

**SITE 2b  
LAND AT BYGRAVE ROAD  
BALDOCK  
HERTFORDSHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
FIELD EVALUATION**

Project: LB1347

Document: 2008/107  
Version 1.0

Compiled by	Checked by	Approved by
James Newbould	Joe Abrams	Drew Shotliff

12<sup>th</sup> November 2008

Produced for:  
Vincent and Gorbings

On behalf of:  
Hertfordshire County Council

© Copyright Albion Archaeology 2008, *all rights reserved*



## Contents

---

List of Figures.....	3
Preface.....	4
Structure of this Report.....	4
Key Terms.....	5
Non-Technical Summary.....	6
<b>1. INTRODUCTION.....</b>	<b>7</b>
1.1 Project Background.....	7
1.2 Site Location and Description.....	7
1.3 Archaeological Background.....	7
1.4 Project Objectives.....	8
<b>2. METHODOLOGY.....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>3. RESULTS.....</b>	<b>10</b>
3.1 Introduction.....	10
3.2 Overburden and undisturbed geological deposits.....	10
3.3 Late Iron Age/Early Roman.....	10
3.4 Modern.....	10
3.5 Undated.....	11
<b>4. SYNTHESIS OF RESULTS.....</b>	<b>12</b>
4.1 Summary.....	12
4.2 Significance.....	12
<b>5. BIBLIOGRAPHY.....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>6. APPENDICES.....</b>	<b>14</b>
6.1 Appendix 1 – Artefact and Ecofact Summary.....	14
6.2 Appendix 2 – Trench Summaries.....	16



### **List of Figures**

Figure 1: Site location

Figure 2: Trenches 5, 6 and 7

Figure 3: Trench 2 and 1847 Tithe map

Figure 4: Trial trenches overlaid onto geophysical survey results

Plate 1: Boundary ditch [607] looking west.

Plate 2: Section of undated ditch [205] looking west.

Plate 3: Baulk section of ditch [513] looking north.

All figures and plates are bound at the back of this 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.*

*The project was commissioned by Vincent Gorbng on behalf of Hertfordshire County Council and was monitored on behalf of the Local Planning Authority by Andy Instone, County Planning Officer (CPA), Hertfordshire County Council.*

*The fieldwork was undertaken by Victoria Osborn (Archaeological Supervisor), Adrian Woolmer (Assistant Supervisor), Jan-Michael Janulewicz and Iain Leslie (Archaeological Technicians). This report has been prepared by James Newbould (Project Officer) and edited by Joe Abrams (Project Manager) with contributions from Jackie Wells (Finds Officer) and Joan Lighting (CAD Technician). All Albion projects are under the overall management of Drew Shotliff (Operations Manager).*

*Albion Archaeology  
St Mary's Church  
St Mary's Street  
Bedford, MK42 0AS  
☎: 01234 294001  
Fax: 01234 294008  
e-mail: [office@albion-arch.com](mailto:office@albion-arch.com)  
Website: [www.albion-arch.com](http://www.albion-arch.com)*

## Version History

<i>Version</i>	<i>Issue date</i>	<i>Reason for re-issue</i>
<i>1.0</i>	<i>12/11/2008</i>	<i>n/a</i>

## Structure of this Report

Section 1 serves as an introduction to the site, describing its location, archaeological background and the aims of the project. Section 2 describes the trial trenching methodology and Section 3 summarises the results. Section 4 provides a synthesis of the results and assesses their significance. Section 5 is a bibliography.

Appendix 1 is an artefact summary and Appendix 2 contains trench summary information and detailed contextual data.



## Key Terms

Throughout this document the following terms or abbreviations are used:

HCC	Hertfordshire County Council
CPA	Hertfordshire County Council's County Planning Archaeologist
Client	Vincent and Gorbings on behalf of Hertfordshire County Council
HER	Hertfordshire's Historic Environment Record
IFA	Institute of Field Archaeologists
LPA	Local Planning Authority
Procedures Manual	<i>Procedures Manual Volume 1 Fieldwork</i> , 2nd edn, 2001 Albion Archaeology



## **Non-Technical Summary**

*Vincent and Gorbing on behalf of Hertfordshire County Council (HCC) are gathering baseline information on four sites on the edge of Baldock. These sites are currently held by HCC as agricultural smallholdings. Albion Archaeology has been commissioned to produce an Assessment of the four sites and land within 200m of them (Albion Archaeology 2008). Its purpose is to characterise the nature, likely date and potential for survival of archaeological remains within the sites. It also advises on the most suitable techniques currently available to further evaluate their archaeological potential prior to development.*

*The Assessment of Site 2b has already included a non-intrusive evaluation. This identified a series of undated enclosures located on the northern edge of the historic core of Baldock. Hertfordshire County Council's County Planning Archaeologist (CPA) requires more information on the nature, date and character of these remains in order to advise the Local Planning Authority (LPA) on the archaeological potential of the proposed development area (PDA).*

*The PDA lies to the immediate north of the historic core of Baldock which sits in a wide depression in the north-eastern extension of the Chiltern Hills. The boundaries of the PDA are defined by the London-Cambridge railway line to the south and by Bygrave Road to the north. The PDA lies at c.65m OD and the land within it slopes gently upwards to the north away from the Bygrave road. It is centred on TL 2493 3450 and covers an area of c.2ha.*

*The evaluation revealed the remains of late Iron Age/early Roman field systems and enclosures in the western part of the PDA. A single boundary ditch was also identified in the eastern part of the PDA. Although undated, its deposits and profile suggest that it is related to the Iron Age/Roman remains. A modern field boundary, visible on the 1847 Bygrave Tithe map was also identified toward the east of the PDA. The lack of sub-surface evidence for the ENE-WSW aligned 'Icknield Way' cropmark (HER4627) suggests that ploughing within the PDA has truncated it.*

*Overall, the archaeological remains encountered in this evaluation confirmed the location and character of anomalies identified by non-intrusive survey. A notable exception was the undated NE-SW boundary ditch in Trench 2, which did not appear as an anomaly. Conversely, the anomaly targeted by Trench 3 was created by geological variations. The evaluation can, therefore, be considered to both support and refine the results of non-intrusive survey. Despite evidence for plough scarring, particularly in the western part of PDA, the preservation of archaeological remains is good. However, the overall potential for archaeological remains within the PDA is considered to be low.*

*The Iron Age/Roman remains identified in the western part of the PDA represent low density field-systems and animal enclosures on the periphery of Baldock's historic core. Site 2b can be viewed as the northern part of a zone of transition, from dense settlement to open countryside. These remains are considered to be of local significance. Their identification, in conjunction with the results of non-intrusive survey of Sites 2a and 3, augments our knowledge of the northern limits of Iron Age/Roman Baldock.*



## 1. INTRODUCTION

---

### 1.1 *Project Background*

Vincent and Gorbings on behalf of Hertfordshire County Council (HCC) are gathering baseline information on four sites on the edge of Baldock. These sites are currently held by HCC as agricultural smallholdings. Albion Archaeology has been commissioned to produce an Assessment of the four sites and land within 200m of them (Albion Archaeology 2008). Its purpose is to characterise the nature, likely date and potential for survival of archaeological remains within the sites. It also advises on the most suitable techniques currently available to further evaluate their archaeological potential prior to development.

The Assessment of Site 2b has already included a non-intrusive evaluation (Albion Archaeology 2008, appendix 5). This identified a series of undated enclosures located on the northern edge of the historic core of Baldock (Section 1.4). Hertfordshire County Council's County Planning Archaeologist (CPA) requires more information on the nature, date and character of these remains in order to advise the Local Planning Authority (LPA) on the archaeological potential of the proposed development area (PDA).

In October 2008 Albion Archaeology carried out an intrusive evaluation of Site 2b and prepared a report on the results (this document).

### 1.2 *Site Location and Description*

The PDA lies to the immediate north of the historic core of Baldock which sits in a wide depression in the north-eastern extension of the Chiltern Hills. The boundaries of the PDA are defined by the London-Cambridge railway line to the south and by Bygrave Road to the north (Fig. 1).

The PDA lies at *c.*65m OD and the land within it slopes gently upwards to the north away from the Bygrave road. It is centred on TL 2493 3450 and covers an area of *c.*2ha. The underlying substrate is chalk (Thompson 2002, 2).

### 1.3 *Archaeological Background*

The archaeological and historical background to the PDA has been summarised as part of an ongoing assessment (Albion Archaeology 2008, 33-36). The most significant of the identified remains are briefly summarised below.

The assessment identified several Sites of Historic Environment Significance (SHES) adjacent to the PDA. These comprise the putative route of the Icknield Way. This is represented by an ENE-WSW aligned cropmark (HER4627) which enters the site from the east. These remains are also visible as an earthwork to the east of the PDA but appear to fade out before reaching it.

As part of the assessment, a non-intrusive survey of Sites 2a and 3 to the north of the PDA was also undertaken (Albion Archaeology 2008, appendix 5). The survey identified these sites as having a low potential for archaeological remains



(Fig. 4). This suggested that any pre-modern remains encountered within the PDA may form part of the northern limits of historic Baldock

Within the PDA itself, a series of small ditches were identified during non-intrusive survey (Albion Archaeology 2008, appendix 5). Their morphology indicates that they might represent field systems or animal enclosures. Their proximity to known Iron Age/Roman settlement remains to the immediate south suggests they may date from this period. Non-intrusive survey also revealed a NE-SW aligned linear anomaly in the eastern part of the PDA. Its position matches that of a field boundary shown on the Bygrave Tithe map (1847, DSA4 28/2).

#### **1.4 Project Objectives**

Trenches 2, 3 and 6-7 (Fig. 4) were arranged to determine the nature of anomalies identified by non-intrusive evaluation (Albion Archaeology 2008, appendix 5). Trenches 4 and 5 were placed to determine whether other archaeological remains are present within the PDA. Trench 1 was specifically targeted to test the path of the possible 'Icknield Way' cropmark (HER4627). The trench plan was discussed with, and approved by, the CPA. It was designed to gain information on:

- the location, extent, nature and date of any archaeological features or deposits that might be present;
- the integrity and state of preservation of any archaeological features or deposits that might be present; and to
- recover artefacts to assist in the development of a type series within the region;
- recover palaeo-environmental remains to determine local environmental conditions.





## 2. METHODOLOGY

---

Trial trenching took place between 6th and 13th October 2008. All seven of the proposed trenches were opened. Trench 7 had to be moved slightly to the north of its proposed position due to the presence of trees and shrubs. The CPA was notified of this change to the original trench plan.

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

- IFA's *Code of Conduct (1999a)*
- IFA's *Standards and Guidance for Field Evaluation (1999b)*
- Albion Archaeology's *Procedures Manual for Archaeological Fieldwork and the Analysis of Fieldwork Records (2001)*
- English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects (1991)*

The location of the trenches was marked out on the ground in advance of machine excavation. Overburden was removed using a mechanical excavator, fitted with a toothless ditching bucket and operating under close archaeological supervision. These deposits were removed down to either the top of archaeological deposits or undisturbed geological deposits, whichever was encountered first.

The bases and sections of all trenches were cleaned by hand in order to clarify the nature of potential archaeological remains. The deposits and any potential remains were noted, cleaned, excavated by hand and recorded using Albion Archaeology's *pro forma* sheets. The trenches were subsequently drawn, and photographed as appropriate. All deposits were recorded using a unique recording number sequence commencing at 100 for Trench 1, 200 for Trench 2 *etc.*

The trenches were inspected by the CPA prior to backfilling.



### 3. RESULTS

---

#### 3.1 Introduction

Deposits and features of archaeological interest are summarised below in chronological order. Allocated context numbers are prefixed with the trench number they were recorded from, *i.e.* contexts (100) and (101) are from Trench 1.

Detailed technical information on all deposits and archaeological features can be found in Appendix 2 (Section 6.2). The record will be archived at North Hertfordshire District Council Museum (Accession No. applied for).

#### 3.2 Overburden and Undisturbed Geological Deposits

The undisturbed geological deposits consisted of chalk. This was overlain by colluvial deposits in the centre of the PDA.

Overburden was fairly homogenous across the site. It comprised silty-clay topsoil overlying silty subsoil. It varied in thickness from 0.4m to 0.85m and was thickest in the centre of the PDA.

#### 3.3 Late Iron Age/Early Roman

The remains of two intercutting ditches were encountered in Trenches 5-7 (Fig. 2). Ditch [607/703] was aligned NE-SW and truncated a NW-SE aligned ditch [614] which appeared to continue into Trench 5 as [513] (Plate 3). The artefactual material, though small in quantity, supports the stratigraphic relationship; ditch [513] contained several sherds of late Iron Age/early Roman pot (weighing 6g) and a single broken flint blade or flake. Ditch [607/703] contained a single sherd of abraded 1st-2nd century AD Roman pot (15g) in addition to several sherds of late Iron Age/early Roman pot (12g).

These remains are likely to be field boundaries or enclosures. Their nature and the scarcity of artefactual material recovered from them suggest that they are outside the area of dense settlement activity. They probably represent part of the outlying field systems associated with the late Iron Age/Roman settlement to the south.

#### 3.4 Modern

A single modern ditch [203] was identified in Trench 2. It contained fragments of modern ceramic building material, a land drain and a post-medieval iron artefact (Appendix 6.1). This ditch appears to represent the remains of the NE-SW field boundary shown on the 1847 Bygrave Tithe map (Fig. 3).

A line of seven modern postholes was encountered in Trench 5 (Fig. 2). They were aligned broadly E-W and clearly truncated NW-SE Iron Age/Roman ditch [513]. Posthole [507] contained a postpipe [509] which had the *in situ* remains of a wooden post. [516] contained two fragments of modern roof tile.



### **3.5 Undated**

An undated field boundary ditch [205] was identified in Trench 2 (Fig. 3, Plate 2). It contained a single fragment of animal bone weighing (31g). This ditch was broadly parallel with the modern boundary ditch [203], though its profile and deposits were more similar in character to those of the Iron Age/Roman ditches encountered in Trenches 5-7.



## 4. SYNTHESIS OF RESULTS

---

### 4.1 Summary

The evaluation revealed the remains of late Iron Age/early Roman field systems and enclosures in the western part of the PDA. A single boundary ditch was also identified in the eastern part of the PDA. Although undated, its deposits and profile suggests that it may be related to the Iron Age/Roman remains. A modern field boundary, visible on the 1847 Bygrave Tithe map was also identified in the eastern part of the PDA.

Overall, the archaeological remains encountered in this evaluation confirmed the location and character of anomalies identified by non-intrusive survey. A notable exception was the undated NE-SW boundary ditch in Trench 2, which did not appear as an anomaly. Conversely, the anomaly targeted by Trench 3 was created by geological variations. The evaluation can, therefore, be considered to both support and refine the results of the non-intrusive survey.

No remains associated with the ENE-WSW aligned cropmark/earthwork (HER4627) were revealed in Trench 1. The lack of sub-surface evidence for these remains suggests that ploughing within the PDA has truncated them. This corresponds with its apparent disappearance as an earthwork in the eastern part of Site 2b and its absence from the non-intrusive survey results.

The non-intrusive evaluations of Sites 2a and 3 (Fig. 4) demonstrate that there is very low archaeological potential in the areas to the immediate north of the PDA. As such, Site 2b is situated between an area of intense Iron Age and Roman activity to the south and an area, apparently devoid of archaeological remains to the north. The Iron Age/Roman remains identified in Trenches 5-6 are, therefore, likely to represent outlying field-systems and enclosures associated with settlement of that period. The low volume of artefactual material recovered from these remains supports this hypothesis.

Despite evidence for plough scarring, particularly in the western part of the PDA, the preservation of archaeological remains is good. However, the overall potential for archaeological remains within the PDA is considered to be low.

### 4.2 Significance

The Iron Age/Roman remains identified to the west of the PDA represent low density field-systems and animal enclosures on the periphery of Baldock's historic core. Site 2b can be viewed as the northern part of a zone of transition from dense settlement to open countryside.

These remains are considered to be of local significance. Their identification, in conjunction with the results of non-intrusive survey of Sites 2a and 3, augments our knowledge of the northern limits of Iron Age/Roman Baldock.



## 5. BIBLIOGRAPHY

---

Albion Archaeology 2001. *Procedures Manual Volume 1 Fieldwork*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.

Albion Archaeology 2008. *Land at Baldock. Archaeological Assessment. Report 2008/52.*

EH 1991. *The Management of Archaeological Projects*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. English Heritage (London).

IFA 1999a. Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct*.

IFA 1999b. Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard & Guidance* documents (*Desk-Based Assessments, Watching Briefs, Evaluations, Excavations, Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings*).

Thomson I. 2002. Baldock: *Extensive Urban Survey Project Assessment Report*. Hertfordshire County Council.



## 6. APPENDICES

### 6.1 Appendix 1 – Artefact and Ecofact Summary

#### 6.1.1 Introduction

The evaluation produced small quantities of pottery, ceramic building material, worked flint, animal bone and an iron object (Table 1). The material was scanned to ascertain its nature, condition and, where possible, date range.

Tr.	Feature	Type	Context	Spot date*	Finds summary
2	203	Ditch	204	Post-medieval	Brick and roof tile (89g); iron handle Animal bone (31g)
	205	Ditch	207	Undated	
5	513	Ditch	514	Late Iron Age/early Roman	Pottery (6g); animal bone (26g); worked flint (1g) Roof tile (35g)
	516	Post hole	517	Post-medieval	
6	607	Ditch	608	Early Roman	Pottery (15g)
	607	Ditch	609	Late Iron Age/early Roman	Pottery (12g)

\* spot date based on date of latest artefact in context

**Table 1: Artefact summary by feature**

#### 6.1.2 Ceramics

Eight undiagnostic pottery sherds (33g), predominantly of late Iron Age/early Roman date were recovered, the majority deriving from the upper and tertiary fills of ditch [607]. A residual early to middle Iron Age sherd occurred in ditch [513]. The sherds are small, with an average weight of 4g, although not particularly abraded. Five fabric types were identified using common names and type codes in accordance with the Bedfordshire Ceramic Type Series, currently maintained by Albion Archaeology on behalf of Bedfordshire County Council (Table 2).

Fabric type	Common name	Sherd No.	Context / Sherd No.
<i>Early to middle Iron Age</i> Type F30	Sand and calcareous inclusions	1	(514):1
<i>Late Iron Age/early Roman</i> Type F06B	Medium grog	2	(609):2
Type F07	Shell	3	(609):3
Type F09	Sand and grog	1	(514):1
<i>Early Roman</i> Type R18A	Pink gritty	1	(608):1

**Table 2: Pottery type series**

Building material occurs in sand-tempered fabric and comprises four pieces of flat roof tile and three abraded brick fragments (total weight 124g). All are broadly datable to the post-medieval period.

#### 6.1.3 Non-ceramic artefacts

An incomplete, corroded iron furniture or vessel handle of post-medieval date was recovered from ditch [203]. Late Iron Age/early Roman ditch [513] yielded a broken flint flake or blade (1g).



#### **6.1.4 Animal bone**

Three abraded animal bone fragments (57g) were collected from ditches [513] and [205]. They comprise two pieces of pelvis and a long bone fragment, all of indeterminate species.



## 6.2 Appendix 2 – Trench Summaries





**Trench: 1**

**Max Dimensions:** Length: 25.40 m. Width: 1.60 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.55 m. Max: 0.9 m.

**Co-ordinates:** OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 24928: Northing: 34426)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 24937: Northing: 34401)

**Reason:** To assess the putative route of the Icknield Way

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
100	Topsoil	Friable dark brown black silt moderate small stones 0.31m thick	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
101	Subsoil	Friable dark yellow brown silt occasional small-medium ceramic building material, moderate small chalk 0.33m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
102	Natural	Compact light grey white chalk	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



**Trench: 2**

**Max Dimensions: Length: 27.00 m. Width: 1.60 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.6 m. Max: 0.85 m.**

**Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL** (Easting: 24889: Northing: 34380)

**OS Grid Ref.: TL** (Easting: 24902: Northing: 34359)

**Reason: To assess the character of geophysical survey anomalies**

<b>Context:</b>	<b>Type:</b>	<b>Description:</b>	<b>Excavated:</b>	<b>Finds Present:</b>
200	Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown silty clay occasional small stones 0.25m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
201	Subsoil	Friable light orange brown silt occasional small stones 0.35m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
202	Natural	Compact light grey white chalk	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
203	Ditch	Linear NE-SW profile: 45 degrees base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.8m, max depth 0.32m, max length 0.9m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
204	Backfill	Friable mid grey silty sand occasional small-medium stones 0.32m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
205	Ditch	Linear NE-SW profile: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 2.1m, max depth 0.76m, max length 1.5m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
206	Primary fill	Friable mid orange brown silty sand frequent small-medium stones 0.40m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
207	Upper fill	Friable dark orange brown silty sand frequent small-medium stones 0.39m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
208	Treethrow	Sub-circular profile: near vertical base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.8m, max depth 0.24m, max length 1.2m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
209	Fill	Friable dark orange brown silty sand occasional small stones 0.24m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



**Trench: 3**

**Max Dimensions:** Length: 25.00 m. Width: 1.60 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.4 m. Max: 0.42 m.

**Co-ordinates:** OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 24841: Northing: 34409)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 24844: Northing: 34384)

**Reason:** To assess the character of geophysical survey anomalies

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
300	Topsoil	Firm dark brown grey silty clay 0.30m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
301	Subsoil	Firm mid grey brown silty clay 0.27m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
302	Natural	Compact light grey white chalk	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



**Trench:** 4

**Max Dimensions:** Length: 25.00 m. Width: 1.60 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.5 m. Max: 0.76 m.

**Co-ordinates:** OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 24801: Northing: 34367)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 24826: Northing: 34367)

**Reason:** To test archaeological potential

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
400	Topsoil	Firm mid grey brown silty clay 0.30m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
401	Subsoil	Firm mid grey brown silty clay 0.24m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
402	Natural	Compact light grey white chalk	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Trench: 5**

**Max Dimensions:** Length: 25.00 m. Width: 1.60 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.42 m. Max: 0.51 m.

**Co-ordinates:** OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 24733: Northing: 34397)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 24756: Northing: 34402)

**Reason:** To test archaeological potential

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
500	Topsoil	Friable dark brown black silty clay frequent small stones 0.34m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
501	Subsoil	Friable dark orange brown silt frequent small-medium stones 0.19m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
502	Natural	Compact light grey white chalk moderate small-medium stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
503	Posthole	Sub-rectangular profile: vertical base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.15m, max depth 0.1m, max length 0.25m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
504	Packing	Loose mid brown silty sand frequent small-medium chalk 0.10m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
505	Postpipe	Sub-circular profile: vertical base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.16m, max depth 0.1m, max length 0.16m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
506	Fill	Friable dark brown black silty sand occasional small-medium stones 0.10m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
507	Posthole	Sub-rectangular profile: concave base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.4m, max depth 0.19m, max length 0.4m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
508	Packing	Firm light orange brown silty clay frequent small chalk, frequent small stones 0.19m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
509	Postpipe	Sub-circular profile: vertical base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.2m, max depth 0.24m, max length 0.21m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
510	Fill	Friable dark brown black silty sand occasional small-medium stones With in-situ remains of wooden post 0.24m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
511	Posthole	Sub-square dimensions: max breadth 0.4m, max length 0.5m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
512	Fill	Friable mid grey orange sandy silt frequent small chalk, frequent small stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
513	Ditch	Linear NW-SE profile: convex base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.6m, max depth 0.49m, max length 1.6m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
514	Primary fill	Firm dark brown orange clay silt moderate small chalk, occasional small stones 0.25m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
515	Upper fill	Firm mid orange brown clay silt frequent small chalk, frequent small stones 0.23m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
516	Posthole	Sub-rectangular profile: vertical base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.4m, max depth 0.28m, max length 0.45m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
517	Fill	Firm mid grey brown clay silt moderate small chalk, moderate small stones 0.28m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
518	Upper fill	Firm mid grey brown clay silt occasional small chalk, occasional small stones 0.12m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
519	Posthole	Sub-circular dimensions: max breadth 0.25m, max length 0.45m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
520	Fill	Friable mid grey orange sandy silt frequent small chalk, frequent small stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
521	Posthole	Sub-circular dimensions: max breadth 0.2m, max length 0.45m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
522	Fill	Friable mid blue orange sandy silt frequent small chalk, frequent small stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
523	Posthole	Sub-circular dimensions: max breadth 0.25m, max length 0.4m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
524	Fill	Friable mid grey orange sandy silt frequent small chalk, frequent small stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



**Trench: 6**

**Max Dimensions: Length: 24.60 m. Width: 1.60 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.5 m. Max: 0.57 m.**

**Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL** (Easting: 24704: Northing: 34385)

**OS Grid Ref.: TL** (Easting: 24742: Northing: 34373)

**Reason: To assess the character of geophysical survey anomalies**

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
600	Topsoil	Friable dark brown black silty clay frequent small stones 0.36m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
601	Subsoil	Friable dark yellow brown silt frequent small-medium chalk, frequent small-medium stones 0.24m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
602	Natural	Compact light grey white chalk	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
607	Ditch	Linear NE-SW profile: convex base: flat dimensions: max breadth 1.1m, max depth 0.57m, max length 13.m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
608	Upper fill	Friable dark yellow brown silt frequent medium chalk, frequent medium stones 0.24m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
609	Tertiary fill	Friable dark brown silt frequent medium chalk 0.32m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
610	Secondary fill	Compact light yellow white chalk 0.11m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
611	Primary fill	Firm dark yellow brown silty clay frequent small-medium chalk 0.08m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
612	Treethrow	Irregular profile: irregular base: uneven dimensions: max breadth 1.75m, max depth 0.16m, max length 0.75m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
613	Fill	Friable dark red brown silty sand 0.16m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
614	Ditch	Linear NE-SW profile: concave base: flat dimensions: max breadth 2.42m, max depth 0.68m, max length 0.66m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
615	Secondary fill	Friable mid yellow brown silt moderate medium chalk, occasional medium stones 0.35m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
616	Primary fill	Firm mid yellow brown silt frequent small-medium chalk, occasional medium-large stones 0.30m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



**Trench:** 7

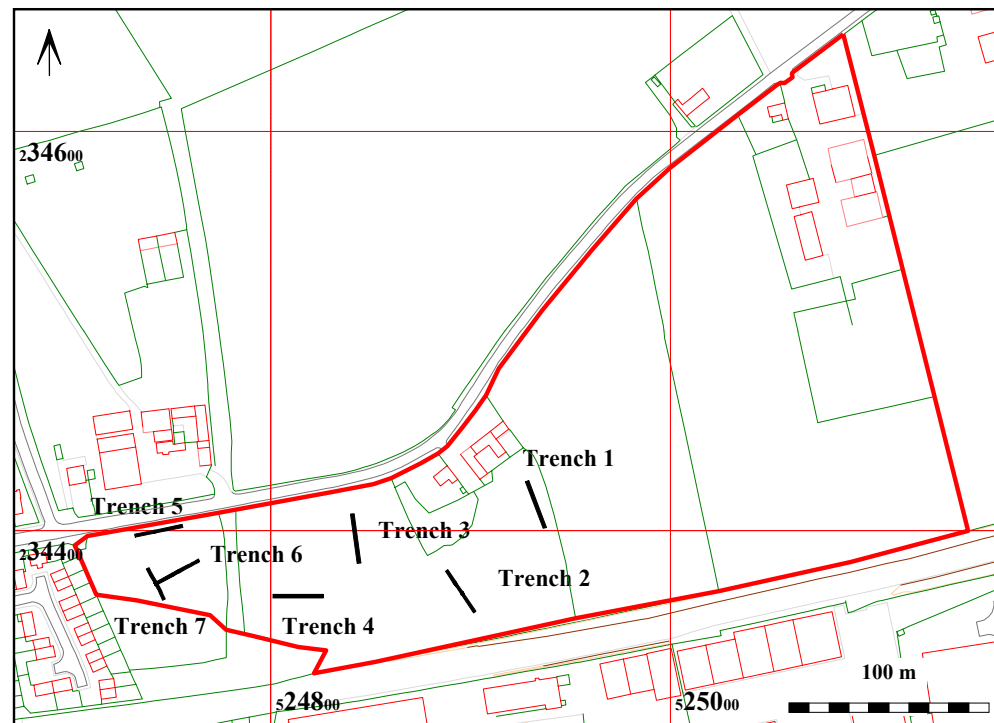
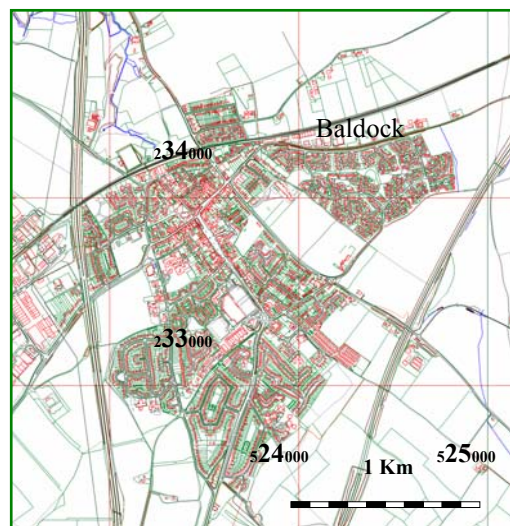
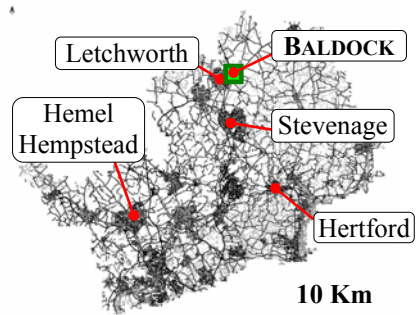
**Max Dimensions:** Length: 17.75 m. Width: 1.60 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.4 m. Max: 0.44 m.

**Co-ordinates:** OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 24739: Northing: 34382)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 24746: Northing: 34365)

**Reason:** To assess the character of geophysical survey anomalies

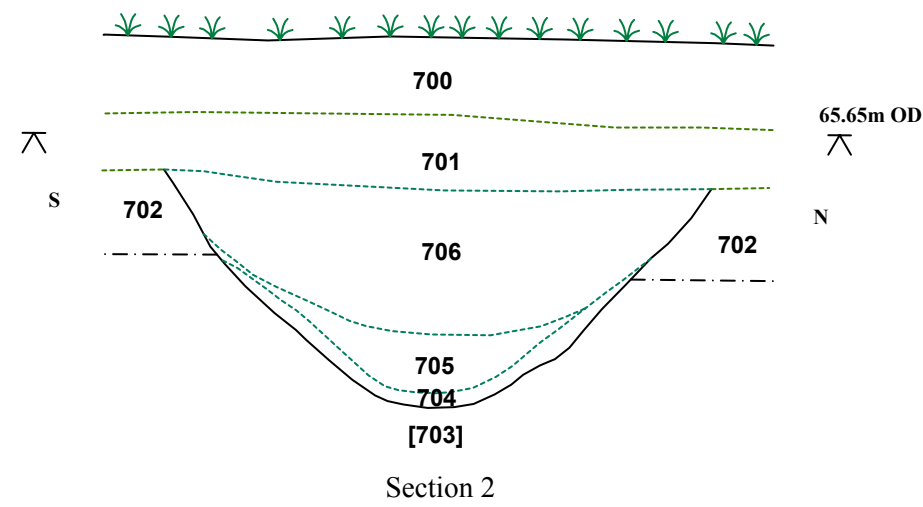
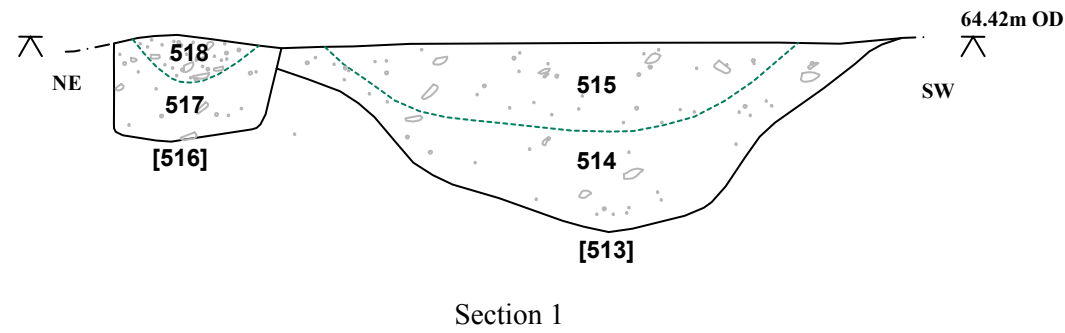
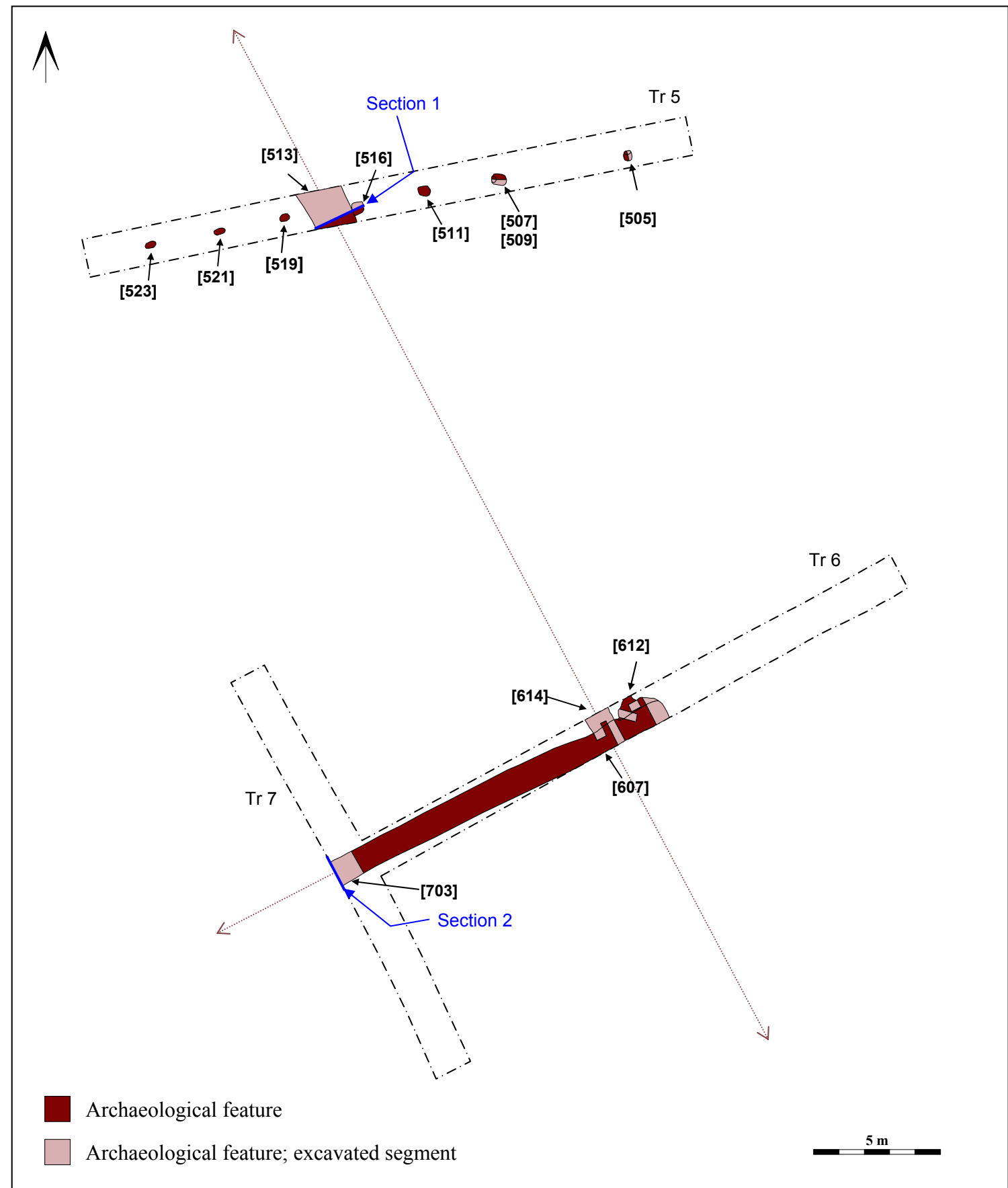
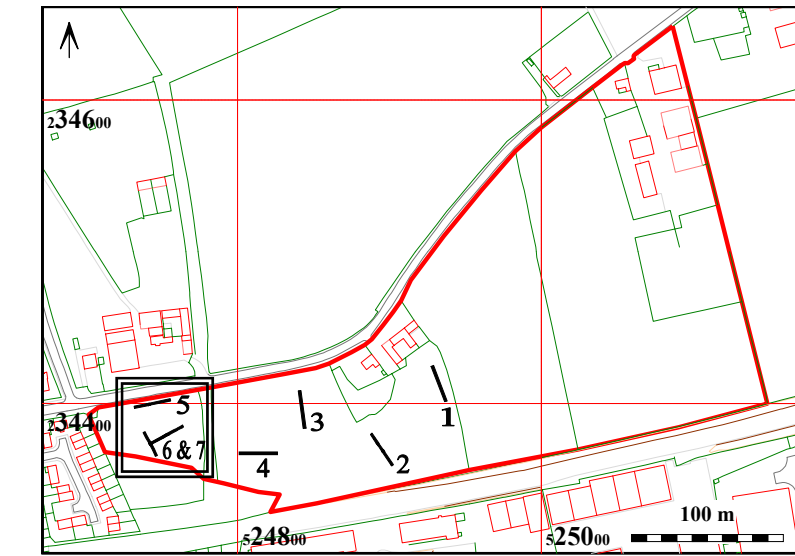
Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
700	Topsoil	Friable dark brown black silty clay frequent small stones 0.21m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
701	Subsoil	Friable dark orange brown silt frequent small-medium stones 0.19m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
702	Natural	Compact light grey white chalk moderate small-large stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
703	Ditch	Linear NE-SW profile: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.44m, max depth 0.53m, max length 1.m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
704	Primary fill	Firm light grey brown clay silt frequent small chalk, frequent small stones 0.04m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
705	Tertiary fill	Firm dark orange brown clay silt frequent small-large stones 0.15m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
706	Upper fill	Firm mid orange brown clay silt frequent small-large stones 0.39m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



**Figure 1: Site location**

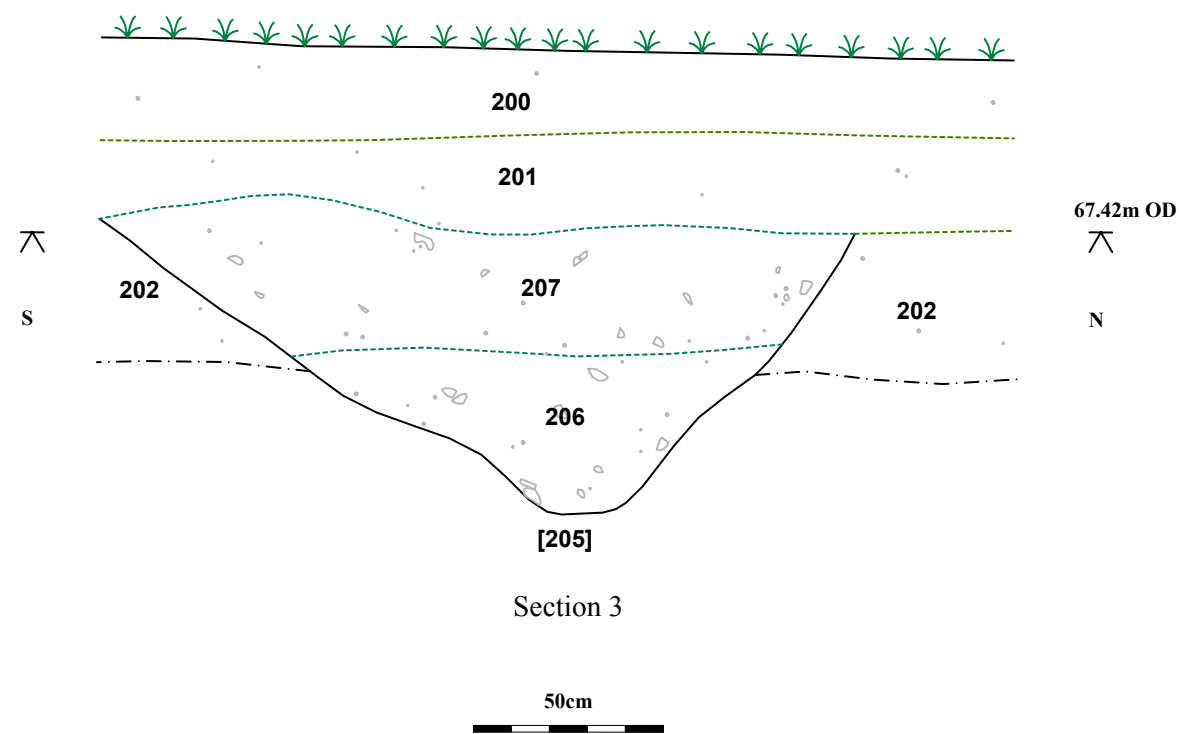
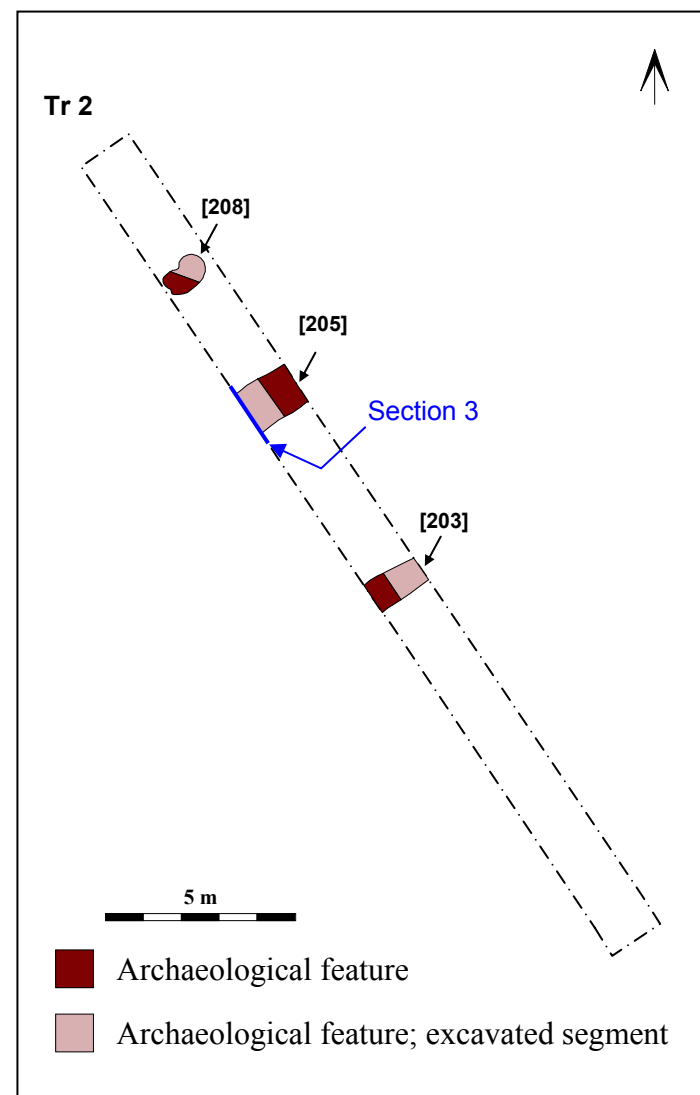
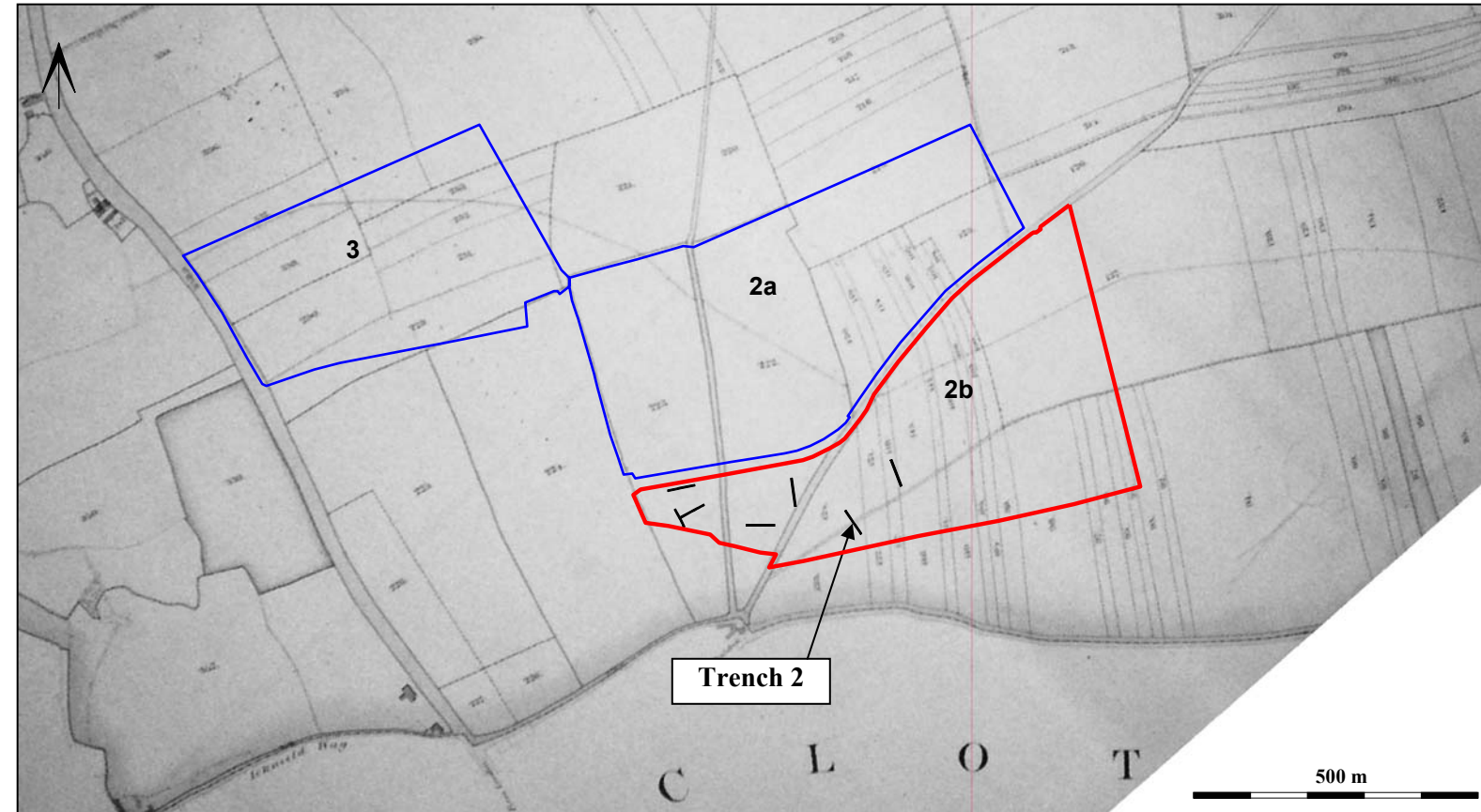
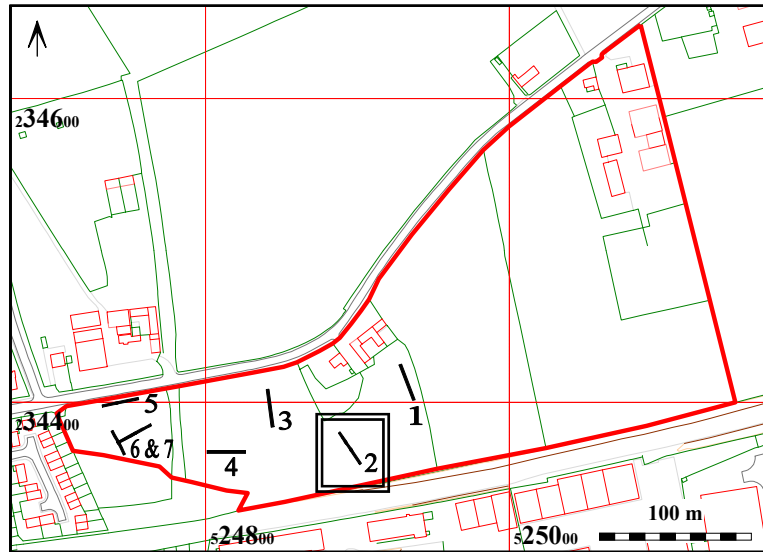
Base map reproduced from the Ordnance Survey Map with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, by Bedfordshire County Council, County Hall, Bedford. OS Licence No. 100017358 (LA). © Crown Copyright.





**Figure 2: Trenches 5, 6, and 7**

Base map reproduced from the Ordnance Survey Map with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, by Bedfordshire County Council, County Hall, Bedford. OS Licence No. 100017358 (LA). © Crown Copyright.



**Figure 3: Trench 2 and 1847 tithe map**

Base map reproduced from the Ordnance Survey Map with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, by Bedfordshire County Council, County Hall, Bedford. OS Licence No. 100017358 (LA). © Crown Copyright.

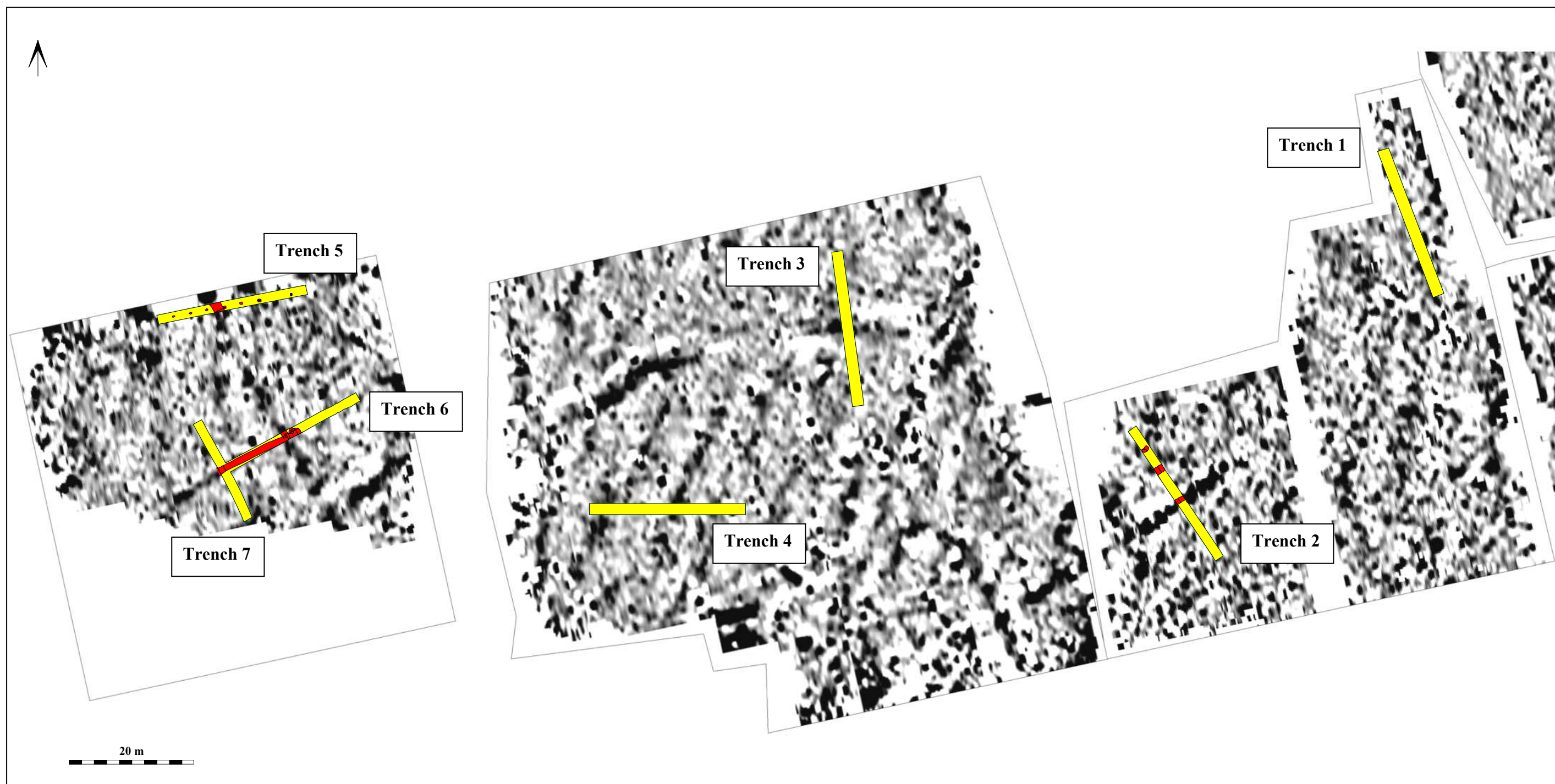


Figure 4: Trial trenches overlaid onto geophysical survey results



**Plate 1:** Boundary ditch [607] looking west. 1m scale.



**Plate 2:** Section of undated ditch [205] looking west.  
1m scale.



**Plate 3:** Baulk section of ditch [513] looking north. 1m scale.