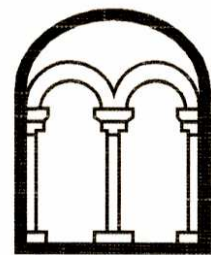


**HARTSFIELD JMI SCHOOL
BALDOCK
HERTFORDSHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION
AND RECORDING**

Albion
archaeology



**HARTSFIELD JMI SCHOOL
BALDOCK
HERTFORDSHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION
AND RECORDING**

Project: BAL2405
Document: 2014/141

OASIS no.: albionar1-180046

Issue date: 4th September 2014

Compiled by	Approved by
Christiane Meckseper	Drew Shotliff

Produced for:
Mouchel Ltd

On behalf of
Hertfordshire County Council



Contents

1. INTRODUCTION	5
1.1 Planning Background	5
1.2 Site Location and Description	5
1.3 Archaeological Background	5
1.4 Project Objectives	7
1.5 Methodology	7
2. RESULTS AND CONCLUSIONS	9
2.1 Introduction.....	9
2.2 Overburden and Geological Deposits.....	9
2.3 Archaeological Features	9
2.4 Finds Summary	9
Table 1: Finds summary by feature	9
Table 2: Pottery type series	10
2.5 Conclusions.....	10
3. BIBLIOGRAPHY	11
4. APPENDICES	12
4.1 Appendix 1: Context Summaries.....	12
4.2 Appendix 2: HER Summary Sheet.....	14
4.3 Appendix 3: Oasis Data Collection Form	15

List of Figures

Figure 1: Site location

Figure 2: All features plan

Figure 3: Sections

Figure 4: Pad 1 looking north, with posthole [004] in section

Figure 5: Pad 4 looking east, with pit [019] in section

Figure 6: The new building in the context of previous archaeological investigations

The figures are bound at the back of the report



Preface

Every effort has been made in the preparation of this document to provide as complete an assessment as possible, within the terms of the specification. 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 Mouchel Ltd and was monitored on behalf of the Local Planning Authority by Andy Instone, the Hertfordshire County Council Planning Archaeologist.

The fieldwork was undertaken by Christiane Meckseper (Project Officer) who also prepared the report. Figures are by Joan Lightning (CAD Technician). Finds reporting is by Jackie Wells (Finds Officer). All Albion projects are under the overall management of Drew Shotliff (Operations Manager).

The assistance and co-operation of the principal contractor, Ron Garner, throughout the project is gratefully acknowledged.

*Albion Archaeology
St Mary's Church
St Mary's Street
Bedford.
MK42 0AS
☎: 0300 300 8141
Fax: 0300 300 8209
e-mail: office@albion-arch.com*

Version History

Version	Issue date	Reason for re-issue
1.0	04/09/2014	n/a

Key Terms

Throughout this document the following terms or abbreviations are used:

ALGAO	Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers
CHEU	County Historic Environment Unit
CPA	County Planning Archaeologist
DA	Development Area
HER	Historic Environment Record
IfA	Institute for Archaeologists
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation
Procedures Manual	<i>Procedures Manual Volume 1 Fieldwork</i> , 2nd ed, 2001 Albion Archaeology



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 *Planning Background*

Planning permission (14/00591/1CC) was granted for the replacement of an existing modular classroom with a new double classroom in the same location at Hartsfield JMI School, Baldock, Hertfordshire.

The proposed development lay within scheduled monument SM27913 and Area of Archaeological Significance 96, as identified in the Local Plan; it, therefore, had the potential to impact upon significant heritage assets.

In accordance with the *National Planning Policy Framework – Section 12: Conserving and enhancing the historic environment*¹, the County Council Historic Environment Advisor (HEA) advised that a programme of archaeological works should be implemented at the site. This was to consist of a watching brief during the groundworks associated with the construction of the new classroom.

The archaeological work was undertaken on 17th and 18th July 2014. The results are presented in this report.

1.2 *Site Location and Description*

Hartsfield JMI School is located to the east off Clothall Road (A507) in the northern part of Baldock; it is centred on OS grid reference TL 2496 3402 and lies at a height of c. 68m OD with the ground sloping down slightly towards the west.

The development area lay to the rear of the main school building and was formerly occupied by an existing modular classroom. The underlying geology in this area comprises chalk formations from the cretaceous period and is overlain by loamy clay, silts, sand and gravel.

1.3 *Archaeological Background*

Archaeological and historical backgrounds to the area are given in a number of previous archaeological reports (Heritage Network 1995 and 2003). The main points are summarised here along with further information obtained from the HER.

The Iron Age centre of Baldock was situated east of the Icknield Way, an important routeway since at least the Bronze Age with probable Neolithic origins. It appears to have been an important ritual and settlement centre during this period. The settlement zones were separated from the ritual zones by an extensive pit alignment which can be traced over a distance of c. 1km.

There seems to have been a smooth transition from the Iron Age to the Roman period when Baldock developed into a Roman small town. This development was favoured by the town's position at the intersection of important Roman communication lines: the Great North Road leading south to *Verulamium* (St

¹ National Planning Policy Framework, published by the Department for Communities and Local Government (2012). Available at: <http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/nppf>.



Albans) and *Londinium* (London) and northwards towards *Durovigutum* (Godmanchester) and *Lindum Colonia* (Lincoln); and another road leading south-east towards Braughing and *Camulodunum* (Colchester). The later Roman period (3rd–4th century AD) represents the most active period in the town's development. Between the 5th century and the medieval period the settlement seems to have been in decline.

There is no entry for Baldock in the Domesday Survey of 1086. The closest neighbouring settlements of the period are Radwell, Norton, Bygrave, Clothall and Wallington, which are all quite large as well as Letchworth which was recorded as a medium-sized settlement. However, in the 12th century the Knights Templar were granted a part of Gilbert de Clare's manor at Weston and founded the medieval borough of Baldock, which forms the core of today's town.

Historical maps show that the area around Clothall End and Walls Fields lay at the periphery of the medieval and post-medieval settlement core of Baldock, which was centred along White Horse Street and High Street. By the 1960s the area between High Street and Clothall Road and Clothall End had undergone some development. In the 1980s the urbanisation of Baldock had increased with further development occurring southwest of High Street and with an intensification of the development firstly at Clothall End and secondly between High Street and Clothall Road. By the mid 1990s the area north of Walls Fields, around Clothall Common, had been developed into housing estates.

Hartsfield JMI School lies within scheduled monument SM27913 and Area of Archaeological Significance no. 96, as identified in the Local Plan, which comprise the late Iron Age settlement and ritual zone, the Romano-British small town as well as the medieval town.

Large-scale excavations within the area were first undertaken in the early 20th century, uncovering an extensive Iron Age and Roman cemetery and settlement activity. This work led to the subsequent scheduling of the site. No further archaeological work was undertaken in the area until the 1960s and 70s.

Extensive geophysical surveys were undertaken in 1973, including Walls Field, Clothall Common and the present grounds of Hartsfield School. They were followed by a number of open area excavations. Subsequently, an area in the northern part of Walls Fields, just south of the school grounds, was excavated. Two areas were also excavated within the school grounds: the area underneath the main school building and an area to the south-west towards Clothall Road, where the playing fields are situated.

Also under investigation were extensive areas around and on Clothall Common. These excavations continued into the mid 1990s and identified late and pre-Roman Iron Age settlement and funerary areas (HER13192, HER7748, HER13179, HER13188) as well as Roman settlement activity.

The archaeological excavations undertaken within the school grounds in 1982, 1987 and 1991 uncovered late Iron Age and Roman settlement remains (HER10792). In addition, an east-west orientated late Iron Age pit alignment



(HER2321) was identified in the area underneath the main school building. The pit alignment seemed to separate the settlement area to the south from the ritual area to the north. In 2008, the pit alignment was again identified during an archaeological field evaluation *c.* 550m to the east of Hartsfield School, east of Wallington Road, continuing to the east in a north-east direction. The late Iron Age phase was succeeded by early Romano-British occupation. The excavation area underneath the playing fields revealed an early Roman road and hollow ways with metallised surfaces and ditches on a north-south alignment. The road was traced from Clothall Road north to Clothall Common, cutting the pit alignment. Other features identified on the school site were a T-shaped kiln, pits, wells, ditches and a hoard of 23 coins dating to *c.* AD 350.

The main Iron Age and Roman cemetery areas and burial enclosures are located to the north and north-east of the school, around Clothall Common (HER13180-13185, HER13188, HER13192 and HER7747). A Romano-Celtic temple (HER770) has been recorded as cropmarks *c.* 500m to the south-west of the current development site, west of Clothall road. The cropmarks suggest a larger religious site. Stray finds, such as Roman coins, and more domestic Roman features, such as ditches, pits, wells, roads etc, have been recorded mainly to the north-west of the development site towards the Icknield Way and on the site itself.

1.4 Project Objectives

The immediate objective of the archaeological fieldwork was to monitor and supervise all groundworks that had the potential to reveal archaeological remains, and to investigate, characterise and record any archaeological deposits encountered within them.

The close proximity of significant Iron Age and Roman remains indicated that there was the potential for the investigation to contribute to regional research topics identified within the Revised Framework for the East of England (Medlycott 2011), including the following subjects:

- Processes of economic and social change and development during the Late Iron Age and Iron Age/Roman transition.
- Late Iron Age – Roman transition.
- Change in landscape use between early and late prehistoric periods.
- Late Iron Age funerary practices and the significance of cremation burials as indicators for social hierarchies.
- Comparison between urban growth and shrinkage in Baldock and other small Roman towns in the region.
- The relationship between the study area and previous excavations in the immediate vicinity of the site.
- The relationship between the study area and the late Iron Age and Romano-British settlement at Baldock.

1.5 Methodology

Fieldwork took place on 17th to 18th July 2014. All groundworks that had the potential to reveal archaeological remains were archaeologically monitored. This comprised the excavation of the footings for two classrooms. The footings



consisted of 21 foundation pads: 6 measuring 600 x 600 x 1000mm deep; and 15 measuring 1650 x 600 x 1000mm deep.

The site reduction of the northern half of the site by c. 0.5m was also monitored.

The reduction of paved areas by 0.2m and the excavation of drainage trenches were not monitored, as only topsoil was removed and existing drains were followed.

After excavation of the foundation pads by a mechanical excavator the sides and base of the pads were cleaned by hand. Any archaeological features revealed were mapped, investigated and recorded. Archaeological features were only visible and recorded in section.

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

• Albion Archaeology	<i>Procedures Manual: Volume 1 Fieldwork (2nd edn, 2001).</i>
• Albion Archaeology	<i>Hartsfield JMI School, Baldock, Hertfordshire. Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Watching Brief. Report no. 2014/101.</i>
• EAA	<i>Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England (2003)</i>
• English Heritage	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) Project Managers' Guide (2006)</i>
	<i>Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation, 2nd edition (2011)</i>
• IfA	<i>By-Laws and Code of Conduct</i>
	<i>Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs and Field Excavations (updated 2008) and finds (updated 2008)</i>



2. RESULTS AND CONCLUSIONS

2.1 Introduction

The groundworks revealed an area of intercutting pits, most likely quarry pits. The features and deposits revealed are summarised below and illustrated in Figures 2 and 3.

Before groundworks began the previous lightweight school building that had stood on the site was demolished and removed. The building had had no foundations but stood on a raft directly on the ground surface. Its removal left a footprint of decayed turf with an accumulation of windblown soil and debris

2.2 Overburden and Geological Deposits

Overburden consisted of a layer of turf around the edges of the demolished school building and decayed turf underneath. This layer (001) was *c.* 0.10m thick. It sealed up to 0.6m of subsoil (002), comprising sterile mid greyish brown clayey silt with moderate small stones, occasional fragments of brick / tile and charcoal flecks.

Underlying geological deposits consisted of white chalk (003).

2.3 Archaeological Features

The foundation pads revealed a number of intercutting pits [006] – [036] and one posthole [004] (Figures 2-5). The pits were recorded in the sections of pads 1 – 11 in the north-west part of the footprint of the building. None of the pits was revealed to its full extent but they generally measured a minimum of 1.8m x 0.6m in width and were up to 0.36m deep. The fills were largely sterile and usually consisted of a redeposited natural chalk-rubble, most likely erosion from the pit sides, and a homogenous dark greyish brown silty main fill, most likely the result of gradual infilling through silting.

Only pit [006] (in foundation pad 1) contained pottery, which was late Iron Age in date (see below). Reconstruction of some of the feature edges in plan during post-excavation also raises the possibility that they are part of a linear feature, particularly the features in pads 1, 2 and 3 (Figure 3).

2.4 Finds Summary

A small assemblage comprising pottery and ceramic roof tile was collected from three deposits (Table 1).

Feature	Description	Fill	Date Range	Finds Summary
002	Subsoil	002	Post-medieval	Pottery (27g); ceramic roof tile (29g)
006	Pit	007	Late Iron Age	Pottery (692g)
006	Pit	008	Late Iron Age	Pottery (415g)

Table 1: Finds summary by feature

Twenty-six pottery sherds representing six vessels (1.1kg) were collected, the majority from the fills of pit [006]. All are datable to the late Iron Age (*c.* 50 BC–AD 50). Although abraded, the sherds are sizeable, with a mean weight of 44g,



the largest single sherd weighing 236g. Characteristic of the region and period, wares are predominantly grog-tempered (cf. Thompson 1982, 15), supplemented by a small number of sand-tempered examples (Table 2). Diagnostic elements are a narrow-necked cordoned jar or beaker, and ten thick-walled sherds deriving from a large storage-type vessel, the latter with a heavily worn exterior. One sand-tempered body sherd is decorated with regular horizontal combing.

Ware	Sherd No.	Context / Sherd No.
Grog – fine	12	(02):1, (08):11
Grog – coarse	10	(07):7, (08):3
Sand	4	(07):1, (08):3

Table 2: Pottery type series

Two sand-tempered pieces of post-medieval roof tile (29g) derived from subsoil (002).

2.5 Conclusions

The watching brief recorded an area of pitting, dating to the late Iron Age, and the existence of a possible linear feature.

The absence of finds in the majority of pits suggests that it is likely that they represent quarry pits. The position of the site raises the possibility that some of the pits may be a continuation of the pit alignment revealed beneath the school to the west (Figure 6).

Should some of the features be linear in nature, they could be a possible continuation of one of the ditches revealed in excavation Area B to the east of the school (Figure 6). However, it is difficult to accurately align the footprint of the new building with any previous investigations and it is also impossible to draw any firm conclusions based on the evidence of the features only recorded in section. Therefore, this interpretation is speculative.

The project archive will be deposited with North Hertfordshire District Council Museum. This report will be uploaded onto the Archaeology Data Service's OASIS website (ref.: albionar1-180046). No further assessment or analysis of the results of the fieldwork is warranted.



3. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Albion Archaeology, 2001. *Procedures Manual Volume 1 Fieldwork*, 2nd ed.

Albion Archaeology 2014. *Hartsfield JMI School, Baldock, Hertfordshire. Written Statement of Investigation for Archaeological Watching Brief*. Report no: 2014/101.

English Heritage, 2009. *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)*.

Fenton, P. 1995. *Hartsfield JMI School, Baldock, Hertfordshire. Archaeological Evaluation Report. HN031*. Heritage Network New Series Report No. 7.

Medlycott, M. (ed), 2011. *Research and Archaeology Revisited: A Revised Framework for the East of England*. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 24.

Thompson, I., 1982, *Grog-tempered 'Belgic' Pottery of south-eastern England*, British Archaeological Report 108.



4. APPENDICES

4.1 Appendix 1: Context Summaries

Area: 1

Extent (ha): 0.01

OS Co-ordinates: TL2496034200

Description:

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1	Topsoil	Friable dark greyish brown clayey sandy silt with occasional small stones. 0.10-0.20m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Subsoil	Friable mid to dark greyish brown clayey sandy silt with moderate small stones, occasional CMB fragments, moderate chalk flecks. 0.30-0.60m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Natural	Chalk.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Posthole	Dimensions: max depth 0.3m, max diameter 0.3m. Only recorded in section. Steep sides with concave base.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	Fill	Friable mid to dark greyish brown sandy silt with occasional chalk flecks. Very similar to subsoil.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	Pit	Sides: steep dimensions: min breadth 0.65m, min depth 0.3m, min length 1.m. Only recorded in section.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	Fill	Friable mid to dark orange brown clayey sandy silt, moderate chalk flecks and fragments, occasional animal bone (not kept).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	Fill	Friable mid to dark orange brown clayey sandy silt, moderate to frequent chalk flecks and fragments, occasional animal bone (not kept).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Fill	Same as fill (007) but in southern section.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
38	Fill	Mottled dark brown sandy silt with frequent chalk fragments. Re-deposited natural mixed with topsoil/subsoil?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	Pit	Dimensions: min breadth 0.5m, min depth 0.36m, min length 1.2m. Only recorded in section.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	Fill	Friable mid to dark orange brown clayey sand with frequent chalk patches.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	Fill	Friable light to mid orange brown chalky sandy silt.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13	Fill	Friable light to mid orange brown clayey sand with frequent chalk patches.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14	Pit	Dimensions: max breadth 0.7m, min depth 0.38m. Only recorded in section.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15	Fill	Mottled dark brown sandy silt with frequent chalk fragments. Re-deposited natural mixed with topsoil/subsoil?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16	Pit	Dimensions: min breadth 0.6m, min depth 0.5m, min length 1.8m. Only recorded in section.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17	Fill	Mottled dark brown sandy silt with frequent chalk fragments. Re-deposited natural mixed with topsoil/subsoil?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18	Fill	Friable mid to dark orange brown clayey sand with moderate chalk flecks and fragments.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19	Pit	Dimensions: min breadth 0.5m, min depth 0.4m, min length 1.8m. Only recorded in section.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20	Fill	Friable mid to dark orange brown clayey sand with moderate chalk flecks and fragments.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21	Pit	Dimensions: min breadth 0.6m, max depth 0.3m, min length 0.8m. Only recorded in section. Concave to flattish base.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
22	Fill	Friable mid to dark orange brown clayey sand with moderate chalk flecks and fragments.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
23	Pit	Dimensions: max depth 0.3m, min length 0.9m. Only recorded in section. Concave to flattish base.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
24	Fill	Friable mid to dark orange brown clayey sand with moderate chalk flecks and fragments.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Area: 1
 Extent (ha): 0.01
 OS Co-ordinates: TL2496034200
 Description:

25	Pit	Dimensions: min breadth 0.66m, min depth 0.5m, min length 0.8m. Only recorded in section.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
26	Fill	Mottled dark brown sandy silt with frequent chalk fragments. Re-deposited natural mixed with topsoil/subsoil?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
27	Fill	Friable mid to dark orange brown clayey sand with moderate chalk flecks and fragments.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
28	Pit	Dimensions: min breadth 0.4m, min depth 0.2m, min length 1.m. Only recorded in section.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
29	Fill	Mottled dark brown sandy silt with frequent chalk fragments. Re-deposited natural mixed with topsoil/subsoil?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
30	Fill	Friable mid to dark orange brown clayey sand with moderate chalk flecks and fragments.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
31	Pit	Dimensions: min breadth 0.38m, min depth 0.18m, min length 1.8m. Only recorded in section.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
32	Fill	Friable mid to dark orange brown clayey sand with moderate chalk flecks and fragments.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
33	Colluvium	Friable mid to dark greyish brown clayey sandy silt with moderate small chalk flecks and fragments. Sterile. Very similar to subsoil (002). 0.30-0.40m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
34	Pit	Dimensions: min breadth 0.5m, min depth 0.34m, min length 1.8m. Only recorded in section.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
35	Fill	Friable mid to dark orange brown clayey sand with moderate chalk flecks and fragments.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
36	Pit	Dimensions: max depth 0.22m, max length 1.5m. Only recorded in section.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
37	Fill	Mottled dark brown sandy silt with frequent chalk fragments. Re-deposited natural mixed with topsoil/subsoil?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



4.2 Appendix 2: HER Summary Sheet

Site name and address: Hartsfield JMI School, Clothall Road, Baldock.		
County: Hertfordshire		District: North Hertfordshire
Village/Town: Baldock		Parish: Baldock
Planning application reference: 14/00591/1CC		
HER Enquiry reference: 56/14		
Client name, address, and tel. no.: Hartsfield JMI School, Clothall Road, Baldock, SG7 6PB		
Nature of application: Replacement of an existing modular classroom with a new double classroom in the same location.		
Present land use: school		
Size of application area: c. 161 sqm		Size of area investigated: <20 sqm
NGR (to 8 figures): TL 2496 3402		
Site code (if applicable): BAL2405		
Site director/Organization: Christiane Meckseper / Drew Shotliff / Albion Archaeology		
Type of work: Archaeological Investigation and Recording (watching brief)		
Date of work:	Start: 17.7.2014	Finish: 17.7.2014
Location of finds & site archive/Curating museum: North Hertfordshire District Council Museum		
Related HER Nos: n/a		Periods represented: Iron Age
Relevant previous summaries/reports: Fenton, P. 1995. <i>Hartsfield JMI School, Baldock, Hertfordshire. Archaeological Evaluation Report. HN031</i> . Heritage Network New Series Report No. 7		
Summary of fieldwork results: A number of intercutting pits were located in the north-west part of site. The lack of finds suggests they were quarry pits but the existence of a linear feature cannot be excluded. The features were recorded in section only. One pit contained fragments of late Iron Age pottery.		
Author of summary: Christiane Meckseper		Date of summary: 29th August 2014



4.3 Appendix 3: Oasis Data Collection Form

OASIS ID: albionar1-180046

Project details

Project name	Hartsfield JMI School, Baldock
Short description of the project	Watching brief during construction of a new school building. Works undertaken were the excavation of foundation pads and reduction of c. 50% of the site in plan to create a level terrace. The investigations revealed around 10 intercutting pits, recorded in the sections of the foundation pads. One of the pits produced late Iron Age pottery, the other pits were blank. It is likely that they represent quarry pits. Overburden was up to 0.6m thick. Reduction of the site in plan was 0.5m, therefore no further features were revealed. The position of the pits could suggest they are continuation of pit alignment in west but this is speculation.
Project dates	Start: 17-07-2014 End: 18-07-2014
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	BAL2405 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Recording project
Current Land use	Community Service 1 - Community Buildings
Monument type	PIT Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	POTTERY Late Prehistoric
Investigation type	""Watching Brief""

Project location

Country	England
Site location	HERTFORDSHIRE NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE BALDOCK Hartsfield JMI School, Baldock
Postcode	SG7 6PB
Study area	161.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 24965 34027 51.9901777089 -0.17984263924 51 59 24 N 000 10 47 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Albion Archaeology
Project brief originator	No Brief
Project design originator	Albion Archaeology
Project director/manager	Robert Wardill
Project supervisor	Christiane Meckseper

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	North Herts Museums Service Resource Centre
----------------------------	---



Physical Contents	"Ceramics"
Physical Archive notes	Subject to confirmation and transfer of title.
Digital Archive recipient	Albion Archaeology
Digital Contents	"other"
Digital Media available	"Database","GIS","Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	North Hertfordshire Museum Service
Paper Contents	"Ceramics","other"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Correspondence","Drawing","Microfilm","Miscellaneous Material","Photograph","Report"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Hartsfield JMI School, Baldock, Hertfordshire. Archaeological Investigation and Recording
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Meckseper, C.
Other bibliographic details	Report no. 2014-141
Date	2014
Issuer or publisher	Albion Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Bedford

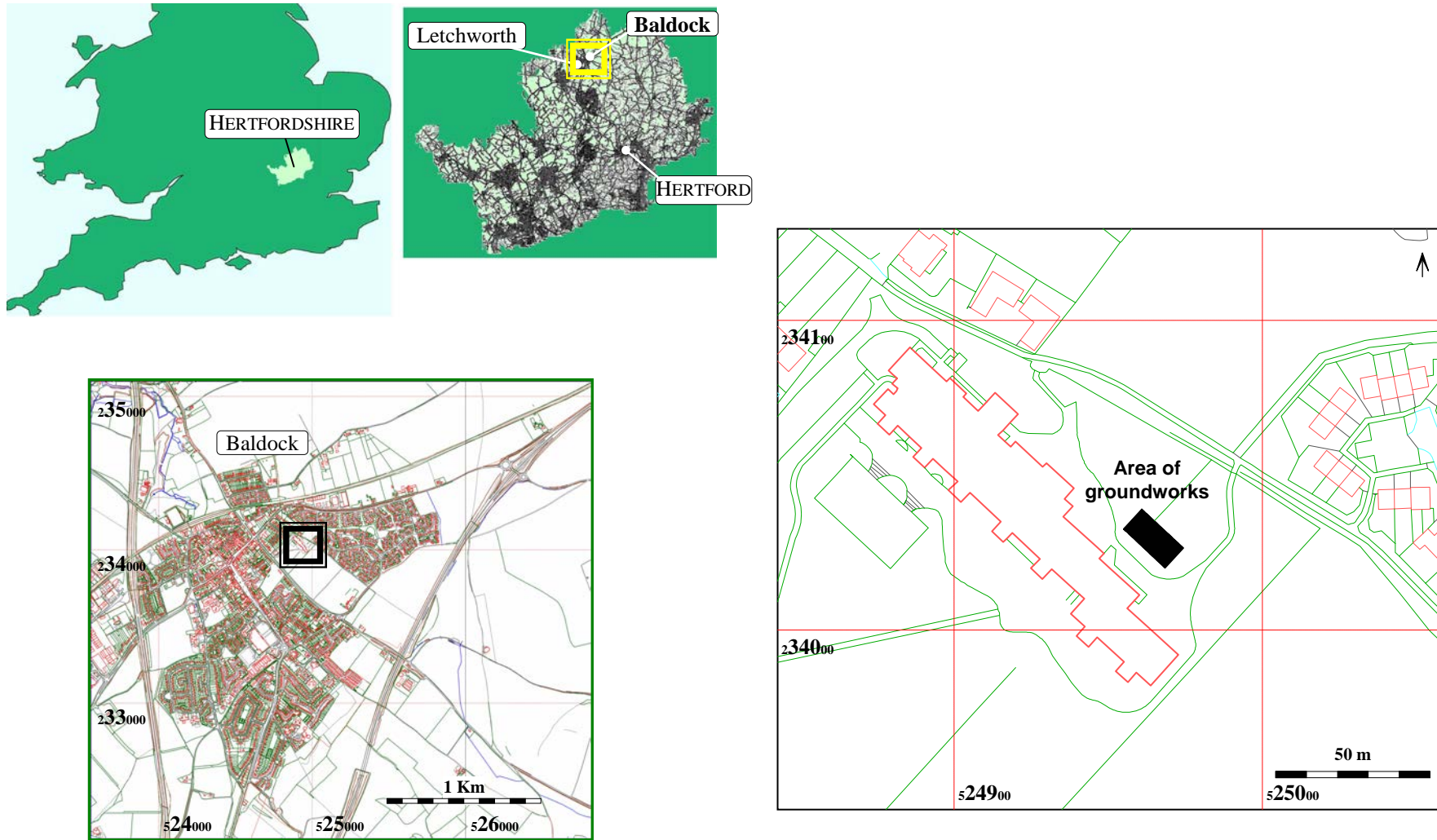
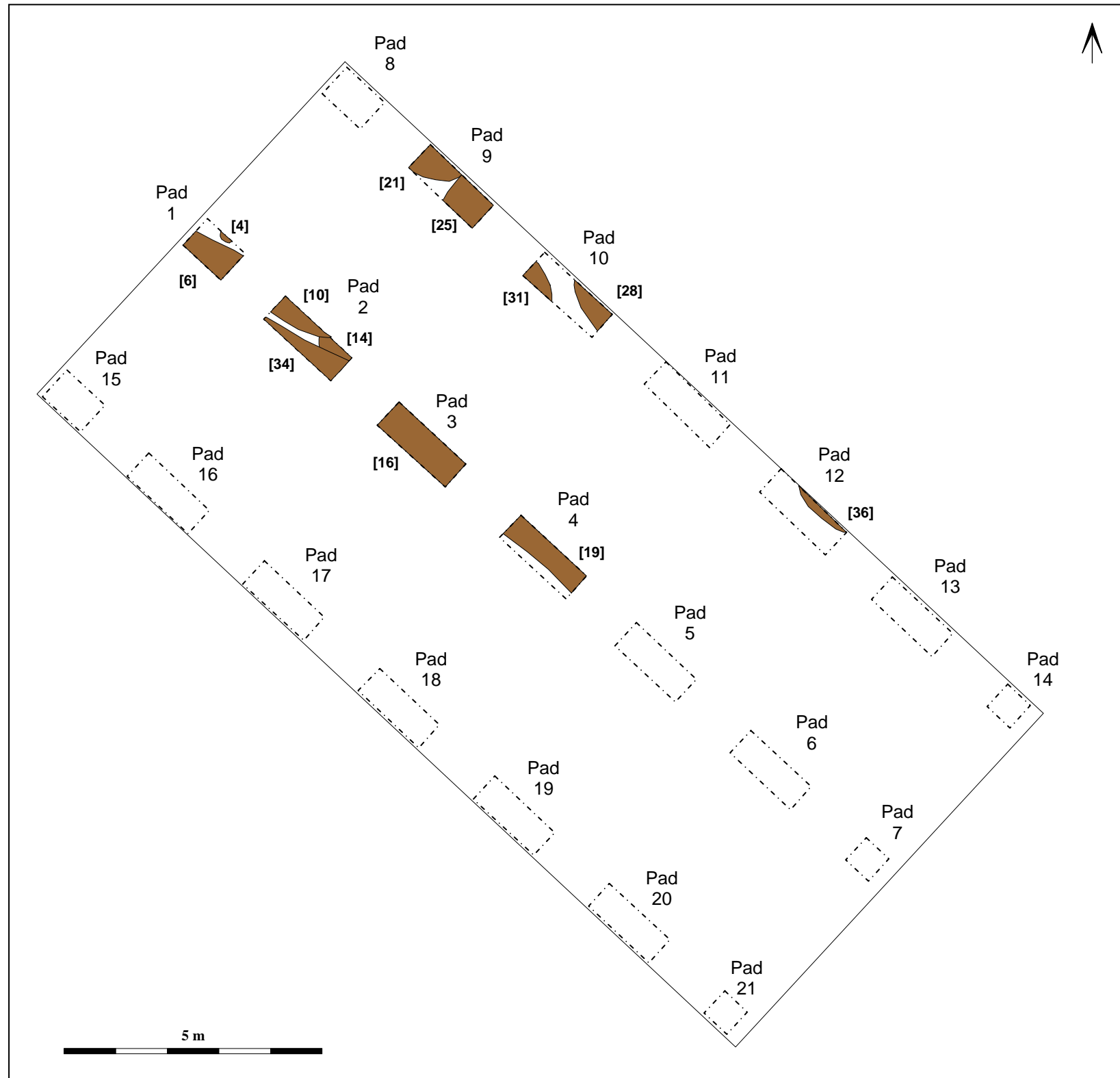


Figure 1: Site location

This map is based upon Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Central Bedfordshire Council. Licence No. 100049029 (2011)



Foundation pads 1-4, looking east
(Pit [019] visible in foreground section)

Figure 2: All features plan

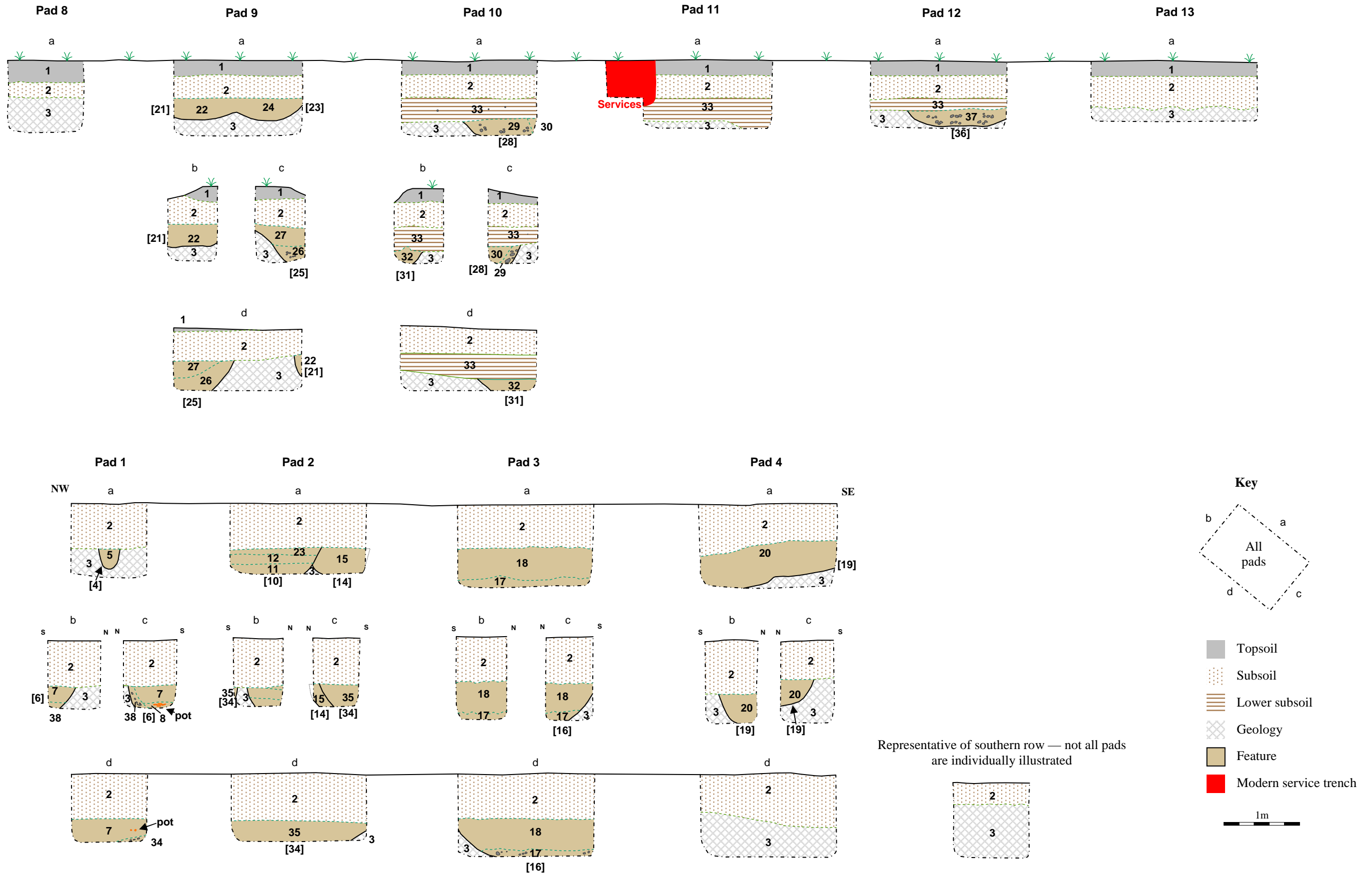


Figure 3: Sections



Figure 4: Pad 1 looking north, with posthole [004] in section



Figure 5: Pad 4 looking east, with pit [019] in section

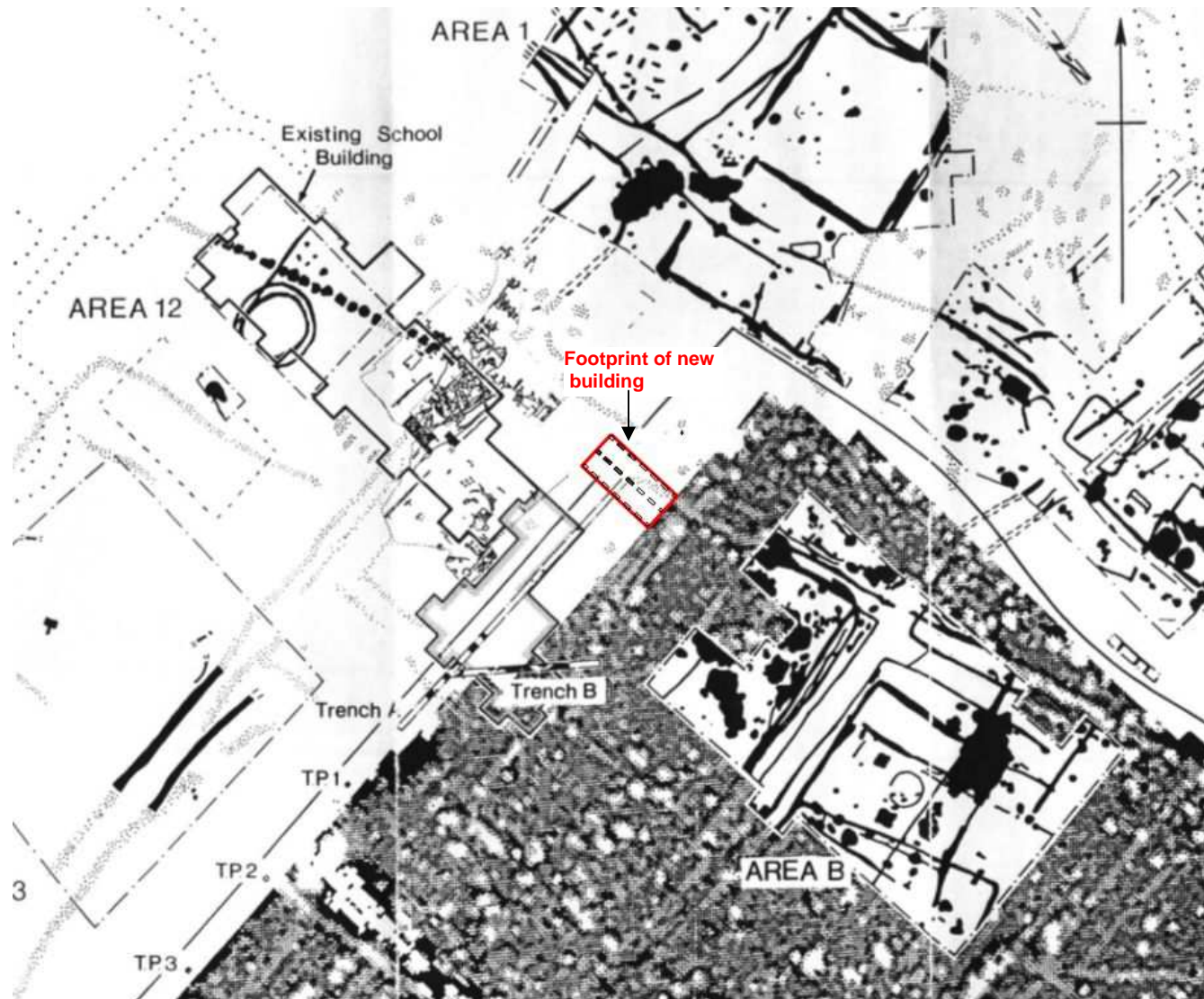


Figure 6: The new building in the context of previous archaeological investigations
(based on Fenton 1995, fig. 2)

Central
Bedfordshire

Albion
archaeology



Albion Archaeology
St Mary's Church
St Mary's Street
Bedford
MK42 0AS

Telephone 01234 294000
Email office@albion-arch.com
www.albion-arch.com

