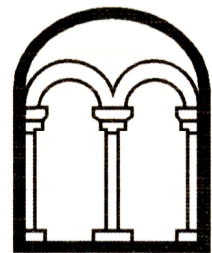


**16B TANDY'S CLOSE
TURVEY
BEDFORDSHIRE**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION

Albion
archaeology



**16B TANDY'S CLOSE
TURVEY
BEDFORDSHIRE**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION

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Contents

1. INTRODUCTION	4
1.1 Planning Background	4
1.2 Site Location, Topography and Geology	5
1.3 Archaeological Background	5
1.4 Project Objectives	6
2. METHOD STATEMENTS	8
2.1 Methodological Standards	8
2.2 Implementation	8
2.3 Archiving	8
3. RESULTS	10
3.1 Introduction	10
3.2 Overburden and Geological Deposits	10
3.3 Modern	10
4. CONCLUSIONS	11
4.1 Summary of Results	11
4.2 Significance of Results	11
5. REFERENCES	12
6. APPENDIX 1: ARCHIVE	13
7. APPENDIX 2: TRENCH SUMMARIES	14

List of Figures

Figure 1: Site location plan and trench plan

Figure 2: Trench photographs

The figures are bound at the back of the report.



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. This document should not be relied upon or used for any other project 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).

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Acknowledgements

The fieldwork and preparation of this report were undertaken by Gareth Shane (Archaeological Supervisor). Digitisation of site drawings and illustration were undertaken by Joan Lightning and Kathy Pilkinton. The project was managed by Kathy Pilkinton (Assistant Archaeological Manager). All Albion Archaeology projects are under the overall management of Drew Shotliff.

Fieldwork was monitored on behalf of the Local Planning Authority by Geoff Saunders (Bedford Borough Council Archaeological Officer).

Version History

<i>Version</i>	<i>Issue date</i>	<i>Reason for re-issue</i>
<i>1.0</i>	<i>10/03/2021</i>	<i>N/A</i>

Key Terms

Throughout this report the following terms or abbreviations are used:

AO	BBC Archaeological Officer
BBC	Bedford Borough Council
CBM	Ceramic building material
HER	Bedford Borough Historic Environment Record
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
LPA	Local Planning Authority
OD	Ordnance Datum
PDA	Proposed development area
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation



Non-Technical Summary

A planning application (20/02158/FUL) was submitted to Bedford Borough Council for the construction of two detached dwellings, associated access, car parking, and landscaping at Land adjacent to 16B Tandy's Close, Turvey, Bedfordshire.

In his comments on the application the LPA's Archaeological Officer (AO) noted that the proposed development lies within the core of the medieval settlement at Turvey, and that groundworks associated with the proposed development might disturb or destroy archaeological remains of Anglo-Saxon or medieval date. The AO further advised that a programme of archaeological trial-trench evaluation was required in the first instance in order to fully assess the archaeological potential of the site.

Albion Archaeology was commissioned by Northhill Developments Ltd to produce a Written Scheme of Investigation (which was approved by the AO) and to undertake the evaluation, the results of which are presented in this report.

The archaeological investigation was undertaken on 1st March 2021. Two trenches were excavated measuring 10m long and 2m wide.

No archaeological remains were found within the two trial trenches and no artefacts were recovered from the arising. The only evidence for former activity within the PDA was modern disturbance of the topsoil and subsoil, probably related to disposal of garden waste. A large pit identified in the side of Trench 1 also contained modern rubbish and garden refuse. The underlying natural geology remained largely undisturbed

The absence of archaeological features suggests that settlement associated with the Anglo-Saxon/medieval village of Turvey did not extend into the PDA. Overall, in archaeological terms, the results of the evaluation are of negligible significance; the revealed deposits have no potential to address national or regional research objectives, as they are entirely associated with modern garden activity.

The results of the evaluation indicate that the proposed development of the PDA is unlikely to have any impact on heritage assets of archaeological interest.

On completion of the project the archive will be deposited with The Higgins Art Gallery & Museum (accession no.: BEDFM 2021.08). Any born digital elements of the archive will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS). 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 (ref. no. albionar1-4133151).



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 **Planning Background**

A planning application (20/02158/FUL) was submitted to Bedford Borough Council for the construction of two detached dwellings, associated access, car parking, and landscaping at Land adjacent to 16B Tandy's Close, Turvey, Bedfordshire.

In his comments on the application the LPA's Archaeological Officer (AO) noted that the proposed development lies within the core of the medieval settlement at Turvey, and that associated groundworks might disturb or destroy archaeological remains of Anglo-Saxon or medieval date. Accordingly, he recommended the following condition should be attached to any forthcoming consent:

No development shall take place until an archaeological strategy for evaluation and if necessary, a further mitigation strategy based on the outcome of the evaluation, have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

The archaeological mitigation strategy shall include a timetable and the following components (the completion of each to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority will result in a separate confirmation of compliance for each component):- fieldwork and/ or preservation "in situ" of archaeological remains;

(i) a post-excavation assessment report (to be submitted within six months of the completion of fieldwork);

(ii) a post-excavation analysis report, preparation of site archive ready for deposition at a store approved by the Local Planning Authority, completion of an archive report, and submission of a publication report (to be completed within two years of the completion of fieldwork).

The archaeological mitigation strategy shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details and timings.

REASON: To safeguard archaeological assets within the approved development boundary from impacts relating to any groundworks associated with the development scheme and to ensure the proper and timely preservation and/or investigation, recording, reporting and presentation of archaeological assets affected by this development, in accordance with Policy 41S of the Bedford Borough Local Plan 2030, Policy CP23 of the Bedford Borough Core Strategy and Rural Issues Plan (2008) and according to national policies contained in the National Planning Policy Framework (MHCLG 2019). The Local Planning Authority is satisfied that the timing of compliance is fundamental to the development permitted and that the permission ought to be refused unless the condition is imposed in this form.



The AO further advised that a programme of archaeological trial-trench evaluation was required in the first instance in order to fully assess the archaeological potential of the site.

Albion Archaeology was commissioned by Northill Developments Ltd to produce a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (Albion Archaeology 2021) and to undertake the evaluation required by the recommended condition.

This report presents the results of the trial-trench evaluation.

1.2 Site Location, Topography and Geology

The proposed development area (PDA) is in the south-west part of Turvey and lies c.165m east of the River Great Ouse. Turvey lies in north-west Bedfordshire and straddles the A428, which forms the main road through the village as both High Street and Bridge Street (Figure 1).

At the time of the fieldwork the PDA was a grassed garden plot with planted borders behind no. 78 Bridge Street, with access from Tandy's Close in the south-east. It was surrounded by historic and modern residential buildings in the north, south and east, and the car park of Ye Three Fyshes PH in the west.

The underlying geology comprises Blisworth Limestone Formation – Limestone with no superficial deposits recorded (British Geological Survey 2016). However, so close to the river, deposits of alluvium and terrace gravels are to be expected.

1.3 Archaeological Background

The data recorded by the Bedford Borough Council Historic Environment Record (HER licence no: BBHER 054 (2020-21)) from within a 500m-radius of the PDA, referred to as the 'study area', is summarised below.

This evaluation is only the second archaeological investigation to take place within Turvey. This might account for the lack of recorded archaeological heritage assets pre-dating the post-medieval period. A watching brief was carried out during improvement works at All Saints' Church (EBD160). No archaeological features or deposits were revealed but it is likely that the service trenches were not deep enough to encounter archaeological remains.

1.3.1 Prehistoric to Roman (AD 43–c. AD 410)

There are three find-spots of artefacts pre-dating the medieval period within the study area. These comprise a Viking bronze spearhead found at Turvey Bridge in 1933 (HER71), and a Roman finger ring and bracelet (HER 20855 and 20856) found by metal-detecting in Turvey Hall Grounds.

1.3.2 Anglo-Saxon (c.AD 410–1066) to medieval (1066–1550)

There are eight entries in the 1086 Domesday Book relating to land in Turvey, but only one describes a property referred to as a manor. However, this does confirm that there was a late Anglo-Saxon estate at Turvey. The estate of Turvey Manor is sometimes called Mordaunt's manor, after the Mordaunt family who held the manor from the early 13th century (Page 1912). In 1086, the



manor had a population of around three villagers and eight smallholders, woodland for 40 pigs, and a mill¹.

No archaeological evidence for the Anglo-Saxon and medieval settlement at Turvey has yet been found. All Saints' parish church (NHLE 1039596) was built in the 13th century but has extensive 19th-century restorations. There is some probable Anglo-Saxon stonework in the western part of the nave and in the base of the tower, suggesting late Anglo-Saxon origins for the building.

The medieval settlement (HER 16900), as outlined by the HER, extends along the main roads from Jacks Lane in the west to the River Great Ouse in the east and up to May Road in the north. In the south it extends down Newton Lane and includes most of Tandy's Close and the entire PDA.

Evidence for medieval ridge and furrow agriculture survives in several fields around Turvey (HER 1699).

1.3.3 Post-medieval and modern (1550–1950)

The PDA lies within Turvey Conservation Area, which is characterised by vernacular houses built of the local limestone with clay tile and slate roofs.

Many of the heritage assets within Turvey are post-medieval in date and comprise listed buildings, as well as Abbey Park (HER 6984), New Park (HER 6983) and Turvey Hall Grounds (HER 7019), 18th- and 19th-century landscape parks around large houses.

In addition to listed buildings, there are a number of undesignated buildings, or sites of now-demolished buildings, catalogued in the HER. The extant buildings also contribute to the character of the conservation area.

1.4 Project Objectives

The principal purpose of the archaeological field evaluation was to recover information on the:

- location, extent, nature, and date of any archaeological features or deposits that might be present within the PDA;
- integrity and state of preservation of any archaeological features or deposits that might be present within the PDA;
- nature of palaeo-environmental remains to determine local environmental conditions.

Any remains identified would be assessed against the published research frameworks for the region; *Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties* (Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, Hertfordshire and Essex) (Brown and Glazebrook 2000) and *Research and Archaeology Revisited: A Revised Framework for the East of England* (Medlycott 2011).

In addition to these regionally focussed documents, work has also specifically been done on the county of Bedfordshire: *Bedfordshire Archaeology. Research*

¹ <http://opendomesday.org/place/SP9452/turvey/> [Accessed 28-01-2021]



and Archaeology: Resource Assessment, Research Agenda and Strategy (Oake et al 2007).

Potential archaeological heritage assets on the PDA were most likely to date to the Anglo-Saxon/medieval or post-medieval periods. Such evidence would fit into a number of broad research objectives that are identified in the regional agenda.



2. METHOD STATEMENTS

2.1 Methodological Standards

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

• Albion Archaeology	<i>Procedures Manual: Volume 1 Fieldwork</i> (3rd edn, 2017).
• Bedford Borough Council	<i>Procedures for preparing archaeological archives for deposition with Registered Museums in Bedfordshire</i> . V2.8 (2010)
• CIfA	<i>Charter and by-law</i> (2014); <i>Code of conduct</i> (2019)
	<i>Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation</i> (2020)
	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i> (2020)
• Historic England	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment PPN3: Archaeological Excavation</i> (2015)
	<i>Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation</i> . 2nd ed. (2011)

The methodological approach to the project was detailed in the WSI (Albion Archaeology 2021), which was approved by the AO prior to commencement of the work.

2.2 Implementation

The archaeological investigation was undertaken on 1st March 2021. Two trenches were excavated measuring 10m long and 2m wide (Figure 1). They targeted the footprints of the proposed buildings.

The trenches were opened by a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, operated by an experienced driver, under constant archaeological supervision. The overburden was removed down to the top of undisturbed geological or archaeological deposits, whichever was encountered first. The soil heaps from the excavated trenches were scanned for artefacts. All deposits were recorded in a unique number sequence, using Albion Archaeology's *pro forma* sheets. The trenches were subsequently drawn and photographed as appropriate.

2.3 Archiving

A full archive of the records generated during the project will be compiled in accordance with Historic England (MoRPHE) standards. It will be kept secure at all stages of the operation prior to its deposition with The Higgins Art Gallery & Museum (accession no.: BEDFM 2021.08) (see Appendix 1).



Albion Archaeology adheres to strict archiving standards and ensures that all archive materials are stored appropriately. All storage material is of archival-quality and includes archival-quality photographic storage sleeves. As part of the archiving process all records are microfiched.

Any born digital elements of the archive will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS). 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 (reference no.: albionar1-413315).

A detailed data management plan is set out in the WSI (Albion Archaeology 2021).



3. RESULTS

3.1 *Introduction*

The results are presented below in chronological order. Where site recording numbers have been used they are distinguished by different bracket styles to indicate feature number = [***] and fill number = (***). Context numbers reflect the trench number e.g. [204] is a feature within Trench 2 and, therefore, the trench number is only given where necessary.

Detailed descriptions of each individual context are provided in Appendix 2. The trench locations are shown in Figure 1, with selected photographs in Figure 2.

3.2 *Overburden and Geological Deposits*

Topsoil (100/200) comprised friable dark grey-brown silt. It was thickest (up to 0.5m at the north end of the PDA) in Trench 2. At the south end of the PDA, the topsoil contained moderate amounts of brick rubble and garden waste.

Beneath the topsoil in the south half of the PDA, modern make-up layers (101), (203) and (204) were present with a maximum thickness of 0.3m. They comprised a mixed topsoil-like material, which contained modern brick rubble and garden waste.

Subsoil (102/201) was present beneath the modern make-up layers. It comprised mid-brown-grey silt with a maximum thickness of 0.4m at the north end of the PDA.

The undisturbed geological deposits (103/202) comprised light yellow silt with limestone fragments.

3.3 *Modern*

A large modern pit [104], presumed to be broadly rectangular, was present along the west side of Trench 1 (Figure 2). It was 0.7m deep and was cut from directly below the topsoil (100) to the top of undisturbed geological deposits (103), leaving a stain on the geology directly below. It was filled largely with decayed garden waste and modern rubbish, including plastic, brick and tile (105).



4. CONCLUSIONS

4.1 *Summary of Results*

No archaeological remains were found within the two trial trenches and no artefacts were recovered from the arisings.

The only evidence for former activity within the PDA was modern disturbance of the topsoil and subsoil, probably related to disposal of garden waste. A large pit in the side of Trench 1 also contained modern rubbish and garden refuse. The underlying natural geology remained largely undisturbed.

The absence of archaeological features suggests that settlement associated with the medieval village of Turvey did not extend into the PDA (Section 1.3.2).

4.2 *Significance of Results*

Overall, in archaeological terms, the results of the evaluation are of negligible significance; the revealed deposits have no potential to address national or regional research objectives (Section 1.4), as they are entirely associated with modern garden activity.

The results of the evaluation indicate that the proposed development of the PDA is unlikely to have any impact on heritage assets of archaeological interest.



5. REFERENCES

- Albion Archaeology, 2017a, *16b Tandy's Close, Turvey, Bedfordshire: Heritage Statement*, Report 2016/130 Version 1.4
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6. APPENDIX 1: ARCHIVE

The physical project archive, including a digital security copy, will be deposited with The Higgins Art Gallery & Museum under accession no. BEDFM 2021.08. Any digital elements of the archive will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS). This report will be uploaded onto the OASIS website under reference number albionar1-413315.

The archive will comprise the following:

- Physical
 - 1 file of paper records and A3/4 graphics

- Digital
 - Photographs (.JPEG, .TIFF)
 - Spatial data (.DWG)
 - Reports (.PDF/A)
 - Correspondence (e-mail)



7. APPENDIX 2: TRENCH SUMMARIES

Trench: 1

Max Dimensions: Length: 10.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.65 m. Max: 0.85 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP (Easting: 93988; Northing: 52355)

OS Grid Ref.: SP (Easting: 93989; Northing: 52435)

Reason: Targeting footprint of development

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
100	Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown silt Thickness: 0.25m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
101	Make up layer	Friable dark brown black Thickness: 0.25m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
102	Subsoil	Friable mid brown grey clay silt Thickness: <0.35m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
103	Natural	Compact light yellow orange silty limestone moderate medium-large stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
104	Modern intrusion	dimensions: min breadth 2.m, max depth 0.7m, min length 7.5m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
105	Fill	Loose dark grey black silt moderate small-medium CBM Thickness: 0.7m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Trench: 2

Max Dimensions: Length: 10.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.75 m. Max: 1. m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP (Easting: 93966; Northing: 52355)

OS Grid Ref.: SP (Easting: 93969; Northing: 52348)

Reason: Targeting footprint of development

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
200	Topsoil	Friable dark black silt Thickness: <0.5m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
201	Subsoil	Friable mid grey brown silt Thickness: <0.4m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
202	Natural	Compact light yellow silt	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
203	Make up layer	Friable dark brown silt Thickness: <0.3m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
204	Make up layer	Friable black silt Thickness: <0.25m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

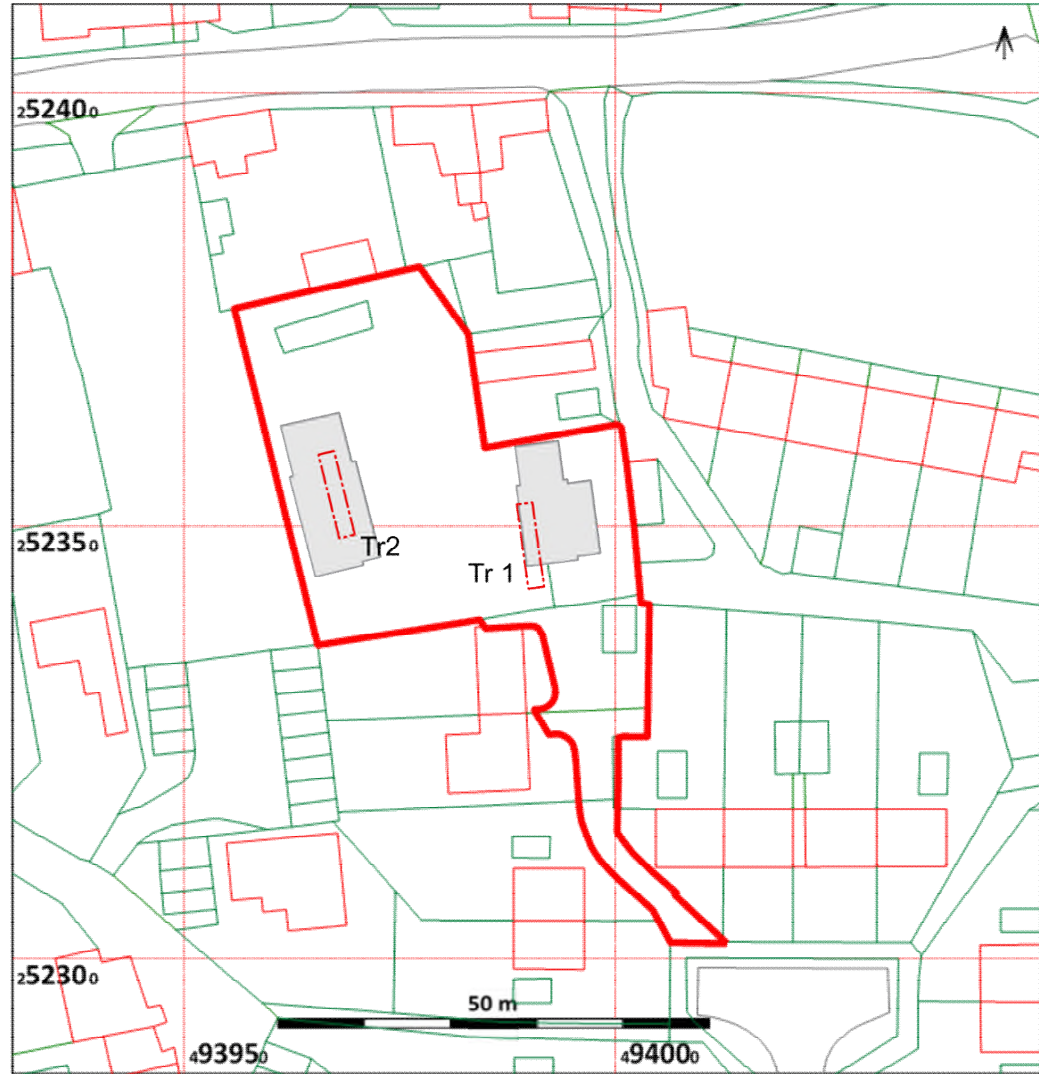
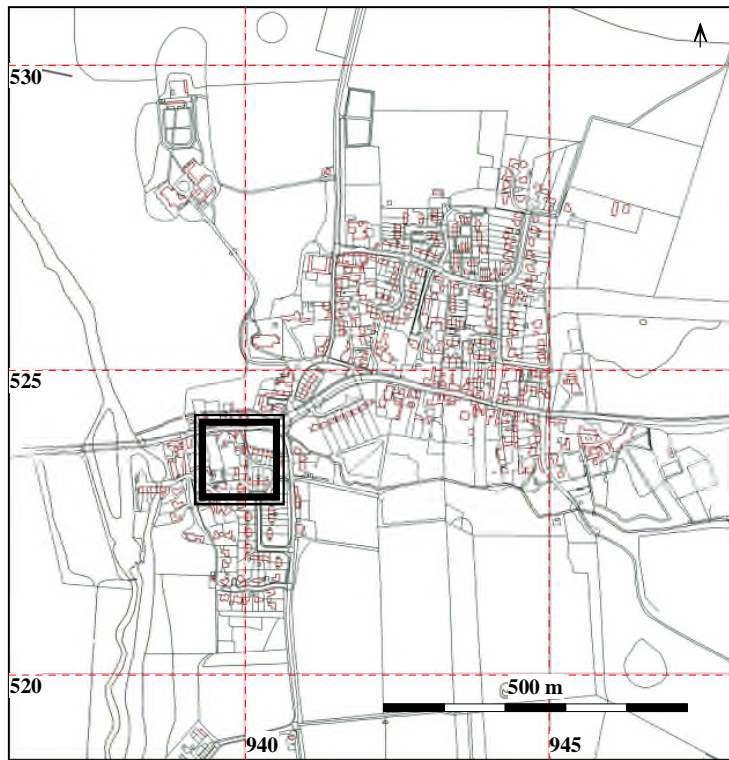
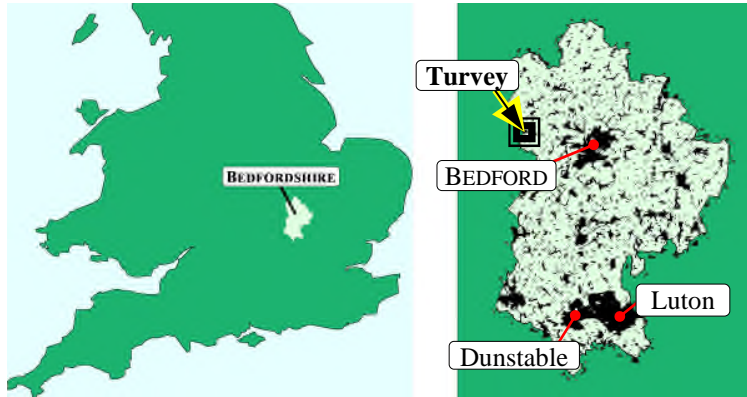


Figure 1: Site location and trench plan

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Trench 1 from north
1m scale



Trench 2 from north
1m scale



Trench 1 pit [104] from east
1m scale

Figure 2: Trench photographs

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