Manor support the hypothesis that Harrold was a major centre of medieval pottery production as a large number of wasters were recovered, and it was found that 'hardcore' used during the construction of the medieval manor was made in part from crushed pot. Further remains of medieval occupation are also known from 85 High Street.

4.5 At 1 Dove Lane, an archaeological evaluation revealed archaeological remains which were thought to represent post-medieval backyard activity (Albion 2007). Buildings in Dove Lane are listed as being of historical or architectural interest, including, 4 Dove Lane (HER 2278) and 8 & 10 (HER 1656)

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 The archaeological monitoring comprised the observation of all groundworks, the inspection of subsoil and natural deposits for archaeological features, the examination of spoil heaps and the recording of soil profiles. Deposits were excavated by hand and recorded by means of *pro forma* recording sheets, drawn to scale and photographed as appropriate. Excavated spoil was searched for archaeological finds.

5.2 The monitoring and recording encompassed the observation of all intrusive activity associated with the groundworks. Specifically, the proposed building footprint and associated service trenches were mechanically stripped of overburden using a 360° tracked excavator equipped with a 1.8m bladed ditching bucket under the close supervision. The subsoil was removed under close supervision to the level of the archaeological features and the exposed natural sandy gravels were examined for archaeological features. Exposed surfaces were hand cleaned as necessary and all further investigation was undertaken by hand.

6 RESULTS

Site visits 5th-6th May 2010 (Fig. 3)

6.1 The site was visited over a period of two days with continuous observation of the stripping of the proposed building footprint and services. An area of approximately 217.00m² was stripped using a tracked, mechanical 360°

excavator fitted with a 1.8m bladed ditching bucket. Two sample sections were recorded of the stratigraphy and are tabulated below.

Sample Section 1

Sample Section 1 Located on baulk on W limit of excavation (Fig.3) 0.00m = 43.12m AOD	
0.00 – 0.22m	L1000. Topsoil. Dark grey brown, friable humic sandy silt
0.22 – 0.57m	L1001. Subsoil. Mid orange brown, friable sandy silt
0.57m+	L1002. Natural. Light brown orange, compact sandy gravel

Sample Section 2

Sample Section 2 Located on baulk on E limit of excavation (Fig.3) 0.00m = 43.22m AOD	
0.00 – 0.42m	L1000. Topsoil. As above
0.42 – 0.69m	L1001. Subsoil. As above
0.69m+	L1002. Natural. As above

Description: Nine features were revealed during the monitoring: three pits (F1003, F1007 & F1009), two postholes (F1005 & F1011), three tree hollows, and a modern field drain.

Pit F1003 was sub-rectangular in plan (1.70 x 0.69 x 0.20m). It had steep sides and an irregular, slightly convex base. Its fill, L1004, was a mid yellow brown, friable sandy silt. Finds comprise small fragments of animal bone (16g).

Posthole F1005 was sub-circular in plan (0.37 x 0.35 x 0.08m). It had moderately steep sides and a concave base. Its fill, F1006, was a mid grey brown, friable sandy silt. No finds were present.

Pit F1007 was sub-circular in plan (1.00 x 0.90 x 0.45m). It had steep sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1008, was a mid orange brown, friable sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks. No finds were present.

Pit F1009 was sub-circular in plan (0.62 x 0.51 x 0.26m). It had steep sides and a flat base. Its fill, L1010, was a mid orange brown, friable sandy silt with occasional flint gravel. Finds comprised animal bone (96g).

Posthole F1011 was circular in plan (0.28 x 0.28 x 0.29m). It had steep vertical sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1012, was a mid grey brown, loose sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks. Finds comprised an Fe nail (9g).

Site visit 20th May 2010 (Fig. 3, DP 9 & 10)

A small rectangle (5.4 x 2.4m) near the north-east corner of the bungalow was stripped for the addition of a soakaway and associated services. The area was stripped using a tracked, mechanical 360° excavator fitted with a 1.8m bladed ditching bucket. One sample section was recorded of the stratigraphy and tabulated below.

Sample Section 3

Sample Section 3 0.00m = 43.63m AOD	
0.00 – 0.38m	L1000. Topsoil. As above
0.38 – 0.67m	L1001. Subsoil. As above
0.67m+	L1002. Natural. As above

Description: No archaeological finds or features were present.

7 CONFIDENCE RATING

7.1 It is not felt that any factors inhibited the recognition of archaeological features or finds during the programme of monitoring and recording.

8 DEPOSIT MODEL

8.1 The topsoil, L1000, was a dark grey brown, friable humic sandy silt and was present across site. It contained post-medieval pottery (16th – 18th C; 17g), CBM (188g) and a clay pipe stem fragment (7g). It overlay Subsoil L1001, a mid orange brown, friable sandy silt with occasional small flint stones. It contained a Roman pottery sherd (25g). Subsoil L1001 overlay the natural, L1002, a light brown orange, compact silty sandy gravel with patches of yellow white sandy chalk.

9 DISCUSSION

9.1 Five archaeological features were recorded: three pits (F1003, F1007 and F1009) and two postholes (F1005 and F1011). Three tree hollows and a modern field drain were excavated, but not fully recorded. Pit F1003 was elongated and slightly irregular and may have been a natural feature associated with animal burrows or tree rooting. Posthole F1005 was very shallow and only the very base survived. Pit F1009 contained a small amount of disarticulated cattle bone and was consistent with domestic waste material.

9.2 The site had a high potential for multiphase remains from the early

Neolithic to the medieval period. Sites in the immediate vicinity have produced evidence for Neolithic, Iron Age and Saxon activity. In the event a limited number of discrete features, all undated, were recorded. The subsoil contained a Roman sherd.

DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

The archive records, with an inventory, will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency. The archive will be deposited with the Bedford Museum (Accession Number BEDFM2009.78)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions would like to thank Mr & Mrs Watts for funding the programme of archaeological monitoring and for assistance.

AS would also like to acknowledge the assistance of the main contractor, Mr Ian Barry of Westcott Developments.

Archaeological Solutions is also pleased to acknowledge the advice and input of Mr Geoff Saunders of Bedford Borough Council.

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AS 1308: Land Adjacent to The Bungalow, Dove Lane, Harrold, Bedfordshire

Concordance of finds by feature

Feature	Context	Description	Spot Date	Pottery	CBM (g)	A. Bone (g)	Other
1000		Topsoil	16th - 18th C	(1) 17g	188		Clay Pipe (2) 7g
1001		Subsoil	Roman	(1) 25g			
1003	1004	Pit Fill				16	
1009	1010	Pit Fill				96	
1011	1012	Posthole Fill					Fe Fragment (1) 9g

APPENDIX 2 SPECIALIST REPORTS

The Pottery

Andrew Peachey

The monitoring recovered a single fragment of Roman pottery (25g) and a single fragment of post-medieval pottery (17g). The Roman pottery, contained in Subsoil L1001, comprises a non-diagnostic body sherd of Harrold shell-tempered ware (Brown 1994, 51). The post-medieval pottery, contained in Topsoil L1000, comprises a basal sherd of locally-produced red earthenware with an internal black iron-glaze that probably dates from the late 16th to 18th centuries.

Bibliography

Brown, A. 1994 'A Romano-British Shell-Gritted Pottery and Tile Manufacturing Site at Harrold, Bedfordshire,' *Beds Arch* 21, 19-107

The Ceramic Building Materials

Andrew Peachey

The monitoring recovered a single fragment (188g) of slightly abraded, post-medieval peg tile contained in Topsoil L1000. The peg tile comprises 14mm thick flat tile with length ways striations on its upper surface, and occurs in an oxidised red fabric tempered with common medium sand, and sparse medium iron rich grains.

**P3562 LAND ADJACENT TO THE BUNGALOW, DOVE LANE, HARROLD,
BEDFORDSHIRE
PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX**



DP 1. Pit F1007



DP 2. Posthole F1011



DP 3. Pit F1009



DP 4. Posthole F1005



DP 5. Sample Section 1



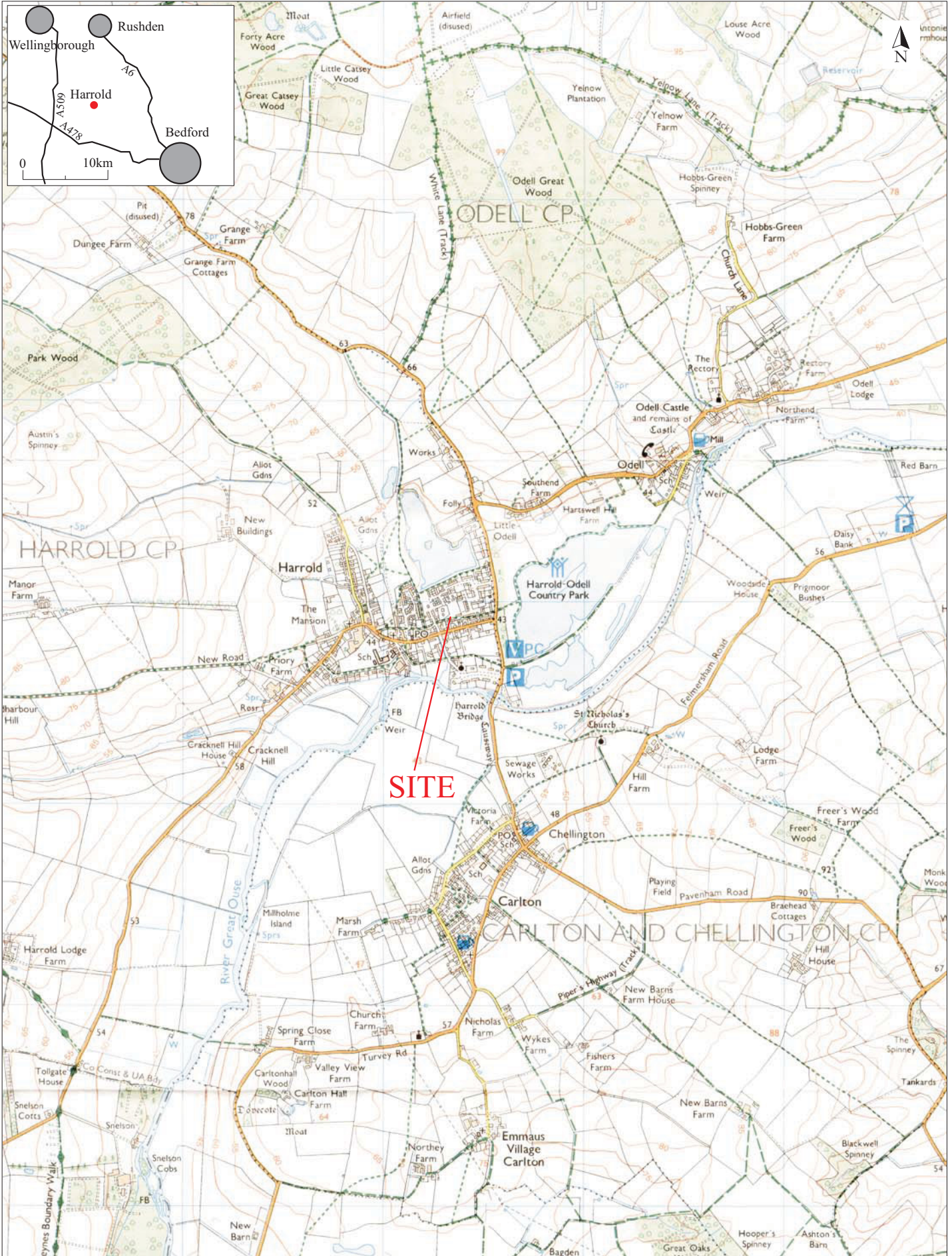
DP 6. Sample Section 2



DP 7. Site Shot – Post Excavation

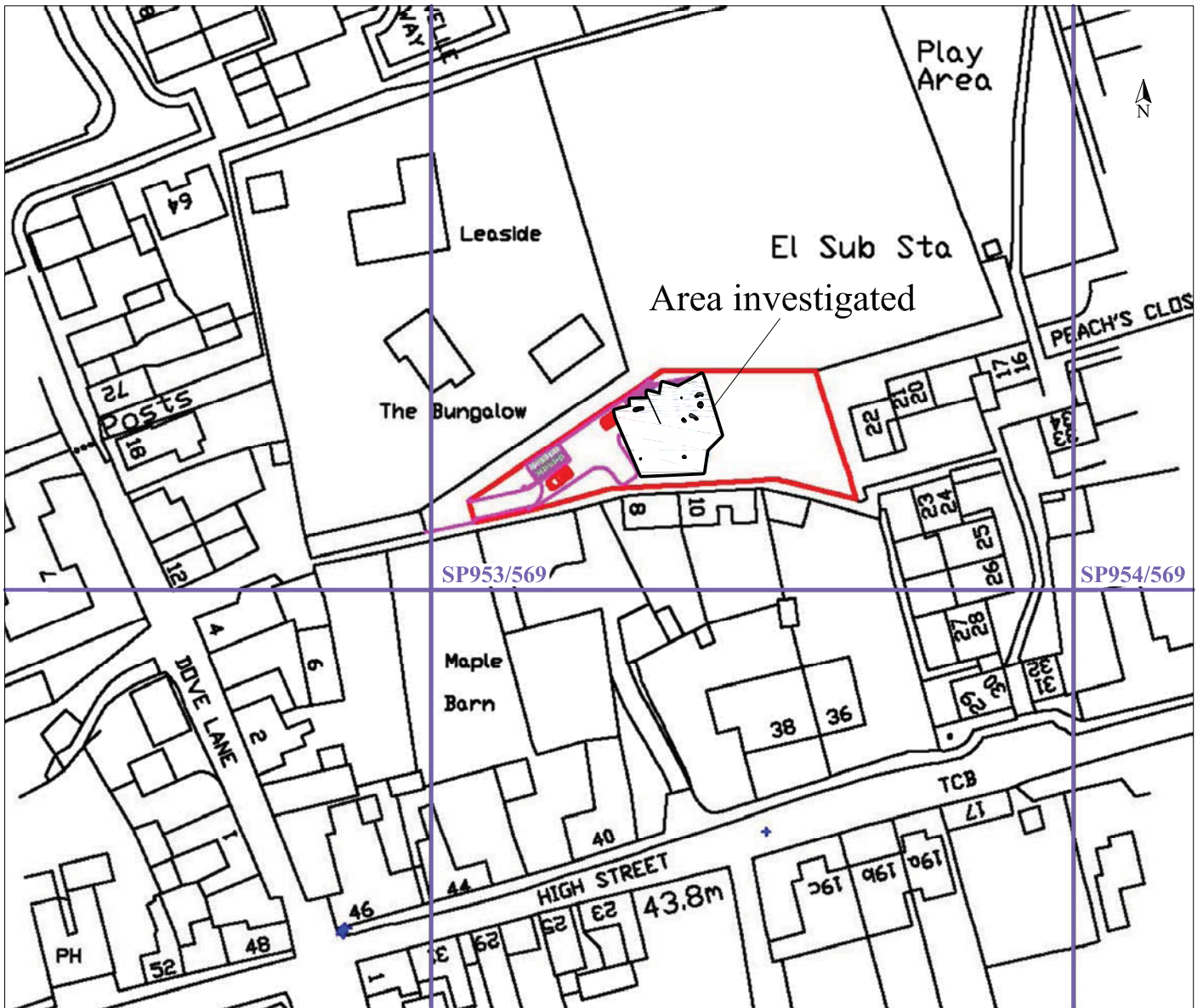


DP 8. Working Shot



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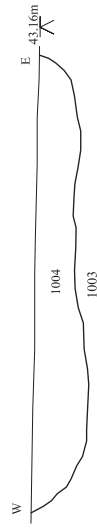
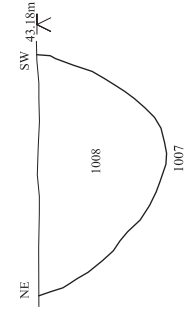
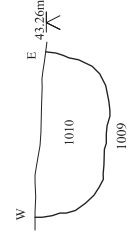
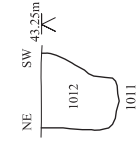
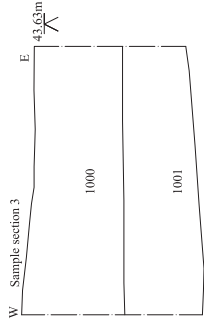
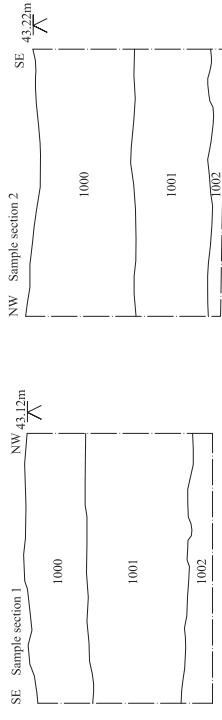
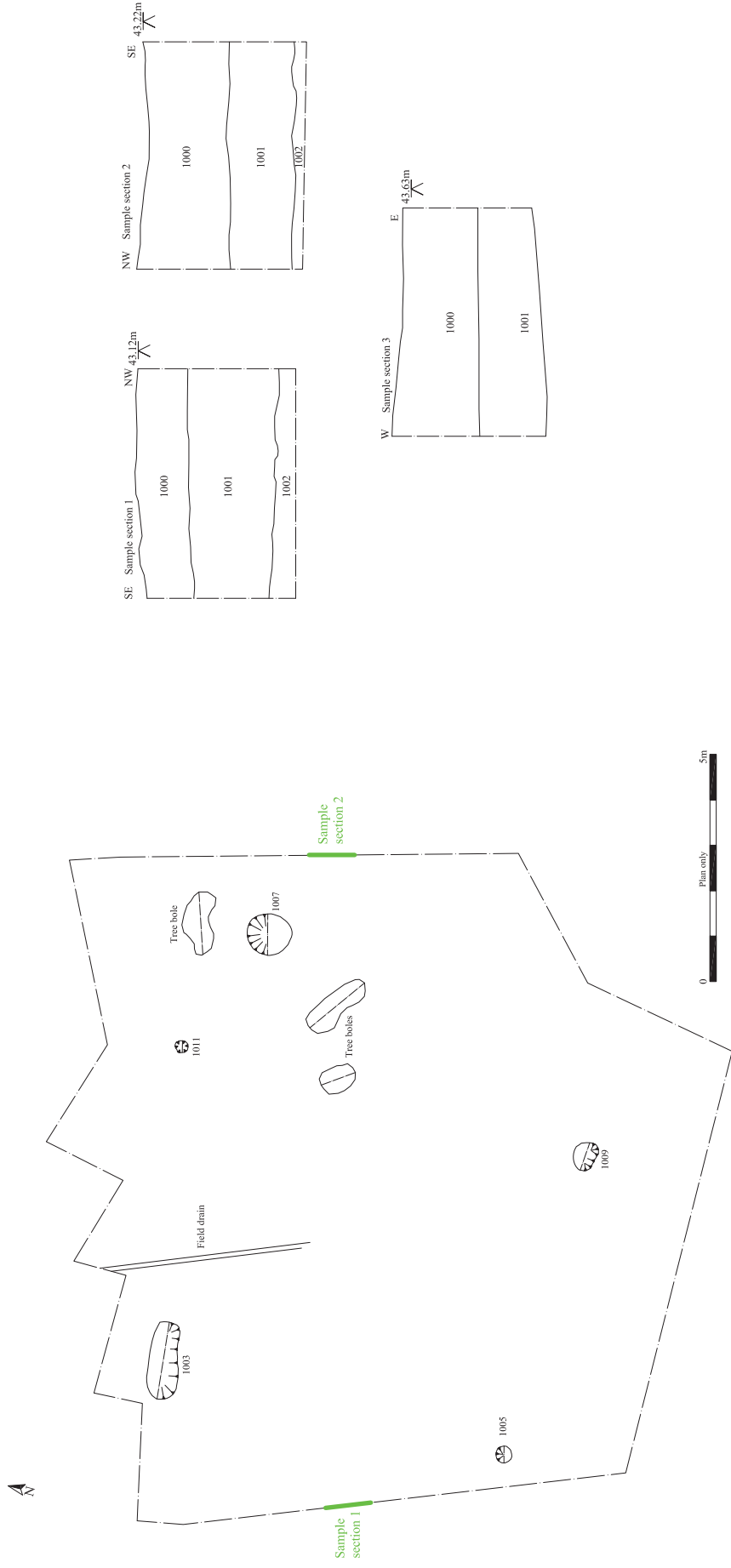
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Fig. 1 Site location plan
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4



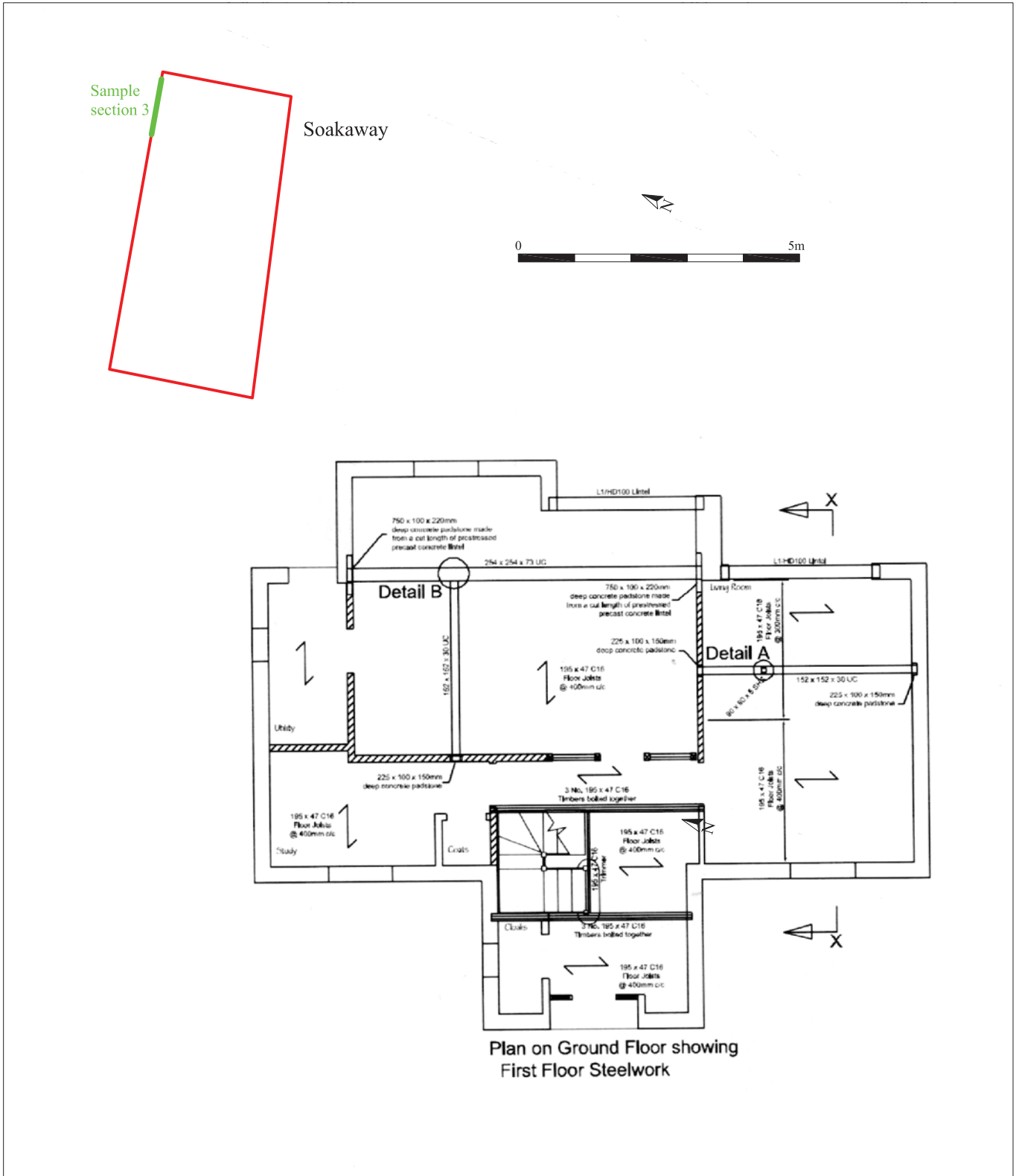
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Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan
 Scale 1:1000 at A4



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Fig. 3 Plan & sections
 Scale - Plan 1:100, sections 1:20 at A4



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Fig. 4 Proposed development plan

Scale 1:100 at A4