

**SIR FREDERIC OSBORN SCHOOL
PANSHANGER
WELWYN GARDEN CITY
HERTFORDSHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH
EVALUATION**

Albion
archaeology



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Preface

Every effort has been made in the preparation of this document to provide as complete a summary as possible within the terms of the method statement. All statements and opinions in this document are offered in good faith. Albion Archaeology cannot accept responsibility for errors of fact or opinion resulting from data supplied by a third party, or for any loss or other consequence arising from decisions or actions made upon the basis of facts or opinions expressed in this document.

Acknowledgements

The project was commissioned by Ashe Construction on behalf of Hertfordshire County Council and monitored by Andy Instone (the Historic Environment Advisor for Hertfordshire County Council) on behalf of Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council.

The fieldwork was undertaken by Wesley Keir (Project Officer) and Ian Turner (Archaeological Supervisor). This report has been prepared by Wesley Keir and Ian Turner with contributions from Joan Lightning (CAD Technician) and Jackie Wells (Finds Officer).

All Albion projects are under the overall management of Drew Shotliff (Operations Manager).

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Version History

Version	Issue date	Reason for re-issue
1.0	27/06/14	n/a
1.1	10/07/14	Additions requested by the HEA

Key Terms

The following abbreviations are used throughout this report:

EAA	East Anglian Archaeology
HEA	Historic Environment Advisor for Hertfordshire County Council
HER	Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record
IfA	Institute for Archaeologists
NGR	National Grid Reference
OD	Ordnance Datum
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation



Non-Technical Summary

Outline planning permission (N6/2006/923/OP) was granted for a sports hall, all weather sports pitch and associated facilities at Sir Frederic Osborn School in Welwyn Garden City. As the development lies within an area of archaeological sensitivity, a condition (Condition 10) was attached to the planning consent requiring the implementation of a programme of archaeological work. This was in accordance with Policy R29 of the Welwyn Hatfield District Plan (2005).

Construction work on the site began without discharge of Condition 10. As a result, the Historic Environment Advisor for Hertfordshire County Council (HEA) advised that all groundworks should cease until a programme of archaeological work had been carried out. In order to confirm the archaeological potential of the site and identify which heritage assets (if any) might have been damaged, the HEA indicated that the first phase of work should include an assessment of the impact of the development so far and a trial trench evaluation of the site.

Trial trenching took place on the 20th and 25th June, and comprised the excavation of five trenches located within areas that had suffered least disturbance from construction-related activities.

Two flint artefacts dating to between the Mesolithic and early Neolithic periods were recovered from the subsoil within Trench 1. Their location in the subsoil, and a lack of any other contemporary finds or features, suggests that at best they can only be considered to be an indication of activity of these periods in the wider area.

The only archaeological feature revealed was a small pit located within Trench 3 which appears to represent the base of a hearth. A very small sherd of abraded pottery suggests it dates to the late Iron Age.

The evidence of late Iron Age activity is of some interest. However, its seemingly isolated location (as shown by the lack of any contemporary features or finds within the remaining trenches or from the recent investigations undertaken to the west) suggests it represents low level activity in the vicinity rather than a focus of settlement activity. As such, it has little potential to address identified Iron Age research objectives and can only be considered of limited significance.

Though the trial trenching revealed a late Iron Age pit, the lack of any other archaeological features and the paucity of artefacts suggest the site has only a low level of archaeological potential. This, together with the shallow depth of much of the development groundworks suggests that the works already carried out have not impacted significant archaeological remains. Similarly, any future works on the site are unlikely to impact significant archaeological remains.



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 *Planning Background*

Outline planning permission (N6/2006/923/OP) was granted for a sports hall, all weather sports pitch and associated facilities at Sir Frederic Osborn School in Welwyn Garden City.

As the development lies within an area of archaeological sensitivity, a condition (Condition 10) was attached to the planning consent requiring the implementation of a programme of archaeological work. This was in accordance with *Policy R29 of the Welwyn Hatfield District Plan (2005)*.

Construction work on the site began without discharge of Condition 10. As a result, the Historic Environment Advisor for Hertfordshire County Council (HEA) advised that all groundworks should cease until a programme of archaeological work had been carried out.

In order to confirm the archaeological potential of the site and identify which heritage assets (if any) might have been damaged, the HEA indicated that the first phase of work should include an assessment of the impact of the development so far and a trial trench evaluation of the site.

This document presents the results of the trial trenching and an assessment of the impact of the development groundworks upon potential archaeological remains. These results will be used to determine any necessary strategy to mitigate the effects of further development upon any significant heritage assets identified at the site.

1.2 *Site Location and Description*

Sir Frederic Osborn School lies off HERNS Lane within the Panshanger area of Welwyn Garden City, an area predominantly comprising housing and industrial units developed during the latter half of the 20th century (Fig. 1).

The development site lies immediately to the south-east of the school buildings on land previously in use as a playing field. It measures *c.* 1.2ha in extent and is centred on (NGR) TL 25700 12964 on relatively flat land at 80.5–80.9m OD.

The geological deposits within the area of the site comprise gravely, silty sand overlain by *c.* 0.3–0.4m of topsoil and subsoil.

1.3 *Archaeological Background*

The site lies within Area of Archaeological Significance No. 15 as designated in the local plan, which includes most notably a late Iron Age cremation cemetery (HER 2815) and late Iron Age – Roman settlement evidence (HER 2818 – 2820; HER4245; HER6416) found during excavation in the 1960s–80s, *c.* 200–500m to the north-west of the site. A particularly richly furnished cremation burial was found along with the six other cremation burials; the cemetery has become one of the type sites for the ‘Welwyn-type’ ‘chieftain’s’ graves.



Only a small number of other heritage assets are recorded by the HER within the immediate vicinity of the site (HER enquiry reference 50/14). These include the 17th-century Attimore Hall (HER 12069), located *c.* 200m to the south-west of the site, and the sites of post-medieval farms and properties (HER30374; HER30376) that existed prior to the late 20th-century development of the area.

Several archaeological investigations have been undertaken in recent years associated with development immediately to the north and west of the site (see Fig. 2; Zeepvat 1999; Hunn 2004; Crank 2005; Richards 2008; and McNicoll-Norbury 2013), none of which has revealed any features of archaeological significance. Geophysical survey (Hancock 2004) undertaken both within the site and within the area immediately to the west of the site only revealed anomalies likely to be the result of modern services, landscaping and recent recreational usage.

1.4 Project Objectives

The principal objective of the evaluation was to determine whether archaeological remains were present at the development site and, if so, to establish their extent, condition, nature and significance.

The broader objective of the project was to add to the knowledge and understanding of the origins and nature of settlement in the area and to produce an archive report that fully described the archaeological works.



2. METHODOLOGY

The methodological approach to the project is summarised below and detailed in the WSI (Albion Archaeology 2014).

2.1 Standards

Throughout the project the standards and requirements set out in the following documents were adhered to:

• Albion Archaeology	<i>Procedures Manual: Volume 1 Fieldwork</i> (2nd edn, 2001).
• EAA	<i>Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England</i> (Gurney 2003)
• English Heritage	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) Project Managers' Guide</i> (2009)
	<i>Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation, 2nd edition</i> (2011)
• IfA	<i>By-Laws and Code of Conduct</i>
	<i>Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation</i> (updated 2013)
	<i>Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i> (updated 2013)

2.2 Walk-over Survey of the Site

A walk-over survey of the site was undertaken on 15th May and 17th May 2014 with the following main aims:-

- To assess the level of impact of the development so far upon undisturbed geological deposits and any archaeological remains that could potentially be present;
- To inspect areas of ground that had been reduced and any resulting spoil heaps to see if any archaeological features, deposits or artefacts were visible;
- To assess where any trial trenches could potentially be located.

The majority of the site had been cleared of topsoil and the foundations and framework for the sports hall and associated buildings had been constructed.

The ground level over the majority of the site, including the area of the all weather pitch, had been reduced by 0.2–0.25m (see Fig. 3). The area immediately surrounding the sports hall and its associated buildings, along with the area of the developers' site compound had also subsequently been made-up with brick rubble. Only a few small areas of undisturbed topsoil remained; the largest was at the north end of the site where several trees were located.



A small test pit excavated near the south-west edge of the all weather pitch during the walk-over survey (see Fig. 3) and test pits previously dug as part of the development to the north of the sports hall indicated that undisturbed geological deposits lay *c.* 0.35m beneath the original ground level. These deposits comprised brown-orange silty sand and gravel overlain by a *c.* 0.10m-thick subsoil of red-brown gravelly, silty sand and a *c.* 0.25m-thick topsoil. Much of the site, including the area of the all weather pitch, had, therefore, not been reduced to the level of the undisturbed geological deposits, suggesting that any potential archaeological remains could still be preserved.

No archaeological features, deposits or artefacts were visible during the walk-over survey at the level to which any of the areas had been stripped. No artefacts were visible within the spoil heap resulting from the stripping of the area of the all weather pitch.

2.3 Trial Trenching

The trial trenching took place on the 20th and 25th June, and focused upon the areas that had suffered least disturbance from construction-related activity. Thus Trenches 1, 2 and 5 were located within areas where topsoil was still present and Trenches 3 and 4 were located within the area of the all weather pitch which had been reduced by up to *c.* 0.25m but had otherwise suffered relatively little impact from the development (see Fig. 3). Trench sizes were as follows:-

- Trench 1 – 10m x *c.* 1.8m
- Trench 2 – 15m x *c.* 1.8m
- Trench 3 – 30m x *c.* 1.8m
- Trench 4 – 20m x *c.* 1.8m
- Trench 5 – 15m x *c.* 1.8m

At the request of the HEA, a larger area measuring 100m² was subsequently excavated around an archaeological feature revealed towards the northern end of Trench 3 (see Fig. 4). In total *c.* 262m² was investigated, equating to *c.* 2.2% of the area subject to development. This was considered sufficient given the lack of archaeological remains revealed during the previous investigations located immediately adjacent to the current development site (see Section 1.3 and Fig. 2).

The trenches were opened by a mechanical excavator fitted with a flat-edged ditching bucket and operated by an experienced driver under the supervision of an archaeologist. Overburden was removed down to the top of the archaeological deposits or undisturbed geological deposits, whichever was encountered first.

Any potential archaeological features were noted, cleaned, excavated by hand and recorded using Albion Archaeology's *pro forma* sheets. Each trench was subsequently drawn and photographed as appropriate. All deposits were recorded using a unique number sequence, commencing at 101 for Trench 1, 201 for Trench 2 etc. Context numbers in square brackets refer to the cuts [***] and round brackets to fills or layers (***)). Approval to backfill the trenches was given by the HEA prior to their backfilling.



2.4 Archiving

The project archive will be deposited with Mill Green Museum (accession no. WEWHM : 2014.21). Details of the project and its findings will be submitted to the OASIS database in accordance with the guidelines issued by English Heritage and the Archaeology Data Service (reference no. albionar1-179284).



3. RESULTS

All significant deposits, features and artefacts found within the trial trenches are described below and shown on Figure 4. Detailed data on all trenches, features and deposits can be found in Appendix 1.

3.1 *Overburden and Undisturbed Geological Strata*

The overburden was generally similar in character across the site, though the topsoil and some of the subsoil from within the area of the all weather pitch (where Trenches 3 and 4 were located) had been removed prior to the trial trenching. The topsoil varied from c. 0.12–0.30m thick and overlay 0.08–0.18m of subsoil; both are likely to represent a combination of landscaping associated with the playing field (within which the site is located) and previous cultivation soil.

Two worked flints (22g), both made from a mottled dark grey raw material, were collected from the subsoil (101) in Trench 1. They comprise a damaged early Neolithic piercer, with the point retouched on both lateral edges, and the proximal end thinned to assist grip. A large, soft-hammer struck primary flake, with cortex remaining over most of the dorsal surface, was also present. The latter may be of Mesolithic or early Neolithic date.

Undisturbed geological deposits comprised light yellow grey to brown orange silty and sandy gravels. A large sub-circular feature [307] was partly revealed and partly excavated within the extension to Trench 3. The sterile nature of its sandy fills together with its almost vertical-sided profile indicates it is a naturally formed sink-hole. Similar naturally formed hollows have been identified within the neighbouring Crest Nicholson development site (Wallis and Preston 2011; Paul Gibbs pers. comm.).

3.2 *Late Iron Age Pit*

A shallow, sub-circular pit [303] was revealed towards the northern end of Trench 3. Its dark-hued fills contained a moderate amount of charcoal flecks and a number of small, naturally formed burnt flints and stone (101g). Also recovered was an abraded, grog-tempered pottery body sherd (2g), of a type that suggests the pit dates to the late Iron Age. A thin deposit of heat-scorched sand (304) at the base of the pit, along with the presence of the charcoal flecks and burnt stones suggests the feature was used as a hearth.

3.3 *Modern Features*

A small rubbish pit containing a modern tin can was revealed towards the middle of Trench 3 and a layer (205) of brick rubble and concrete fragments was revealed beneath the topsoil in the southern half of Trench 2. Both are likely to be associated with the development of the area in the latter half of the 20th century.



4. CONCLUSIONS

4.1 *Summary and Significance of the Trial Trenching Results*

Two flint artefacts dating to between the Mesolithic and early Neolithic periods were recovered from the subsoil within Trench 1. Their location in the subsoil and a lack of any other contemporary finds or features, suggests that at best they can only be considered to be an indication of activity of these periods in the wider area. Overlooking the nearby valleys of the river Mimram and Black Fan, this general area may well have been an attractive location for occupation-related activities in the early prehistoric period.

The only archaeological feature revealed was a small pit within Trench 3, which appears to represent the base of a hearth. A very small sherd of abraded pottery suggests it dates to the late Iron Age.

The evidence of late Iron Age activity is of some interest. However, its seemingly isolated location (as shown by the lack of any contemporary features or finds revealed within the remaining trenches or from within the recent investigations undertaken immediately to the north and west) suggests it is representative of low-level activity in the vicinity rather than a focus of settlement activity. As such, it has little potential to address identified Iron Age period research objectives and can only be considered of limited significance.

4.2 *Impact Assessment*

A large proportion of the groundworks for the development had already been carried out before the archaeological trial trenching. However, the largest expanses of ground reduction do not appear to have penetrated far beyond the depth of the topsoil (up to *c.* 0.25m deep). The trial trenching suggests this is too shallow a depth to reach the level where potential archaeological features would be preserved.

Groundworks still to be carried out include: ground reduction for an area of car parking to the south-east of the sports hall; general landscaping; creation of a courtyard area at the northern end of the site; and the insertion of new services. The necessary depth of the ground reduction within much of these areas has still to be confirmed. No further ground reduction is anticipated to be necessary for the all weather pitch — the area within which the late Iron Age pit was revealed.

Though the trial trenching revealed a late Iron Age pit, the lack of any other archaeological features and the paucity of artefacts suggest that the site has only a low level of archaeological potential. This, together with the shallow depth of much of the development groundworks suggests that the works already carried out have not impacted significant archaeological remains. Similarly, any future works on the site are unlikely to impact significant archaeological remains.



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6. APPENDIX 1: TRENCH SUMMARIES



Trench: 1

Max Dimensions: Length: 10.00 m. Width: 1.60 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: m. Max: m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 25664: Northing: 12919)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 25673: Northing: 12923)

Reason: Assess archaeological potential

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
100	Topsoil	Friable mid orange brown sandy silt occasional small-medium stones 0.20m to 0.30m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
101	Subsoil	Friable mid orange brown sandy silt frequent small-medium stones, occasional large stones 0.08m to 0.14m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
102	Natural	Loose light orange gravel frequent small-medium stones, occasional large stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 2

Max Dimensions: Length: 15.00 m. Width: 1.60 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: m. Max: m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 25701: Northing: 12942)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 25708: Northing: 12929)

Reason: Assess archaeological potential

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
200	Topsoil	Friable light brown grey sandy silt occasional small-medium stones 0.25m to 0.30m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
201	Subsoil	Friable light brown grey sandy silt frequent small-medium stones, occasional large stones 0.10m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
202	Natural	Loose light orange gravel frequent small-medium stones, occasional large stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
203	Natural	Loose light yellow grey silty gravel frequent small-medium stones, occasional large stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
204	Natural	Loose light brown orange sandy gravel frequent small-medium stones, occasional large stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
205	Brick rubble	Friable dark grey sandy silt moderate large CBM A dumped deposit of large brick and concrete fragments of modern date. 0.35m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 3

Max Dimensions: Length: 30.00 m. Width: 1.60 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.22 m. Max: 0.25 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 25739; Northing: 12970)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 25719; Northing: 12947)

Reason: Assess archaeological potential

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
301	Subsoil	Friable light brown grey sandy silt frequent small-medium stones, occasional large stones 0.15m to 0.18m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
302	Natural	Loose light orange sandy gravel frequent small-medium stones, occasional large stones Occasional patches of light grey orange sandy silt.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
303	Pit	Sub-circular sides: concave base: uneven dimensions: min depth 0.12m, min diameter 1.1m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
304	Primary fill	Loose light pink silty sand A thin deposit identified on the NW side of the feature suggestive of burning in-situ.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
305	Secondary fill	Friable mid orange brown sandy silt moderate flecks charcoal, moderate small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
306	Upper fill	Friable dark orange brown sandy silt moderate small charcoal, moderate small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
307	Natural interface	Sub-circular sides: near vertical dimensions: min breadth 2.85m Cut of a sink-hole. A hand excavated sondage revealed sterile deposits and a vertical side to the feature.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
308	Upper fill	Friable mid orange brown sandy silt moderate small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
309	Lower fill	Friable light grey orange silt occasional small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 4

Max Dimensions: Length: 20.00 m. Width: 1.60 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: m. Max: m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 25691; Northing: 12998)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 25709; Northing: 12990)

Reason: Assess archaeological potential

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
401	Subsoil	Friable light brown grey sandy silt frequent small-medium stones 0.05m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
402	Natural	Loose light grey yellow silty gravel frequent small-medium stones 0.05m thick.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 5

Max Dimensions: Length: 15.00 m. Width: 1.65 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: m. Max: m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 25659; Northing: 13012)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 25660; Northing: 12997)

Reason: Assess archaeological potential

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
500	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey sandy silt 0.12m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
501	Subsoil	Friable light brown grey sandy silt frequent small-medium stones 0.13m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
502	Natural	Loose light grey yellow silty gravel frequent small-medium stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



7. APPENDIX 2: HER SUMMARY SHEET

Site name and address: Sir Frederic Osborn School, Panshanger, Welwyn Garden City		
County: Hertfordshire		District: Welwyn Hatfield
Village/Town: Welwyn Garden City		Parish: Welwyn Hatfield
Planning application reference: N6/2006/923/OP		
HER Enquiry reference: 50/14		
Client name, address, and tel. no.: Hertfordshire County Council, Hertfordshire Property Room 308, County Hall, Pegs Lane Hertford		
Nature of application: Sports hall, all weather sports pitch and associated facilities		
Present land use: playing field		
Size of application area: c. 1.2ha		Size of area investigated: 262m ²
NGR (to 8 figures): TL 2570 1296		
Site code (if applicable): FS2415		
Site director/Organization: Wesley Keir / Albion Archaeology		
Type of work: Trial trench evaluation		
Date of work:	Start: 20.06.14	Finish: 25.06.14
Location of finds & site archive/Curating museum: Mill Green Museum		
Related HER Nos:		Periods represented: Early Neolithic Iron Age Modern
Relevant previous summaries/reports Albion Archaeology, 2014, <i>Sir Frederic Osborn School, Panshanger, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire: Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation</i> . Document 2014/92 McNicoll-Norbury, J., 2013, <i>Sir Frederic Osborn School, Herts Lane, Panshanger, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire. Archaeological Evaluation</i> . Thames Valley Archaeological Services report FOWG 11/07 Wallis, S. and Preston, S., 2011, <i>Sir Frederic Osborn School, Panshanger, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire. An Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment</i> . Thames Valley Archaeological Services report FOWG 11/07		
Summary of fieldwork results: Two flint artefacts dating to between the Mesolithic and early Neolithic periods were recovered from the subsoil within Trench 1. Their location in the subsoil, and a lack of any other contemporary finds or features, suggests that at best they can only be considered an indication of activity of these periods in the wider area. The only archaeological feature revealed was a small pit located within Trench 3; it appears to represent the base of a hearth. A very small sherd of abraded pottery suggests it dates to the late Iron Age.		
Author of summary: W. Keir		Date of summary: 27.06.14



8. APPENDIX 3: OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM

Project details

Project name	Frederic Osborn School, Welwyn Garden City
Short description of the project	<p>Outline planning permission (N6/2006/923/OP) was granted for a sports hall, all weather sports pitch and associated facilities at Sir Frederic Osborn School in Welwyn Garden City. As the development lies within an area of archaeological sensitivity, a condition (Condition 10) was attached to the planning consent requiring the implementation of a programme of archaeological work. This was in accordance with Policy R29 of the Welwyn Hatfield District Plan (2005). Construction work on the site began without discharge of Condition 10. As a result, the Historic Environment Advisor for Hertfordshire County Council (HEA) advised that all groundworks should cease until a programme of archaeological work had been carried out. In order to confirm the archaeological potential of the site and identify which heritage assets (if any) might have been damaged, the HEA indicated that the first phase of work should include an assessment of the impact of the development so far and a trial trench evaluation of the site. Trial trenching took place on the 20th and 25th June, and comprised the excavation of five trenches located within areas that had suffered least disturbance from construction-related activities. Two flint artefacts dating to between the Mesolithic and early Neolithic periods were recovered from the subsoil within Trench 1. Their location in the subsoil, and a lack of any other contemporary finds or features, suggests that at best they can only be considered to be an indication of activity of these periods in the wider area. The only archaeological feature revealed was a small pit located within Trench 3 which appears to represent the base of a hearth. A very small sherd of abraded pottery suggests it dates to the late Iron Age.</p>
Project dates	Start: 20-06-2014 End: 25-06-2014
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	FS2415 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area
Current Land use	Other 14 - Recreational usage
Monument type	PIT Late Iron Age



Significant Finds	POTTERY Late Iron Age
Significant Finds	WORKED FLINT Early Neolithic
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Public building (e.g. school, church, hospital, medical centre, law courts etc.)
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After outline determination (eg. As a reserved matter)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	HERTFORDSHIRE WELWYN HATFIELD WELWYN GARDEN CITY Frederic Osborn School, Welwyn Garden City
Study area	1.20 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 2570 1296 51.8006758107 -0.176824535587 51 48 02 N 000 10 36 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Albion Archaeology
Project design originator	Albion Archaeology
Project director/manager	Wes Keir
Project supervisor	Ian Turner

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Mill Green Museum
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Physical Contents	"Ceramics", "Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	Albion Archaeology
Paper Archive recipient	Mill Green Museum
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Drawing", "Plan", "Report", "Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Sir Frederic Osborn School, Panshanger, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire: Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Keir, W and Turner, I.
Other bibliographic details	Document: 2014/122
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Description	Client report including site plan, selected sections, and photographs
Entered by	Wesley Keir (w.keir@albion-arch.com)
Entered on	27 June 2014

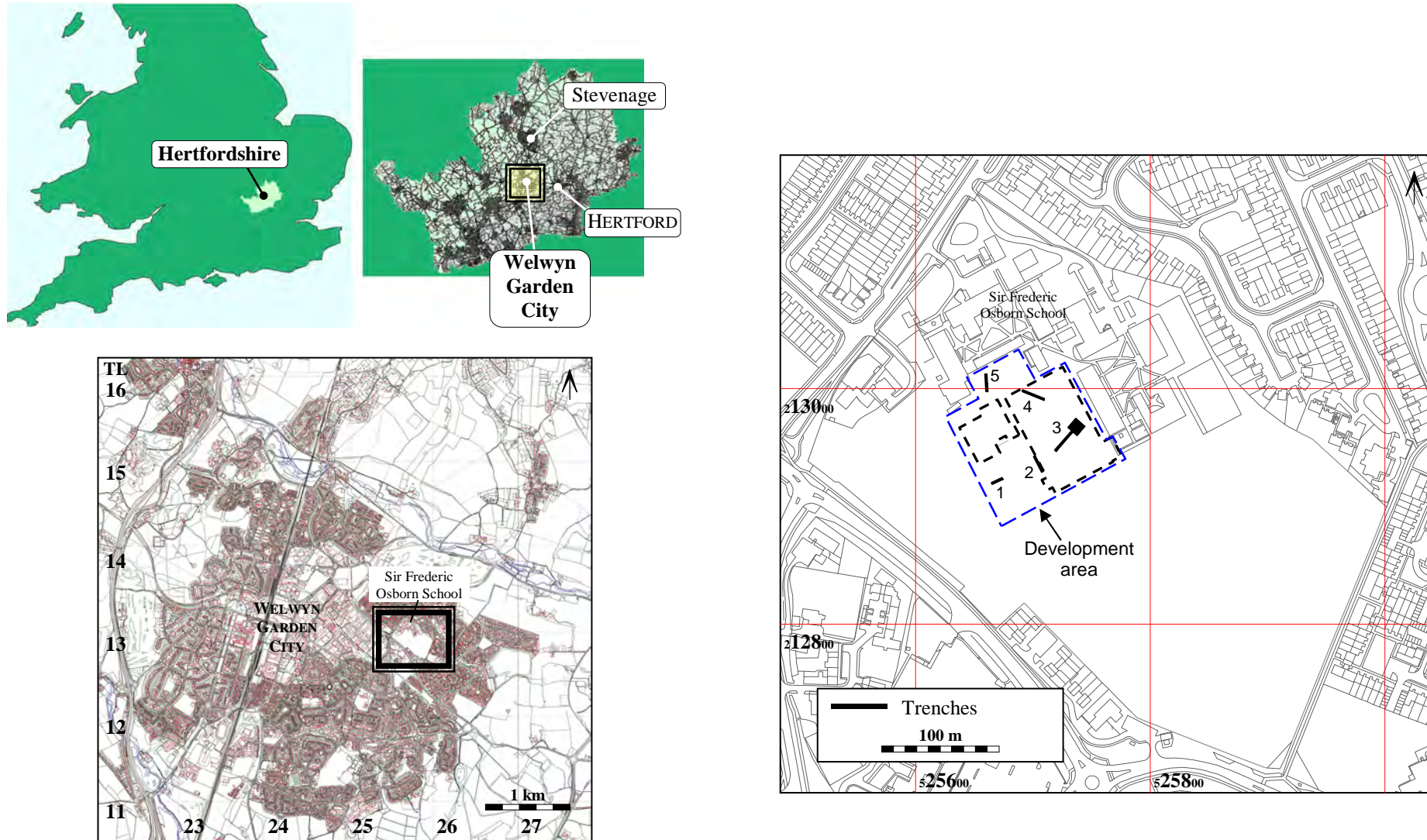


Figure 1: Site location

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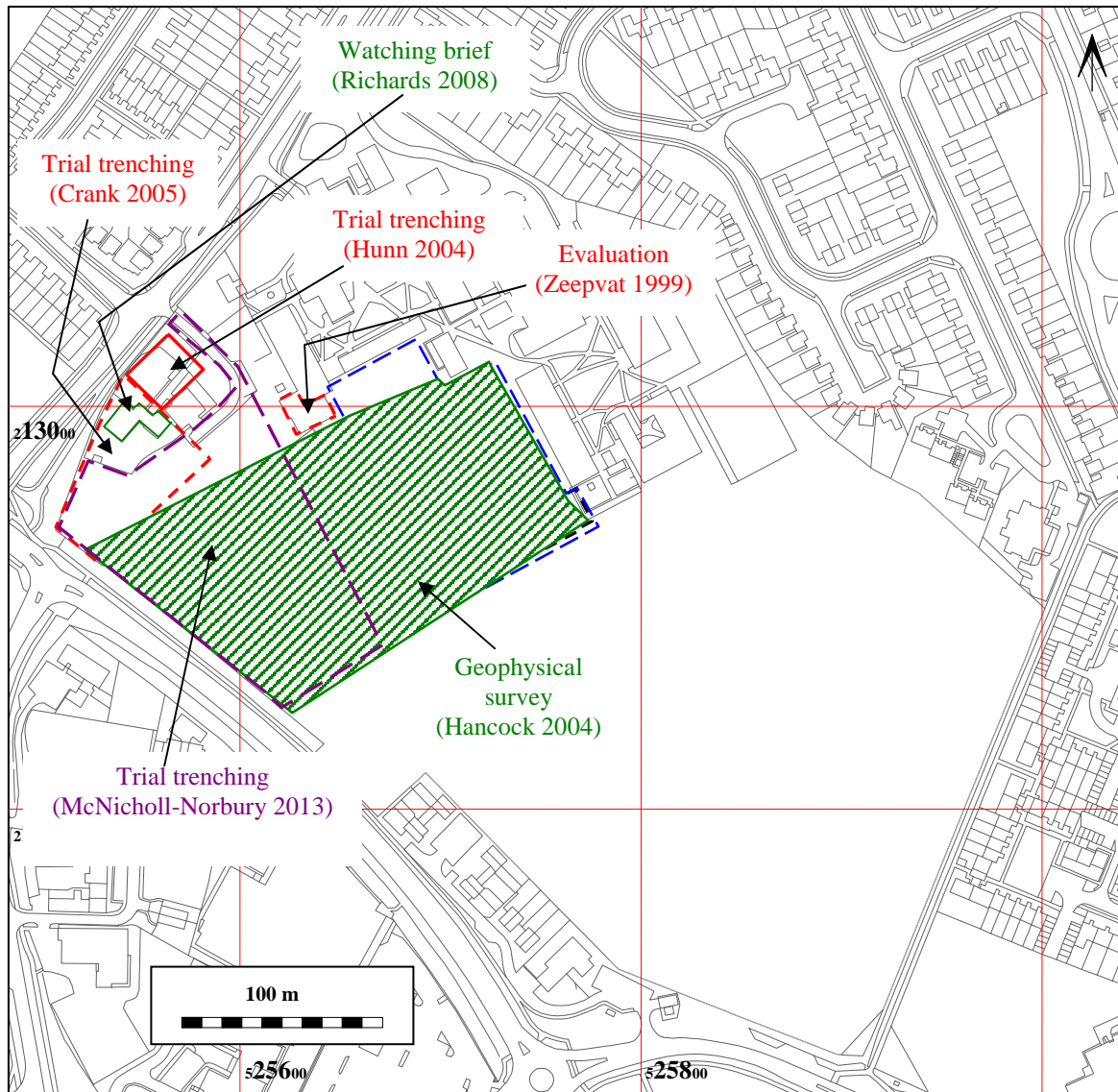
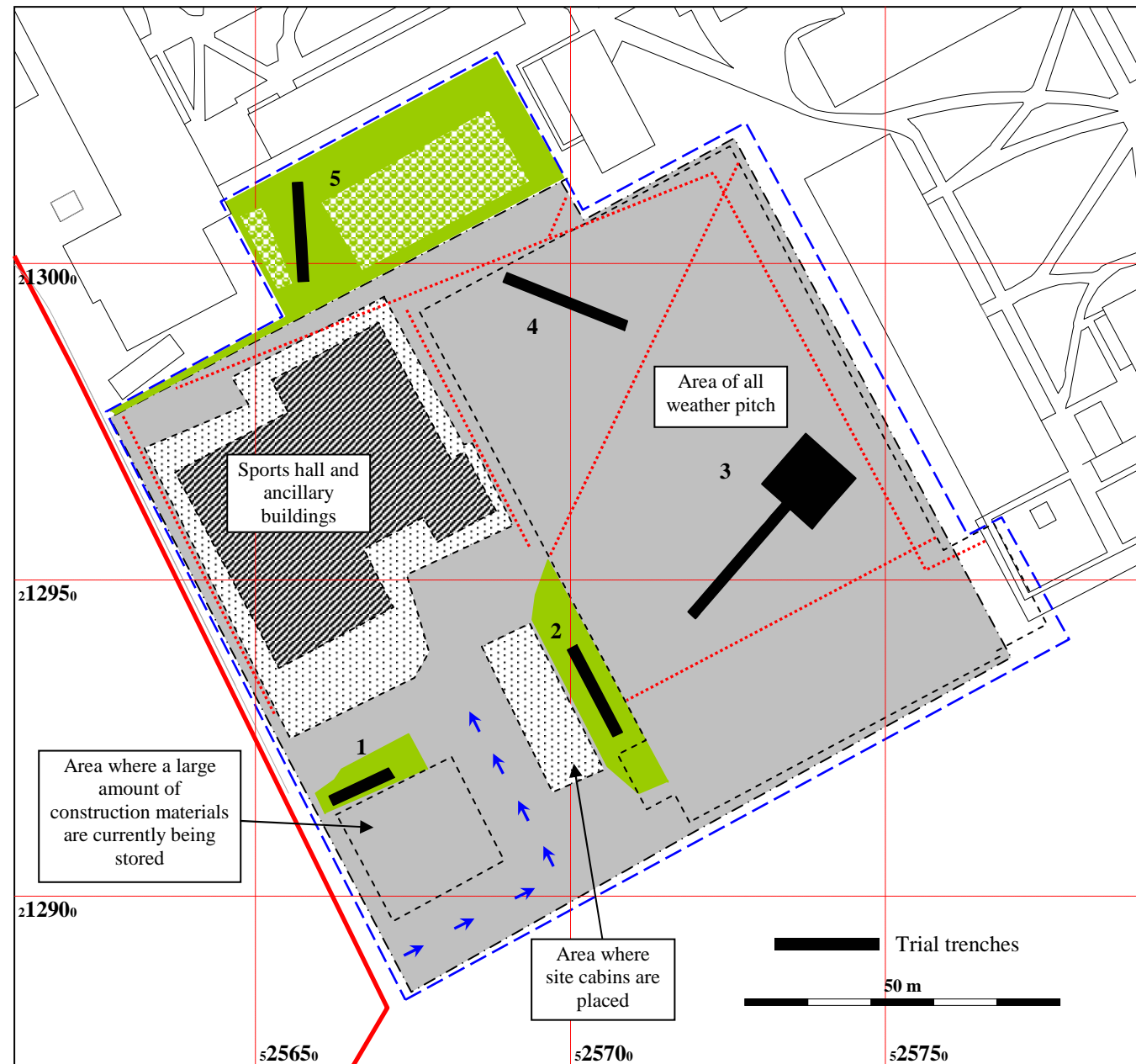


Figure 2: Location of previous investigations undertaken at the school

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View of area of all weather pitch. Facing NW



View of location of Trench 2. Facing S



View of sports hall, site cabins (far right) and storage area (far left). Facing NW



View of location of Trench 5 Facing NW



View of test pit excavated against the SW edge of the stripped area for the all weather pitch (40cm scale)



View of location of Trench 1 Facing SW

Figure 3: Trench locations and site conditions immediately prior to the trial trenching

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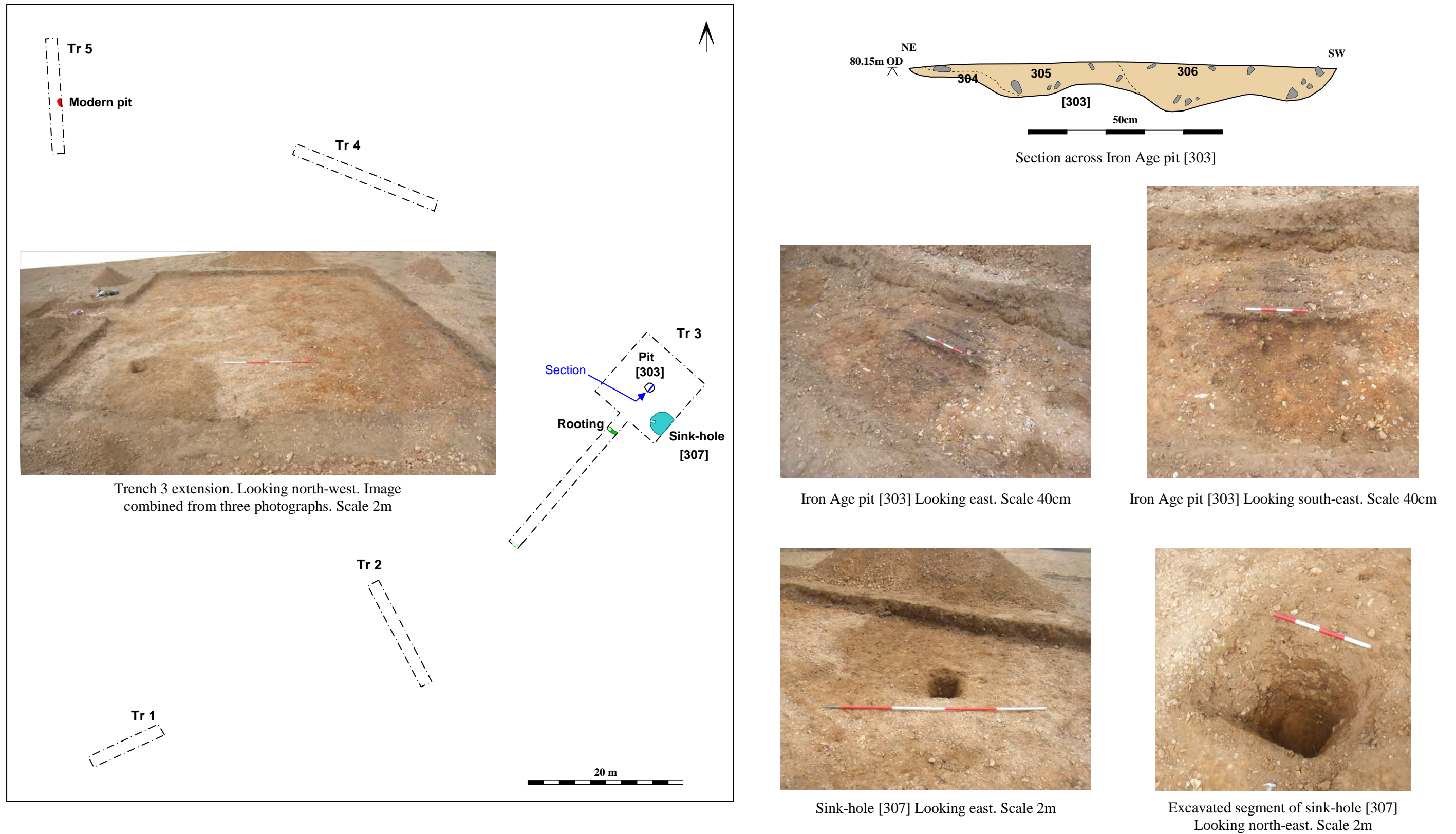


Figure 4: Archaeological features in trial trenches



Albion
archaeology



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