

**LAND EAST OF SAXON DRIVE
BIGGLESWADE
BEDFORDSHIRE**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCHING

Albion
archaeology



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Preface

All statements and opinions in this document are offered in good faith. This document has been prepared for the titled project or named part thereof and was prepared solely for the benefit of the client. The material contained in this report does not necessarily stand on its own and should not be relied upon by any third party. This document should not be used for any other purpose without an independent check being carried out as to its suitability and the prior written authority of Albion Archaeology (a trading unit of Central Bedfordshire Council). Any person/party relying on the document for such other purposes agrees and will by such use or reliance be taken to confirm their agreement to indemnify Albion Archaeology for all loss or damage resulting therefrom. Albion Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for this document to any party other than the persons/party by whom it was commissioned. This document is limited by the state of knowledge at the time it was written.

This document has been prepared by Richard Gregson (Archaeological Supervisor) and Christiane Meckseper (Project Officer). The figures were produced by Joan Lightning (CAD Technician). Artefacts were identified and reported by Jackie Wells (Finds Officer). The fieldwork was undertaken by Richard Gregson (Archaeological Supervisor), Jonathan Durman and Catie Watts (Archaeological Technicians). The project was managed by Jeremy Oetgen (Project Manager). Drew Shotliff (Operations Manager) was responsible for overall management and quality control.

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Key Terms

BARS	Bedfordshire Archives and Records Service
CIfA	Chartered Institute <i>for</i> Archaeologists
Client	Woods Hardwick Planning Ltd (on behalf of Central Bedfordshire Council (Property Assets))
HE	Historic England (i.e. Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England)
HER	Historic Environment Record
LPA	Local Planning Authority
NHLE	National Heritage List for England
OS	Ordnance Survey
PDA	Proposed development area
<i>Procedures Manual</i>	<i>Procedures Manual Volume 1 Fieldwork</i> , 2nd edn, 2001 Albion Archaeology
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation



Non-Technical Summary

The land east of Saxon Drive, Biggleswade, is part of the Call for Sites Plan 6 of the Central Bedfordshire Local Plan. Woods Hardwick Planning Ltd is preparing an outline planning application on behalf of Central Bedfordshire Council (Property Assets) for the residential development of the site.

Part of the PDA was evaluated in 2003 and 2007, but Central Bedfordshire Council's Archaeologist required further archaeological field evaluation of the southern part of the site through geophysical survey and trial trenching. This report presents the results of the trial trenching undertaken in February 2017.

The evaluation has demonstrated the survival of a range of archaeological remains, including:

- Medieval field system associated with the medieval settlement at Stratton and/or the scheduled moat NHLE 1012161 to the south. Small fragments of pottery within the ditches dated to the 12th–14th centuries;
- Medieval agricultural furrows post-dating the field system;
- Modern leats associated with water meadow management;
- Undated pits and ditches;
- Palaeochannels.

The archaeological potential and significance of heritage assets within the area covered by the present evaluation is summarised in the table below.

<i>Description of asset</i>	<i>Broad period</i>	<i>Potential for survival</i>	<i>Likely significance</i>
<i>Medieval field system (ditches)</i>	<i>Medieval (1066–1545)</i>	<i>Extant</i>	<i>Low to Moderate</i>
<i>Palaeochannels</i>	<i>Undated</i>	<i>Moderate</i>	<i>Low to Moderate</i>
<i>Pits and ditches</i>	<i>Undated, possibly medieval</i>	<i>High</i>	<i>Low</i>
<i>Furrows</i>	<i>Medieval (1066–1545)</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>Low</i>
<i>Leats</i>	<i>Modern (1900-present)</i>	<i>Extant</i>	<i>Negligible to Low</i>

The results of this evaluation have contributed to the assessment of the impact of the whole of the PDA, which is presented in a separate heritage statement.



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 *Planning Background*

Woods Hardwick Planning Ltd is preparing an outline planning application on behalf of Central Bedfordshire Council (Property Assets) for the residential development of a site east of Saxon Drive, Biggleswade, Bedfordshire.

This land is part of the Call for Sites Plan 6 of the Central Bedfordshire Local Plan. Two archaeological field evaluations had previously been undertaken in the northern part of the site (Albion Archaeology 2003 and 2007); however, the southern part of the site, south of the track leading eastwards from the Saxon Drive roundabout, had not been subject to archaeological evaluation. The extent of the southern part of the application site is shown on Figure 1

For this reason the Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeologist (CBCA) requested an archaeological field evaluation of the southern part of the site in the form of geophysical survey and trial trenching. The results of this evaluation, together with the 2003 and 2007 evaluations, have been used to inform a heritage statement for the entire application site, presented in a separate report (Albion Archaeology 2017). The CBCA's request was in accordance with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

Albion Archaeology was commissioned to undertake the evaluation in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI) that was approved by the CBCA (Albion Archaeology 2016).

The geophysical survey was undertaken in October 2016 (Stratascan 2016) and its results were used to devise a trenching strategy, which was approved by the CBCA. The trenching was duly undertaken in February 2017.

1.2 *Status of this Document*

This report presents the results of trial trenching of the land at the southern end of the proposed development area (PDA). The fieldwork was undertaken with the prior approval of the CBCA, who acts as archaeological advisor to the LPA. The report has been submitted to the CBCA for vetting.

1.3 *Site Location and Description*

The PDA lies at the south-eastern edge of Biggleswade, to the east of Saxon Drive and to the south of Baden Powell Way. It is centred on national grid reference TL 2050 4411 and covers a total area of approximately 6.93ha. The present evaluation focused on an arable field at the southern end of the PDA (Figure 1). There is a small pond within a dense thicket near the north-west corner of the field and a low-tension overhead power line runs close to the southern boundary.

1.4 *Landform, Geology and Soils*

Biggleswade lies adjacent to the River Ivel, and the PDA lies at a height of c. 36m OD, occupying the valley of a small stream that flows northwards to join a tributary to the river. The geology of the area comprises glacial sands and



gravels mixed with boulder clay overlying Lower Greensand (British Geological Survey 2016).

1.5 Archaeological and Historical Background

Existing knowledge of the archaeology and history of the PDA and a 500m-raidus study area was collated from the information held in the Central Bedfordshire and Luton Historic Environment Record (HER search no. 201617/215), Historic England's National Heritage List for England (NHLE) and the Bedfordshire Archives and Records Service (BARS). This information is summarised below.

1.5.1 Prehistoric to Roman

Several cropmarks interpreted as Neolithic or Bronze Age ring ditches lie in the vicinity of the PDA. Ring ditch (HER 16159) lies within the Stratton Business Park to the south of the PDA. A further ring ditch with associated linear features and pits lies at Kennel Farm (HER 19528) and another to the immediate north-west of the PDA (HER 17733).

To the south of the PDA and Stratton Business Park are a series of enclosure-type cropmark sites, which indicate that the area was intensively settled from the prehistoric period onwards (HER 16157, 16158, 15327, 16823, 16824). Recent excavations within Stratton Business Park, on land to the south-west of the site, have revealed evidence for middle Iron Age and early Romano-British settlement, comprising enclosures, a trackway, a roundhouse and a number of pits (HER 18284).

A trial trench evaluation to the immediate north of the site (EBD451) revealed a small quantity of Iron Age artefacts as well as extensive Roman activity, including pits, ditches and a variety of surfaces made of both cobbling and fine metalling. An extensive assemblage of Roman artefacts was recovered from these deposits, including ceramic building material, animal bone and a variety of pottery types dating mostly to the 2nd–3rd centuries AD (Albion Archaeology 2003). Those remains were restricted to the northern part of the PDA, near Baden Powell Way.

Roman pottery, coins and tile fragments were found while gardening in the allotments to the east of the PDA (HER 19854).

1.5.2 Anglo-Saxon to medieval

For the Saxon and medieval periods, the main centres of settlement are known to have lain beneath Biggleswade town centre, at Stratton (see below) and Holme. The latter settlement has been largely unaffected by modern development and now lies in a belt of open countryside between the built-up areas of Biggleswade and Langford.

A number of large-scale archaeological investigations on the Stratton Residential Development Area, to the west of the PDA have recorded the remains of the deserted medieval village of Stratton (HER 518). This area was clearly a major focus of settlement from early Saxon times to the end of the post-medieval



period. The village extended both along the northern and western boundaries of the current PDA.

The evaluation to the north of the PDA (EBD451) identified the continuation of archaeological features of the medieval village (HER 518) to the east of Saxon Drive. The findings included the eastern half of a moat and a series of ditches that appeared to define elements of enclosure systems. Associated activity included cobbled surfaces and substantial pits, which contained a variety of artefacts mostly dating to the 12th–15th centuries (Albion Archaeology 2003).

Excavations to the west of the PDA (EBD1434), including the tree belt along its western boundary, demonstrated the southern continuation of the Saxon and medieval settlement (HER 518). The investigations revealed features dating to the 10th–14th centuries with some traces of early and middle Saxon occupation.

The only visible surviving remnants of the deserted medieval village are contained within the scheduled ancient monument of Stratton Park Moat (SM 1012161; HER 520), which lies north of Dunton Lane. The scheduled monument comprises a varied earthwork complex. The main moated enclosure is a large banked and ditched enclosure, with one definite and another probable entranceway, enclosing a central platform which retains evidence of multi-period activity.

To the east of the moated enclosure lies an area of diffuse and plough-eroded earthworks. In all likelihood, these represent the remnants of medieval and later field enclosures and paddocks, as well as poorly defined elements of former dispersed settlement.

An archaeological assessment and salvage excavation in advance of construction of a balancing pond in the Stratton Business Park to the south of the scheduled monument revealed evidence of early medieval settlement focussed towards the south side of Dunton Lane (HER 17738). Parallel linear earthworks cropmarks to the east of the pond may be traces of medieval cultivation (HER 17786).

1.5.3 Post-medieval to modern

The PDA lies within the former Stratton Park (HER 7003). This designed landscape was created by the early 19th century. It contained garden features and surrounded the 16th-century Stratton Park House (HER 519). The house was demolished in the 1950s, although elements of associated 18th- to 20th-century outbuildings (HER 7775) and numerous ornamental trees and shrubs of the former gardens survive within the light industrial complex that now occupies the site of the house. The lodge to the park (HER 7774), an early 20th-century red brick building, lies at the south-western edge of the PDA.

In 1945 a Mustang aircraft crashed to the west of the PDA (HER 19776); however, the precise location of the crash site is not known.



1.6 Objectives

Given that development is likely to have a significant impact on any archaeological remains within the PDA and in order to assess that impact, information on the following was required:

- the location, extent, nature and date of any archaeological features or deposits that may be present;
- the integrity and state of preservation of any archaeological features or deposits that may be present.

The information was acquired through a programme of archaeological fieldwork as outlined in Section 2. The significance of heritage assets revealed was assessed with reference to national and regional research frameworks, including, in particular, Oake *et al* 2007 and Medlycott 2011 (Section 4). This information has also contributed to an assessment of the significance of the heritage assets on the whole of the PDA (northern and southern areas), which is presented in the separate heritage statement (Albion Archaeology 2017).



2. METHOD STATEMENTS

2.1 *Fieldwork*

Detailed method statements for each stage of the evaluation are presented in the written scheme of investigation (Albion Archaeology 2016). The stages comprised geophysical survey followed by trial trenching. Up to a maximum 5% sample of the evaluation study area was investigated by trial trenching.

The trial trenches were positioned to investigate areas and features of archaeological potential identified by the geophysical survey and other sources of available information, e.g. the HER. Other areas of the evaluation site that appeared blank from the geophysical results were also investigated.

The geophysical survey was undertaken in October 2016 and the results are presented in a separate report (Stratascan 2016). Based on the results of the geophysical survey and initial appraisal of HER records (search reference no: 201617/215) a trial trenching strategy was prepared and agreed with the CBCA (Figures 1 and 2). Fieldwork took place in February 2017 and the results are the subject of the present report. Interpretation of the results has been assisted by desk-based research undertaken for the heritage statement.

2.2 *Reporting and Archiving*

Data gathered from each stage of the evaluation is presented in separate reports, the results of which are collated in the heritage statement (Albion Archaeology in 2017).

The archive of finds and records generated during the project are being archived to the standards outlined in Appendix 3 of English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects and Preparing Archaeological Archives for Deposition in Registered Museums in Bedfordshire* (2010). In liaison with the landowners, in principle permission will be sought for transfer of title of all finds to The Higgins Art Gallery & Museum, Bedford (accession number BEDFM: 2016.70).

Details of the project and its findings will be submitted to the OASIS database in accordance with the guidelines issued by Historic England and the Archaeology Data Service (OASIS Ref: albionar1-262647).



3. RESULTS OF TRIAL TRENCHING

3.1 Introduction

This section focuses on the general character and interpretation of the archaeological features encountered within the trenches in order to define discrete heritage assets within the PDA. Contexts were numbered by trench — in the following text, contexts (100) to (199) refer to features in Trench 1, contexts (200) to (299) to features in Trench 2, etc. Context numbers of cut features are given in square brackets. Detailed contextual information on all deposits and features can be found in Appendix 1 and finds are summarised in Section 3.6.

After a general description of soils and geology, the results are discussed by period. An all-features plan is given in Figure 2, and detailed results across the PDA as a whole are illustrated in Figures 3–5. Where relevant, trenching results are integrated with information drawn from the geophysical survey, crop-marks and early Ordnance Survey mapping.

3.2 Overburden and Geological Deposits

Overburden across the PDA consisted of subsoil overlain by the modern ploughsoil. The subsoil varied from mid-orange-brown to dark grey-brown in colour and from sandy silt to clay silt in composition. It was up to 0.27m thick. The ploughsoil comprised dark brown-grey clayey or sandy silt and was up to 0.42m thick. Overall, the thickness of the overburden varied from 0.28–0.64m.

The geological deposits below the overburden varied from light yellow-grey to mid-brown-orange in colour and from sandy silt to clayey gravel in composition.

3.3 Late Saxon and Medieval Archaeological Features

3.3.1 Field system

Relevant features: [103/105,309], [107], [109/111], [115], [203], [205], [207/209], [305/ 1103] and [307].

The geophysical survey indicated that there was a possible field system of linear boundary ditches in the south-west corner of the PDA and the trial trenching confirmed the existence of a number of ditches. Most of the ditches were located on the southern side of an ENE-WSW aligned boundary ditch, excavated in Trench 3 [305] and Trench 11 [1103] (Figure 6).

Seven generally NNW-SSE aligned ditches [103/105], [309], [109/111], [115], [203], [205], [207/209] and [213], and one perpendicular ditch [107], subdivided the land to the south of this ditch into a series of strip like fields. The ditches were generally 0.7–2.56m wide and up to 0.74m deep (Figure 7).

Three of the ditches [309,103/105], [109/110] and [207/209] showed evidence of having been re-dug at least once. Ditch [307], predating main boundary ditch [305], might represent evidence for an earlier land division.



Very small quantities of pottery recovered from the ditches were identified as mostly late Saxon or early medieval in date. One sherd of abraded Roman pottery recovered from ditch [203] was most likely residual.

3.3.2 Ditch/quarry pit and smaller pits

Relevant features: [213], [216], [218].

Ditch [213] was on the same alignment as the field system discussed above, but was considerably larger than the ditches of that system. It was 6.1m wide and 1.45m deep and might have been an elongated quarry pit rather than a ditch (Figure 8). Its upper, backfilled deposit (214) comprised material derived from the geological stratum. This material might have derived from a bank that had been ploughed or shovelled into the ditch, or it might represent unwanted material left over after quarrying. This larger feature truncated two features, [216] and [218], which lay either side of it. The latter were probably two discrete pits but might have once been the ends of a single short ditch.

3.3.3 Furrows

Relevant features: [113], [303, 1107] and [505, 603, 910].

Three ENE-WSW aligned cultivation furrows [113], [303, 1107] and [505, 603, 910] were identified in five of the evaluation trenches. They were 0.47–2.2m wide and up to 0.23m deep. Although probably later than the field system described above, they did seem to have been on a similar alignment, suggesting an element of continuity in the development of the landscape.

No datable artefacts were recovered from these furrows. However, cultivation furrows like these were often established in the medieval period and remained in use into the post-medieval period.

3.4 Modern Archaeological Features

3.4.1 Water meadow leat system

Relevant features: [605], [1006], [1009] and [1209].

Ditches [605] and [1006], corresponding with the locations and alignments of linear features identified by the geophysical survey, were found in Trenches 6 and 10. They were 1.65m and 0.78m wide respectively. Another, similar ditch [1009] was found below an alluvial or make-up layer (1008), c. 5.8m to the south of [1006]. This was 0.58m wide (Figure 9).

Modern artefacts, observed within the leats and perpendicular gullies but not retained, included a piece of rubber hose in [1006] and pieces of wire in [605].

The 1926 edition of the six-inch OS map shows a regular system of E-W aligned ditches joining the stream to the east of the PDA. Each is depicted with a possible culvert or sluice gate close to the stream. The ditches were not shown on the 1902 map edition, when the area was still part of Stratton Park, suggesting that they were established in the early part of the 20th century. The possible



sluice gates shown on the OS map suggest that these ditches were not simply drains but were part of a more proactive system of water management. It is most likely that they were water meadow leats used to channel water from the stream onto the land at certain times of the year in order to flood the field and provide it with nutrient-rich deposits from the stream to improve crops or pasture for grazing.

The terminus of a smaller, N-S aligned ditch [1209] was recorded in Trench 12. A relatively modern date was again confirmed by the discovery of wire in the fill. Lying perpendicular to the main leats, this ditch might have been the only surviving remnant of a system of subsidiary ditches serving to spread the nutrient-rich water from the stream across the field.

It is possible that there were at least two phases of these water meadow leats. This is suggested by the presence of layer (1008) overlying leat [1009]; it might represent a water-lain deposit that accumulated in a natural hollow as a result of the operation of the flood meadow or, alternatively, the result of deliberate modification of the leat system.

3.4.2 Postholes

Relevant features: [510] and [512].

Two postholes [510] and [512] that were 1.05m apart were investigated at the north-east end of Trench 5. They were both 0.27m across and *c.* 0.15m deep. Although no datable artefacts were recovered from them, the loose, un-compacted nature of the deposits within them suggests that they were probably associated with a modern fence.

3.5 Undated Archaeological Features

3.5.1 Ditches and gullies

Relevant features: [503], [803], [903], [905] and [1203].

Six ditches or gullies [503], [803], [903], [905], [907] and [1203] were examined in Trenches 5, 8, 9 and 12. They were 0.46–1.2m wide and 0.09–0.52m deep. Several of the smaller gullies in Trenches 5, 8 and 9 may have been for drainage since they were in areas that were observed during fieldwork to be prone to waterlogging. The areas were later criss-crossed by land drains.

A possible ditch [1203] in Trench 12 was very shallow, flat-bottomed and contained a deposit of light brown-grey sandy silt similar to variations observed in the geological deposit. As such it might actually have been a variation in the geological deposit rather than an archaeological feature.

No datable artefacts were recovered from these ditches and gullies, although some animal bone was recovered from ditch [903]. Ditch [503] in Trench 5 was truncated by a later furrow [505], suggesting that it was medieval or earlier in date.



3.5.2 Pits

Relevant features: [403], [507], [1205] and [1207].

Four undated pits [403], [507], [1205] and [1207] were recorded in Trenches 4, 5 and 12. They varied from sub-circular to sub-rectangular in shape and were 0.5–1.21m+ in diameter and up to 0.52m deep. No datable artefacts were recovered from these pits. However, the largest example [507] contained a lower, primary deposit containing fairly large pieces of relatively un-degraded charcoal, suggesting that it was not particularly old. This is corroborated by the fact that the feature cut through the subsoil.

3.5.3 Palaeochannels

Relevant features: [805], [807] and [1003].

Three palaeochannels [805], [807] and [1003] were found in Trenches 8 and 10. The widest palaeochannel [805] was 7m across. It was not excavated in order to preserve several land drains that ran across it. A slightly narrower palaeochannel [1003] in Trench 10 was excavated and found to be 4.1m wide and 0.75m deep. It was below the subsoil suggesting that it was probably medieval or earlier in date. No datable artefacts were recovered from these features.

3.5.4 Tree-throws

Relevant features: [703], [705], and [707].

Three tree-throws or patches of rooting [703], [705] and [707] were investigated and recorded in Trench 7. No datable artefacts were recovered from them.

3.6 Finds Summary

Eight features across three trenches yielded an assemblage comprising pottery and animal bone (Table 1). No artefacts were recovered from Trenches 3–8 or 10–13.

Tr.	Feature	Description	Fill	Date range	Finds summary
1	105	Ditch	106	Undated	Animal bone (3g)
	111	Ditch	112	13th-14th century	Pottery (26g); animal bone (8g)
	113	Furrow	114	Undated	Animal bone (12g)
2	203	Ditch	204	Roman	Pottery (17g); animal bone (72g)
	205	Ditch	206	Undated	Pottery (6g); animal bone (17g)
	207	Ditch	208	Undated	Animal bone (283g)
	209	Ditch	211	10th-11th century	Pottery (29g)
9	903	Ditch	904	Undated	Animal bone (52g)

Table 1: Finds Summary by trench and feature

3.6.1 Pottery

Five pottery sherds (78g) were collected from ditches in Trenches 1 and 2. The earliest is a highly abraded sand-tempered Roman body sherd (fabric R10A¹) recovered from [203], likely to represent a residual find. The secondary fill (211) of [209] contained a sherd from a late Saxon St Neots ware bowl (B01) with a characteristic inturned rim. Ditch [111] yielded a 12th–13th-century sand-

¹ Fabric types identified in accordance with the Bedfordshire Ceramic Type Series



tempered coarse ware rim sherd (C61) and a glazed sherd of 13th–14th-century Brill-Boarstall ware (C11), the latter a fineware import from Buckinghamshire. An indeterminate sand-and-shell-tempered body sherd (6g) derived from [205].

3.6.2 Animal bone

Thirty-five animal bone fragments (447g) were collected, the largest assemblage (283g) from undated ditch [207]. Individual pieces are abraded and well-fragmented, with a mean weight of 12g. The assemblage mainly comprises undiagnostic limb bones, with a single goat horn core and pig foot bone (phalanx).



4. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE RESULTS

The evaluation has demonstrated the survival of the following archaeological heritage assets within the PDA. Their significance is assessed in accordance with the criteria set out in Appendix 3.

4.1 *Medieval Field System*

The geophysical survey and trial trenching identified the existence of a field system in the south-west corner of the PDA. A small quantity of 12th–14th-century pottery was retrieved from two of the ditches, and at least one of the ditches pre-dated agricultural furrows on the site. The date of the field system makes it broadly contemporary with the scheduled Stratton Park moat (NHLE 1012161) to its south and Stratton medieval village (HER 518) to the west of the site. The low density of artefacts suggests that the ditches lay some distance from the main focus of settlement and are most likely to have enclosed small gardens or animal paddocks.

This is a well-defined system and, therefore, an *extant* heritage asset. There is potential for further ditches of this system to survive across the rest of the PDA. It has some potential to address regional research objectives relating to land use around the medieval settlement at Stratton and is of *low to moderate* significance.

4.2 *Palaeochannels*

Palaeochannels have good potential to reveal environmental evidence through targeted scientific sampling. This could provide evidence of human environment, land use, landscape and climate change. Historic England guidelines state that sampling a long sedimentary sequence will provide information both on the site and on the wider ecological history of the area. However, analyses need to date a sufficient number of subsamples to link processes and events to human history (Historic England 2015, 11). The excavated palaeochannel provided no datable material. In this instance, any environmental evidence would be undatable and, therefore, of low to negligible significance.

The potential for the preservation of material suitable for environmental sampling within the palaeochannels is *moderate*, but their significance depends on the ability to date the deposits. If deposits could be dated, environmental samples could provide information of *low to moderate* significance.

4.3 *Undated Pits and Ditches*

A low density of undated pits and ditches were revealed in the trenches. Some of the features may yet date to the medieval period and be associated with known ditches, even though the alignment of the undated ditches was slightly different to the medieval field system exposed in the south-west corner of the site. However, it is difficult to accurately project ditch alignment from trial trenches.

The pits may represent peripheral activity taking place within the agricultural field and paddocks represented by the medieval and undated ditches.



There is *high* potential for more features of this kind to be present across the PDA, however, the potential of these features to inform local and regional research aims and hence their significance is likely to be *low*.

4.4 **Medieval Agricultural Features**

Trial trenching has confirmed the existence of medieval agricultural furrows, on a similar alignment but post-dating the earlier field system. The furrows suggest a change in the agricultural management of the landscape from a small-scale field system, probably closely associated with Stratton medieval settlement, to a larger open-field system in the later medieval period.

Together with the earlier field system, the furrows have the potential to address local and regional research objectives relating to the medieval period, but few furrows survive so they have *low* potential and are of *low* significance.

4.5 **Modern Water Meadow Leats**

The *extant* ditches identified as representing the modern water meadow leats located on the site illustrate and confirm evidence provided by historical maps, but in themselves have little evidential value. It is unlikely that the mapping of all potential leats would provide information that goes beyond that taken from historical maps and other surviving water management systems. They are, therefore, of *negligible to low* significance.

4.6 **Summary of Archaeological Potential and Significance of Heritage Assets within the PDA**

Table 1 (below) identifies the heritage assets identified by the field evaluation and assesses the potential for the survival of as yet unidentified assets with reference to HER records for the PDA and its hinterland (as summarised in Section 1.5). An assessment of the impact of the proposed development on these assets is presented in the heritage statement (Albion Archaeology 2017). The latter also lists possible archaeological features identified by the geophysical survey and in the desk-based assessment that have now been shown not to have an archaeological origin — these have no heritage significance.

Description of asset	Broad period	Potential for survival	Likely significance
Medieval field system (ditches)	Medieval (1066–1545)	Extant	Low to Moderate
Palaeochannels	Undated	Moderate	Low to Moderate
Pits and ditches	Undated, possibly medieval	High	Low
Furrows	Medieval (1066–1545)	Low	Low
Leats	Modern (1900- present)	Extant	Negligible to Low

Table 2: Potential and significance of heritage assets



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6. APPENDIX 1: TRENCH RECORD SUMMARY

Trench: 1

Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.57 m. Max: 0.57 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20603; Northing: 43834)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20578; Northing: 43803)

Reason: To evaluate area.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
100	Ploughsoil	Friable dark grey brown clay silt moderate small-medium stones 0.39m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
101	Subsoil	Friable mid orange brown clay silt moderate small-medium stones 0.22m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
102	Natural	Loose mid brown orange sandy gravel occasional flecks manganese staining	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
103	Ditch	Linear NNW-SSE sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.18m, max depth 0.28m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
104	Fill	Friable mid brown grey sandy silt frequent small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
105	Ditch	Linear NNW-SSE sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.54m, max depth 0.3m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
106	Fill	Friable dark grey brown clay silt frequent small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
107	Ditch	Linear ENE-WSW sides: 45 degrees base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.96m, max depth 0.4m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
108	Fill	Firm mid brown grey clay silt moderate small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
109	Ditch	Linear NNW-SSE sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.7m, max depth 0.31m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
110	Fill	Friable mid brown grey clay silt frequent small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
111	Ditch	Linear NNW-SSE sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.69m, max depth 0.52m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
112	Fill	Friable mid brown grey clay silt occasional flecks manganese staining, frequent small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
113	Furrow	Linear ENE-WSW sides: concave base: uneven dimensions: max breadth 1.18m, max depth 0.23m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
114	Fill	Loose mid brown grey sandy silt frequent small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
115	Ditch	Linear NNW-SSE dimensions: min breadth 0.75m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
116	Fill	Friable mid brown grey clay silt frequent small stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Trench: 2**

Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.44 m. Max: 0.64 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20662: Northing: 43849)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20622: Northing: 43852)

Reason: To evaluate area.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
200	Ploughsoil	Friable dark brown clay silt occasional small stones 0.32m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
201	Subsoil	Friable mid brown clay silt occasional small-medium stones 0.19m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
202	Natural	Loose light yellow grey clay gravel frequent small stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
203	Ditch	Linear NNW-SSE sides: assymetrical base: uneven dimensions: max breadth 2.56m, max depth 0.74m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
204	Fill	Firm mid brown sandy silt occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
205	Ditch	Linear N-S sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.73m, max depth 0.27m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
206	Fill	Firm light brown sandy silt occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
207	Ditch	Linear N-S sides: steep base: v-shaped dimensions: max breadth 1.07m, max depth 0.5m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
208	Fill	Firm mid brown sandy silt occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
209	Ditch	Linear N-S sides: concave base: uneven dimensions: max breadth 2.23m, max depth 0.72m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
210	Lower fill	Firm mid brown sandy silt occasional small stones 0.48m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
211	Main fill	Firm dark grey brown sandy silt occasional small stones 0.72m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
212	Upper fill	Firm dark grey sandy silt occasional flecks charcoal 0.47m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
213	Ditch	Linear NNW-SSE sides: convex base: concave dimensions: max breadth 6.1m, max depth 1.45m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
214	Backfill	Loose light yellow brown sandy gravel 0.49m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
215	Main fill	Firm dark brown grey sandy silt occasional small stones 0.7m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
220	Primary fill	Firm mid grey silty clay 0.4m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
216	Pit	Sub-circular dimensions: max breadth 0.63m, min length 1.45m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
217	Fill	Firm mid grey silty clay	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
218	Pit	Sub-circular dimensions: min breadth 0.8m, min length 0.97m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
219	Fill	Firm mid grey silty clay	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Trench: 3**

Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.52 m. Max: 0.62 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20541: Northing: 43864)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20580: Northing: 43854)

Reason: To evaluate area.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
300	Ploughsoil	Friable dark brown grey clay silt moderate small-medium stones 0.32m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
301	Subsoil	Friable mid orange brown clay silt moderate small-medium stones 0.3m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
302	Natural	Friable mid yellow orange sandy silt frequent small stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
303	Furrow	Linear ENE-WSW sides: concave base: flat dimensions: max breadth 1.42m, max depth 0.23m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
304	Fill	Friable mid grey brown sandy silt moderate small stones, occasional medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
305	Ditch	Linear ENE-WSW dimensions: max breadth 1.62m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
306	Fill	Firm mid grey clay silt moderate small-medium stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
307	Ditch	Linear N-S dimensions: max breadth 0.64m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
308	Fill	Firm mid grey clay silt occasional small-medium stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
309	Ditch	Linear NNW-SSE dimensions: min breadth 0.71m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
310	Fill	Firm mid grey clay silt moderate small-medium stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Trench: 4

Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.57 m. Max: 0.62 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20623: Northing: 43897)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20592: Northing: 43872)

Reason: To evaluate area.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
400	Ploughsoil	Friable dark brown grey clay silt moderate small stones 0.34m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
401	Subsoil	Friable mid orange brown clay silt moderate small-medium stones 0.32m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
402	Natural	Friable mid yellow orange sandy silt frequent small stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
403	Pit	Sub-rectangular NE-SW sides: concave base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.75m, max depth 0.23m, max length 0.96m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
404	Fill	Friable mid grey brown sandy silt occasional small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Trench: 5**

Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.45 m. Max: 0.53 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20586; Northing: 43925)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20556; Northing: 43898)

Reason: To evaluate area.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
500	Ploughsoil	Friable dark grey brown clay silt occasional small-medium stones 0.35m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
501	Subsoil	Friable mid grey brown clay silt moderate small-medium stones 0.18m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
502	Natural	Loose mid brown orange sandy silt frequent small-medium stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
503	Ditch	Linear NW-SE sides: steep base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.74m, max depth 0.52m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
504	Fill	Friable mid grey brown sandy silt occasional flecks manganese staining, moderate small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
505	Furrow	Linear ENE-WSW sides: concave base: uneven dimensions: max breadth 0.85m, max depth 0.2m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
506	Fill	Loose mid grey brown sandy silt frequent small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
507	Pit	Sub-oval NW-SE sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.15m, max depth 0.64m, min length 1.21m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
508	Primary fill	Firm dark grey clay silt frequent small-medium charcoal, occasional small-medium stones 0.08m thick. Dumped burnt waste.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
509	Main fill	Firm dark brown grey clay silt occasional small-medium stones 0.56m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
510	Posthole	Circular sides: near vertical base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.14m, max diameter 0.27m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
511	Fill	Loose dark brown grey sandy silt moderate small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
512	Posthole	Circular sides: near vertical base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.15m, max diameter 0.27m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
513	Fill	Loose mid brown grey sandy silt frequent small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Trench: 6

Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.28 m. Max: 0.44 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20629; Northing: 43916)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20608; Northing: 43951)

Reason: To evaluate area.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
600	Ploughsoil	Friable dark brown sandy silt occasional small stones 0.29m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
601	Subsoil	Friable dark brown sandy silt occasional small stones 0.15m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
602	Natural	Loose light yellow sandy gravel	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
603	Furrow	Linear ENE-WSW sides: concave base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.72m, max depth 0.14m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
604	Fill	Firm mid grey brown sandy silt occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
605	Ditch	Linear ENE-WSW dimensions: max breadth 1.65m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
606	Fill	Friable mid grey brown clay silt occasional small-medium stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Trench: 7**

Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.59 m. Max: 0.61 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20536; Northing: 43967)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20576; Northing: 43967)

Reason: To evaluate area.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
700	Ploughsoil	Friable dark brown sandy silt occasional small stones 0.36m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
701	Subsoil	Friable mid brown sandy silt occasional small stones 0.27m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
702	Natural	Firm light orange brown clay sand moderate small stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
703	Treethrow	Sub-oval sides: steep base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.2m, max depth 0.38m, min length 1.7m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
704	Fill	Firm dark grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
705	Treethrow	Irregular sides: concave base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.78m, max depth 0.18m, min length 0.8m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
706	Fill	Firm mid grey brown clay silt occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
707	Treethrow	Irregular sides: convex base: concave dimensions: min breadth 1.5m, max depth 0.34m, min length 1.03m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
708	Fill	Firm dark grey brown clay silt occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Trench: 8

Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.38 m. Max: 0.51 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20665; Northing: 44018)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20639; Northing: 43987)

Reason: To evaluate area.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
800	Ploughsoil	Friable dark brown grey clay silt moderate small stones 0.36m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
801	Subsoil	Friable mid orange brown clay silt moderate small-medium stones 0.13m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
802	Natural	Friable mid orange brown silty sand frequent small stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
803	Gulley	Linear ENE-WSW sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.45m, max depth 0.09m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
804	Fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay occasional small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
805	Palaeochannel	Irregular NW-SE dimensions: max breadth 7.m, min length 2.1m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
806	Fill	Firm mid blue grey silty clay occasional small-large stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
807	Palaeochannel	Irregular ENE-WSW dimensions: min breadth 0.8m, min length 4.3m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
808	Fill	Firm mid blue grey silty clay occasional small-medium stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Trench: 9**

Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.42 m. Max: 0.5 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20665; Northing: 43958)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20706; Northing: 43958)

Reason: To evaluate area.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
900	Ploughsoil	Friable dark brown grey clay silt moderate small stones 0.32m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
901	Subsoil	Firm dark grey brown clay silt moderate small stones 0.19m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
902	Natural	Friable mid orange brown silty sand frequent small stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
903	Gulley	Linear ESE-WNW sides: 45 degrees base: v-shaped dimensions: max breadth 0.63m, max depth 0.29m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
904	Fill	Firm mid grey silty clay moderate small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
905	Gulley	Linear ESE-WNW sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.46m, max depth 0.14m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
906	Fill	Friable mid grey brown clay silt occasional small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
907	Ditch	Linear NNE-SSW sides: asymmetrical base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.2m, max depth 0.39m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
908	Main fill	Firm mid blue grey silty clay occasional small-medium stones 0.28m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
909	Upper fill	Firm mid orange brown sandy clay frequent small stones 0.11m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
910	Furrow	Linear ENE-WSW dimensions: max breadth 0.47m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
911	Fill	Loose mid grey brown sandy silt moderate small stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Trench: 10

Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.47 m. Max: 0.61 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20728; Northing: 43973)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20754; Northing: 43943)

Reason: To evaluate area.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1000	Ploughsoil	Friable dark brown grey clay silt moderate small stones 0.35m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1001	Subsoil	Friable mid orange brown clay silt moderate small-medium stones 0.26m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1002	Natural	Friable mid yellow orange sandy silt frequent small stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1003	Palaeochannel	Linear E-W sides: asymmetrical base: uneven dimensions: max breadth 4.1m, max depth 0.75m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1004	Lower fill	Firm mid grey sandy clay moderate small-medium stones 0.4m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1005	Upper fill	Friable dark brown grey clay silt occasional small stones 0.35m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1006	Ditch	Linear ENE-WSW dimensions: max breadth 0.78m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1007	Backfill	Friable dark brown grey clay silt	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1008	Make up layer	Firm mid yellow grey sandy clay moderate small stones 0.2m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1009	Ditch	Linear ENE-WSW dimensions: max breadth 0.58m, min depth 0.15m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1010	Fill	Firm dark brown grey silty clay occasional small stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Trench: 11**

Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.53 m. Max: 0.58 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20688; Northing: 43929)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20684; Northing: 43889)

Reason: To evaluate area.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1100	Ploughsoil	Friable dark brown grey clay silt moderate small stones 0.38m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1101	Subsoil	Friable mid orange brown clay silt moderate small-medium stones 0.2m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1102	Natural	Friable mid brown orange sandy silt frequent small stones, occasional large stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1103	Ditch	Linear ENE-WSW sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.88m, max depth 0.67m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1104	Primary fill	Loose mid grey brown sandy gravel 0.07m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1105	Primary fill	Friable mid brown orange silty sand 0.09m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1106	Main fill	Friable mid grey brown sandy silt moderate small-medium stones 0.66m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1107	Furrow	Linear ENE-WSW dimensions: max breadth 2.2m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1108	Fill	Friable mid grey brown sandy silt occasional small-medium stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Trench: 12

Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.55 m. Max: 0.6 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20603; Northing: 43834)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20578; Northing: 43803)

Reason: To evaluate area.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1200	Ploughsoil	Friable dark brown sandy silt occasional small stones 0.42m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1201	Subsoil	Friable mid red brown sandy silt occasional small stones 0.2m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1202	Natural	Loose light red orange sandy silt occasional small-large stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1203	Ditch	Linear NE-SW sides: concave base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.85m, max depth 0.13m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1204	Fill	Firm light brown grey sandy silt occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1205	Pit	Sub-circular sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.58m, max depth 0.12m, max length 0.6m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1206	Fill	Firm dark grey brown sandy silt occasional small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1207	Pit	Sub-oval ESE-WNW dimensions: max breadth 0.33m, max length 0.5m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1208	Fill	Firm light yellow brown clay silt occasional small stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1209	Gulley	Linear N-S dimensions: max breadth 0.45m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1210	Fill	Friable dark grey brown clay silt occasional small stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 13

Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.54 m. Max: 0.57 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20725; Northing: 43889)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20690; Northing: 43870)

Reason: To evaluate area.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1300	Ploughsoil	Friable dark brown grey clay silt moderate small stones 0.36m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1301	Subsoil	Friable mid orange brown clay silt moderate small-medium stones 0.26m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1302	Natural	Loose mid red orange silty sand frequent small stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



7. APPENDIX 2: OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: albionar1-262647

Project details

Project name	Saxon Drive and Sorrel Way, Biggleswade
Short description of the project	Geophysical survey and trial trench evaluation of the southern field of a potential development area east of Saxon Drive, Biggleswade. Revealed evidence for medieval field system, most likely associated with medieval Stratton settlement to the west and/or scheduled moat to the south. Very low presence of finds (12th-14th century pottery) within the ditches suggests animal paddocks or agricultural fields some distance away from the main medieval settlement focus. Other features were medieval furrows, undated pits and ditches and modern water meadow leats.
Project dates	Start: 19-10-2016 End: 01-03-2017
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	SD3004 – Site code BEDFM 2016.70 - Museum accession ID
Type of project	Field evaluation
Monument type	DITCH Medieval FURROW Medieval DITCH Uncertain LEAT Modern PIT Uncertain POSTHOLE Uncertain PALEOCHANNEL Uncertain FIELD SYSTEM Medieval WATER MEADOW Modern
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval ANIMAL BONE Medieval ANIMAL BONE Uncertain

Project location

Country	England
Site location	BEDFORDSHIRE MID BEDFORDSHIRE BIGGLESWADE Saxon Drive and Sorrel Way, Biggleswade
Study area	4.25 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 2050 4411 52.081786690702 -0.241289821873 52 04 54 N 000 14 28 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Albion Archaeology
Project design originator	Albion Archaeology
Project director/manager	Jeremy Oetgen
Project supervisor	Richard Gregson



Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Bedford Museum
Physical Archive ID	BEDFM 2016.70
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics"
Digital Archive recipient	Bedford Museum
Digital Archive ID	BEDFM 2016.70
Digital Media available	"Database","Geophysics","Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Bedford Museum
Paper Archive ID	BEDFM 2016.70
Paper Media available	"Context sheet" ,"Correspondence" ,"Drawing" ,"Microfilm" "Miscellaneous Material" ,"Photograph" ,"Plan" ,"Report" ,"Section" "Survey" ,"Unpublished Text"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Saxon Drive and Sorrel Way, Biggleswade, Bedfordshire. Archaeological Trial Trenching.
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Gregson, R. Meckseper, C.
Other bibliographic details	Report no: 2017/39
Date	2017
Issuer or publisher	Albion Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Bedford
Description	Ring bound report with red and white and Albion logo cover.
Entered by	Christiane Meckseper (chmeckseper@gmail.com)
Entered on	20 March 2017



8. APPENDIX 3: ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

8.1 Potential for the Survival of Heritage Assets

‘Absence of evidence is not necessarily evidence of absence’ is a maxim that applies to the identification of heritage assets. The following terms are used in this report for assessing the potential (or risk) that heritage assets might exist at a given location or that the significance of a known asset has not been recognised.

Potential	Definition of potential
<i>Extant</i>	A heritage asset that is known to survive beyond reasonable doubt; its location and extent can be reasonably defined.
<i>High</i>	There is strong evidence for the existence of a heritage asset, but this is not yet proven beyond reasonable doubt.
<i>Moderate</i>	There is some evidence, perhaps uncorroborated, for the existence of a heritage asset.
<i>Low</i>	A heritage asset might exist, but this is unlikely in the prevailing site conditions.
<i>Negligible</i>	There is no evidence that a heritage asset exists, but the possibility cannot be discounted on present knowledge.
<i>Non-extant</i>	There is strong evidence that no heritage assets survive (e.g. it has been destroyed by development).

8.2 Criteria for Assessing Heritage Significance

Significance of asset	Designation of asset	Definition of significance for heritage
<i>High</i>	World Heritage Sites	Places of international importance due to their ‘outstanding universal value’
	Scheduled monuments Listed buildings (Grade I or II*) Registered parks/gardens (Grade I or II*) Battlefields	Places or structures of national importance. Undesignated heritage assets and archaeological remains of potentially equivalent value. This includes assets which: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • are rare in the historic environment record or • are a good example of a type site or • have a high potential to add to regional and national research criteria
<i>Moderate</i>	Listed buildings (Grade II) Registered parks/gardens (Grade II) Conservation areas Undesignated	Places or buildings of regional or high local importance. This includes assets which: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • are more commonly found in the historic environment record or • have particular regional associations or may have important associations on a local or parish level (e.g. they have meaning to local population or embody something of the special identity of a locality) • have moderate potential to add to local and regional research criteria



Significance of asset	Designation of asset	Definition of significance for heritage
<i>Low</i>	Undesignated	Assets which: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • are relatively poorly preserved or • have limited significance on a local level • have a low potential to add to local and regional research criteria
<i>Negligible</i>	Undesignated	Places or buildings that have no known archaeological, historical or cultural importance. Sufficient investigation must have been undertaken to demonstrate that there is a low risk that any as yet unknown heritage assets might survive, or where any potential surviving remains have no value within the context of the current study.
<i>Uncertain</i>	Undesignated	Sites where there is evidence that a heritage asset may exist, but where there is insufficient information to determine its nature, extent and degree of survival given current knowledge (e.g. crop-marks untested by fieldwork or random finds spots).

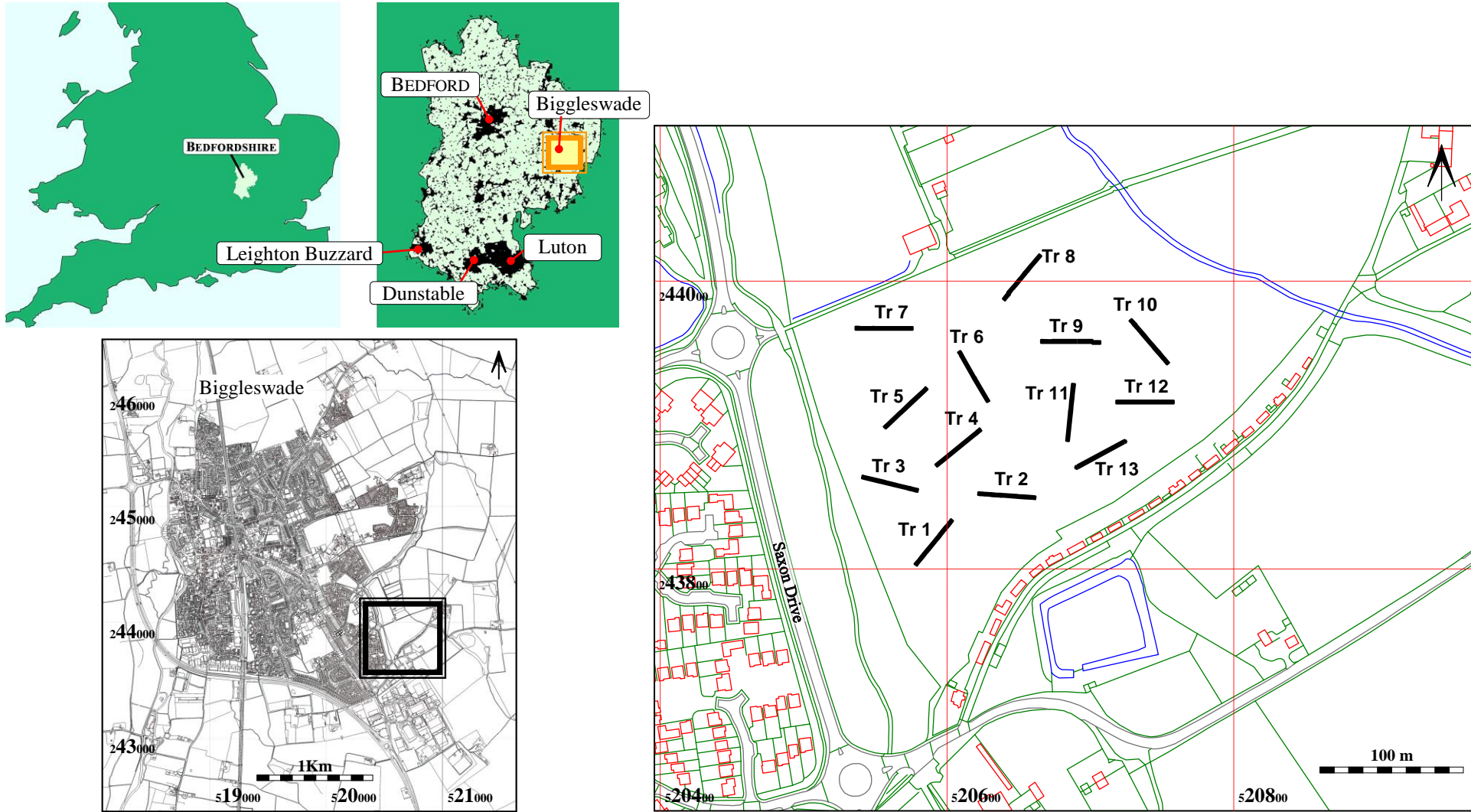


Figure 1: Site and trench location

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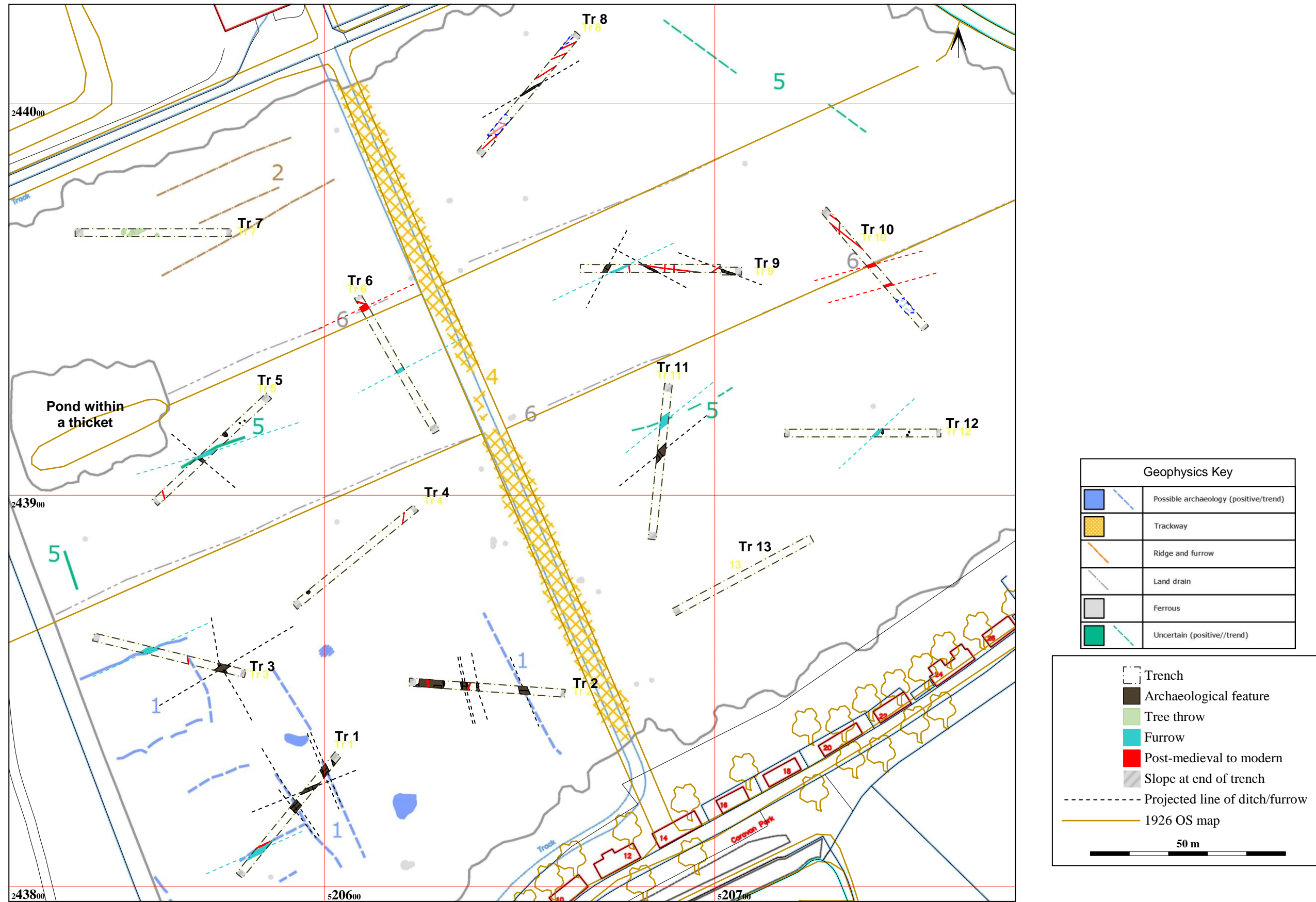


Figure 2: All-features plan overlaid on 1926 OS map and geophysical survey results (Stratascan 2016)

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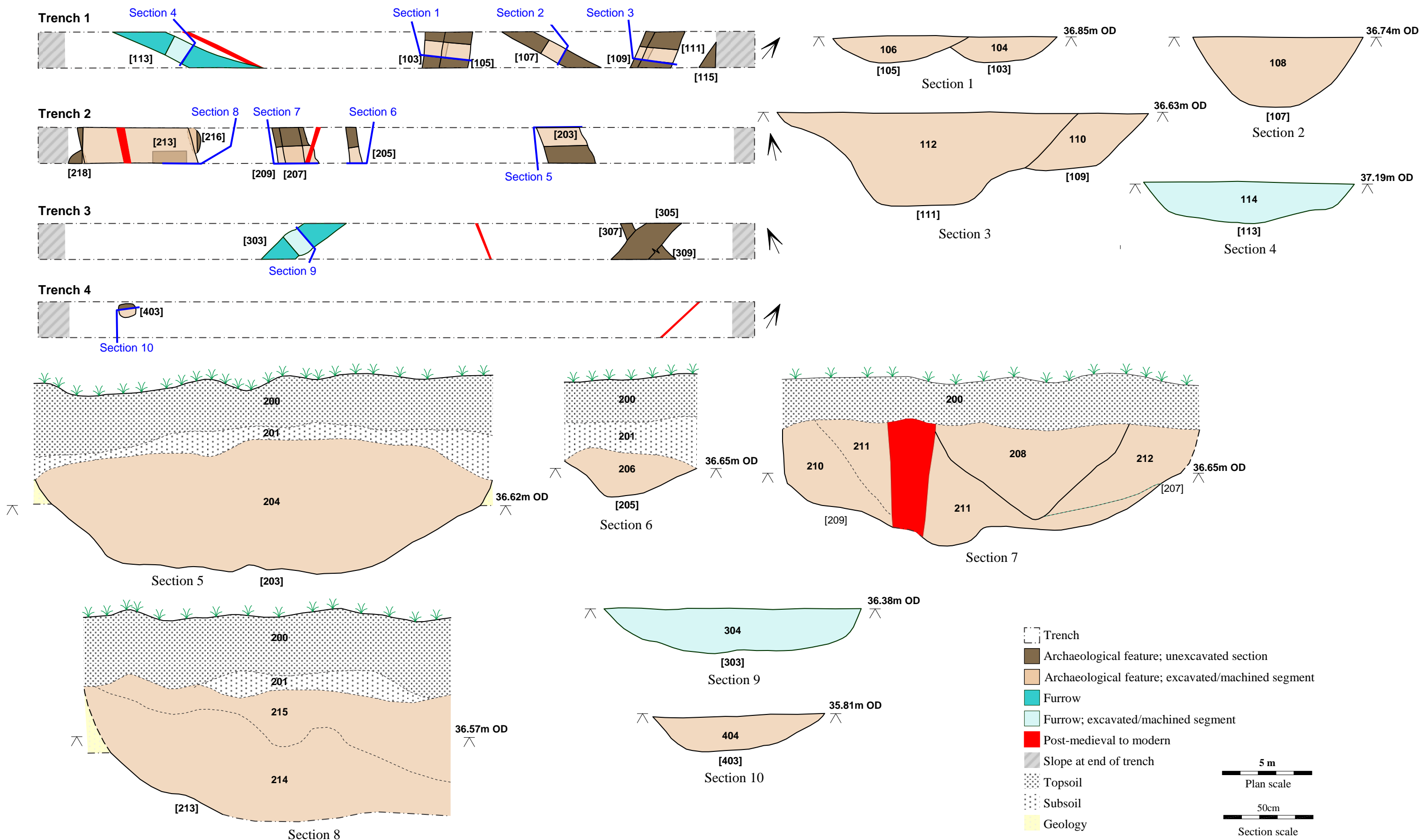


Figure 3: Trenches 1 to 4 plans and sections

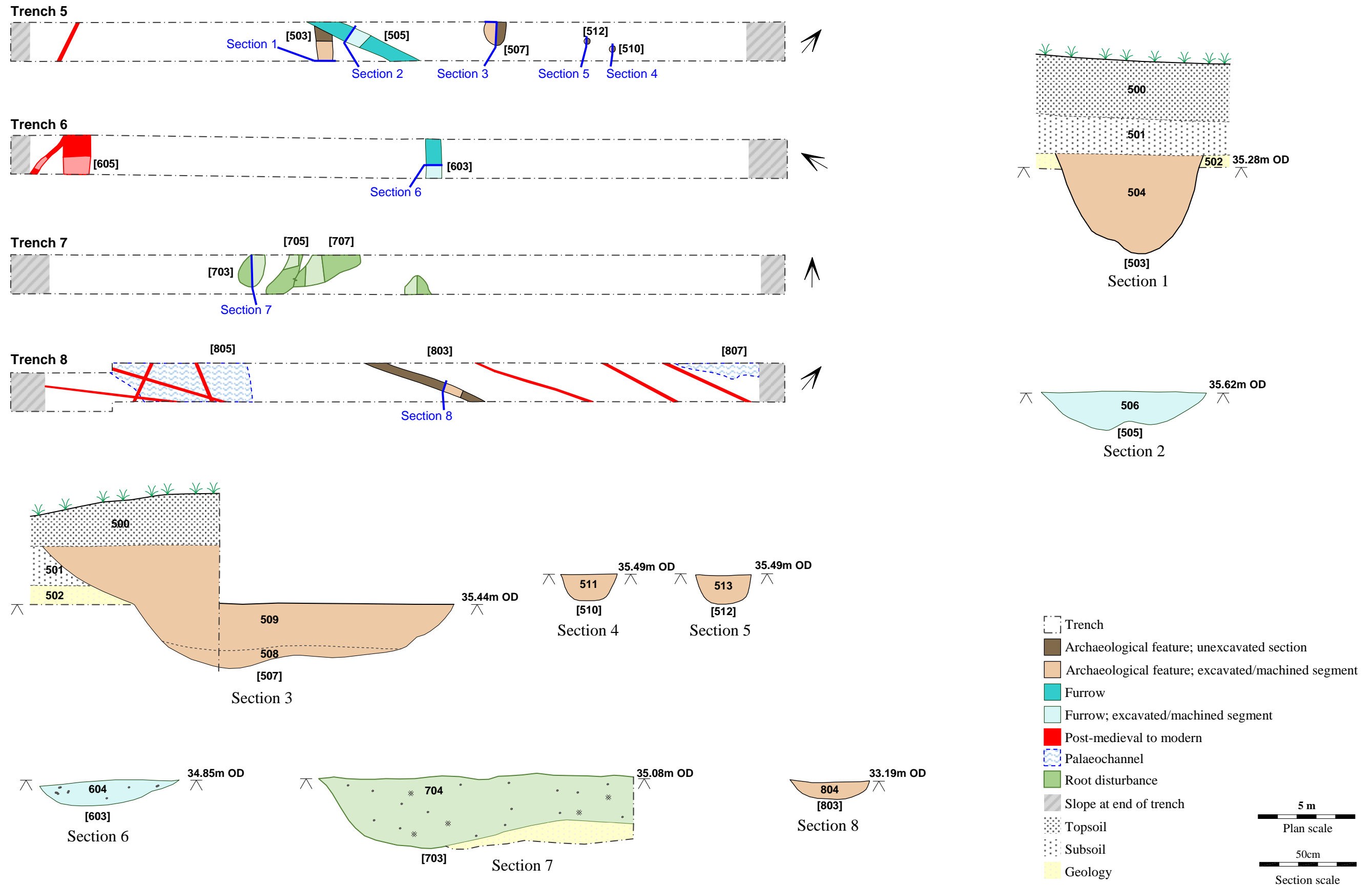


Figure 4: Trenches 5 to 8 plans and sections

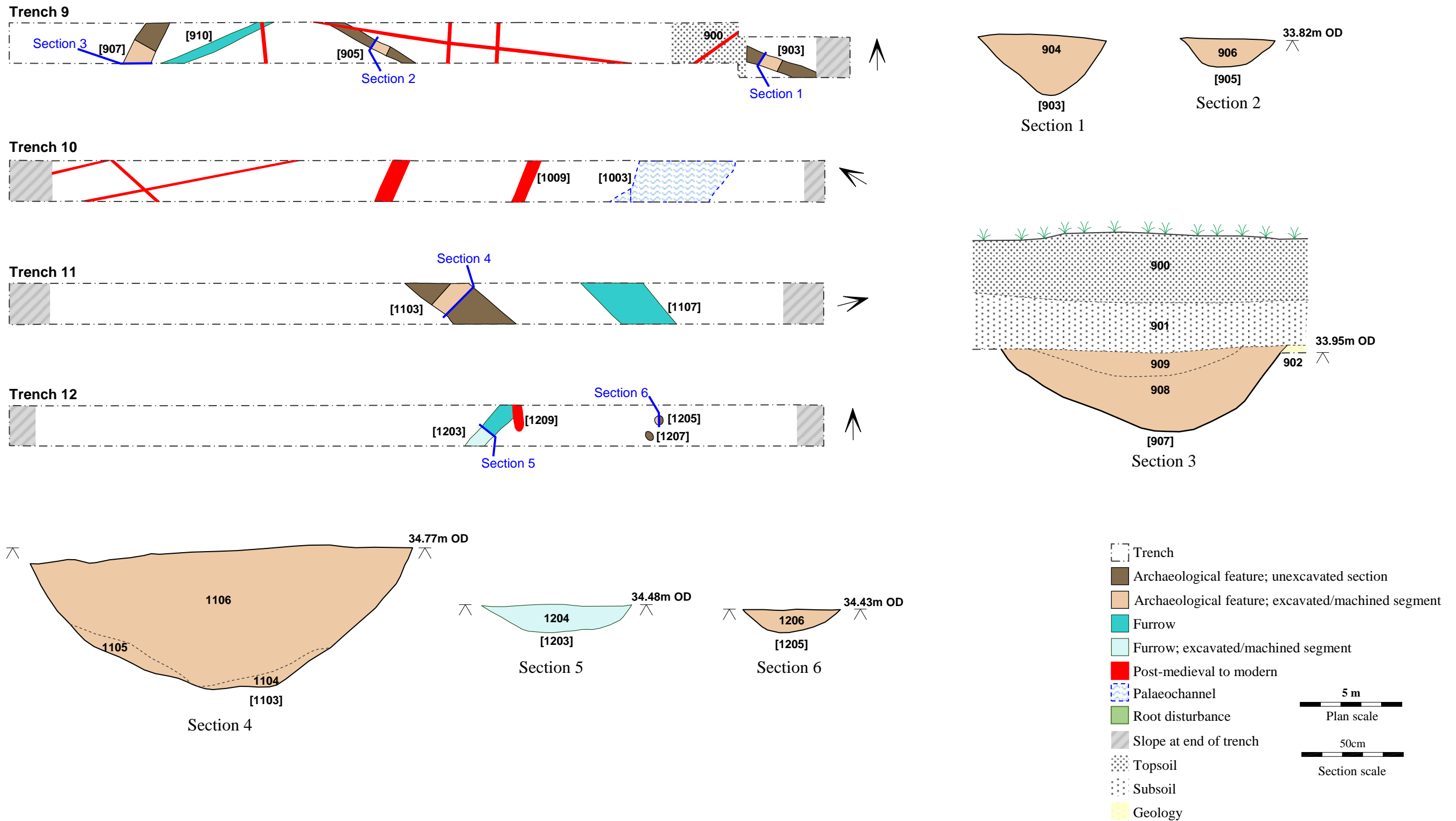


Figure 5: Trenches 9 to 12 plans and sections



Figure 6: Medieval field system ditch [1103]



Figure 7: Medieval field system ditch [207] and recut [209]



Figure 8: Ditch/quarry pit [1103]



Figure 9: Water meadow leat [1009]

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