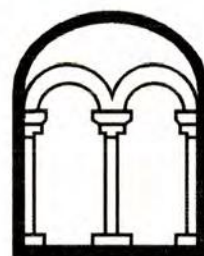


**CHURCH COTTAGE  
PARK ROAD  
MELCHBOURNE  
BEDFORDSHIRE**

**ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL AND UPDATED  
PROJECT DESIGN**

**Albion**  
archaeology



**CHURCH COTTAGE  
PARK ROAD  
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BEDFORDSHIRE**

**ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL AND UPDATED  
PROJECT DESIGN**

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Compiled by	Checked by	Approved by
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12th February 2013

Produced for:  
Mr M Robson  
Church Cottage  
Park Road  
Melchbourne



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## Preface

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

## Acknowledgements

*The project was commissioned by Mr Mark Robson and monitored on behalf of the Local Planning Authority by Geoff Saunders of Bedford Borough Council Historic Environment Team.*

*The fieldwork was undertaken by Ian Turner (Archaeological Supervisor) and Juha Vuorinen (Archaeological Technician). Ian Turner also prepared this report with contributions from Joan Lightning (illustrations), Jackie Wells (ceramic finds), Holly Duncan (non-ceramic artefacts), John Giorgi (charred plant remains). The report was edited by Wesley Keir (Project officer) and approved by Drew Shotliff (Operations Manager).*

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## Key Terms

The following abbreviations are used throughout this report:

BBC	Bedford Borough Council
HER	Bedford Borough Council Historic Environment Record
HET	Historic Environment Team of Bedford Borough Council
IfA	Institute for Archaeologists
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation



## 1. INTRODUCTION

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### 1.1 **Project Background**

A planning application (11/00752/FUL) for the construction of a single-storey sunken extension, new garage and hardstanding and connecting access paths was submitted to Bedford Borough Council (BBC). As the development lay within an area of archaeological sensitivity, the Historic Environment Team (HET) of BBC recommended that a condition was attached to any planning consent requiring the implementation of a programme of archaeological work. This advice was in accordance with *Planning Policy 5: Planning for the Historic Environment* (PPS5).

The initial phase of work, comprising archaeological trial trenching, was carried out by Albion Archaeology in January 2012 (Albion Archaeology 2012).

On the basis of the results of the evaluation, and in accordance with government planning statement PPS5, the HET issued a brief detailing the requirement for an archaeological area excavation prior to development and archaeological monitoring during groundworks associated with the development (HET 2012). In adherence to the requirements in the brief, a further Written Scheme of Investigation was prepared (Albion Archaeology 2012b).

The archaeological work was carried out in accordance with the WSI between 8th March and 23rd June 2012.

### 1.2 **Status and Purpose of this Document**

This report combines the results of the trial trenching and area excavation. It assesses the analytical potential of the recovered data-sets and sets out the further stages required to complete the dissemination and archiving of the results of the fieldwork. The latter will fulfil the requirements of the HET's brief and will allow the discharge of the archaeological planning condition.

### 1.3 **Site Location and Description**

Church Cottage is a detached grade II listed property located off Park Drive, Melchbourne, immediately to the south of the Church of St Mary Magdalene, at grid reference TL 02882 65359.

The new building works were located in the gardens to the south of the house and covered an area of approximately 270m<sup>2</sup> (Figure 1).

The plot is relatively level at approximately 75m OD; the underlying geology comprises Oxford Clay.

### 1.4 **Archaeological Background**

Known heritage assets within a 500m radius of the site are shown on Figure 6 and tabulated in Appendix 1.

Church Cottage is located within the core of the medieval settlement of Melchbourne (HER17080). Melchbourne is recorded in Domesday Book and historical evidence indicates that the settlement was much more extensive than



it is today. Areas of probable former occupation are marked by earthworks to the north and north-east of the site (HER1810 and 9663).

Church Cottage and its gardens lie within an enclosure defined in part by an earthwork ditch (HER15210). This enclosure contains the parish church (HER2332) together with the possible site of the early medieval manor. It has been suggested that this feature represents a manorial enclosure centred on an early Anglo-Saxon/medieval church and manor complex (HET 2011).

Hillands End Farmhouse (HER12098) lies within the possible manorial enclosure, *c.* 125m to the east of Church Cottage. In 1997 monitoring of groundworks for a new building at the farm did not reveal any archaeological remains, although one unstratified sherd of 13th–14th-century pottery was recovered (BCAS Project Code WB457). A watching brief at Park Farm to the north-east of Church Cottage (HER12097) was also negative (BCAS Project Code WB460).



## 2. FIELDWORK RESULTS

---

### 2.1 Introduction

#### 2.1.1 Methodological approach to assessing contextual data

The contextual data was assessed in order to establish whether it could provide a coherent spatial and chronological framework. A total of 143 contexts were assigned to Groups, e.g. pit groups, post-hole alignments, boundary ditches etc. The decision as to which Groups contexts were assigned to, was made based on the following criteria:

- Do the contexts form a coherent spatial unit *e.g.* a ditch, a pit group *etc?*
- Do the contexts represent key positions in the within the stratigraphic sequence?
- Do the contexts contain suitable dating material?

Groups were then assigned to a number of distinct Land-use areas, corresponding to larger coherent and contemporaneous spatial units. These Land-use areas were then assigned to a number of episodes (Phases) of human activity corresponding to broad, chronological divisions (periods) e.g. medieval and post-medieval, based on their artefactual assemblage. Where more than one distinct episode of human activity was apparent within one chronological period, they were assigned to separate phases.

The text which follows is structured by chronological period and phase and discussed by Land-use area. Relevant elements within these Land-use areas are referred to by their Groups (G). A detailed list of contexts, and a table showing which contexts make up each group, are located in Appendices 2 and 3.

### 2.2 Phase 1 - Early / High Medieval Settlement (c. 1150–1400)

Phase 1 can be broken down into four Land-use areas, which were stratigraphically sequential, not contemporary (Figure 2). Together, they comprised ten ditches, a large pit and a cluster of three pits. These features produced mid 12th–14th-century pottery and were the stratigraphically earliest features on site. They contained dark deposits with charcoal flecks, which together with the quantities of pottery and charred food-processing remains, suggest domestic activity in the vicinity. The spatial reorganisation, evidenced by the stratigraphic sequence, indicates that this activity continued over a considerable period of time.

None of this evidence can be specifically categorised as “manorial”. However, the NW-SE alignment of the ditches does broadly correspond with the alignment of the southern side of the curving ditch SMR15210 which has been put forward as a possible early manorial enclosure (Figure 6).





### 2.2.1 Land-use Area 1 – ditches and pits

Two parallel ditches G1 and G2, located *c.* 2.70m apart, were aligned broadly NW-SE. They had concave sides and flat bases and were >6.50–9m long, 0.60–0.75m wide and 0.09–0.14m deep.

The purpose of the ditches is uncertain. The northern ditch G1 may represent an enclosure boundary ditch. The southern ditch G2 was probably excavated to feed directly into a large, irregular oval pit G4; alternatively, it may have been truncated by the pit.

Pit G4 had a concave south side, a stepped north side and an irregular base. It was >4m long, 2.70m wide and 0.90m deep. Its lower fills comprised mid orange grey clay silt with occasional charcoal flecks and artefacts of early / high medieval date. A fragment of ferrous slag from the same deposits is likely to be late medieval or post-medieval in date and is considered to be intrusive. (The pit's upper fills produced artefacts of late medieval date — see below, Phase 2, Land-use area 5 (Section 2.3.1)).

Pit G4 may have originally been excavated as a water pit or a quarry pit. However at least three ditches appear to have been designed to feed into it and it may, therefore, have functioned as a drainage sump pit.

An additional short length of ditch G5 aligned N-S had concave sides and a flat base; it was 1.5m long, 0.54m wide and 0.15m deep. It was probably created to feed directly into pit G4.

Curving linear ditch G7 had straight sides, a concave base and was 1.50m+ long, 0.40m wide and 0.20m deep. Its function is uncertain as it was only partially visible in the north-west corner of the excavation area.

### 2.2.2 Land-use Area 2 – boundary / drainage ditches

Ditch G9 was aligned NE-SW with its southern end turning gradually through 90 degrees to the west. It had 45 degree sides, a concave base and was >13.50m long, 0.65m wide and 0.37m deep.

Ditch G10 was a re-cut of ditch G9 with the addition of a short E-W aligned which fed directly into G4. A sherd of post-medieval vessel glass from the ditch is considered to be intrusive.

Ditch G9 and its re-cut G10 (see below) probably acted as enclosure boundary ditches and also provided localised drainage.

Ditch G8 was a short E-W aligned ditch segment. It had concave sides, a flat base and was 0.60m long, 0.50m wide and 0.14m deep. It probably acted as a drainage feature feeding straight into ditch G9.

Ditch G21 was a curving linear ditch identified in a soakaway trench to the north of the main excavation area. Little of this feature was exposed and its function is uncertain.



### **2.2.3 Land-use Area 3 – boundary / drainage ditches**

Ditch G17 was aligned NW-SE and turned at its eastern end sharply through 90 degrees to the north, where it was truncated by a later pit. It had concave sides, a flat base and was 9.50m long, 1.06m wide and 0.40m deep. It probably served as a modified enclosure boundary ditch that superseded ditches G9 and G10

Ditch G14 was aligned N-S and featured a steep western side, a shallow straight eastern side, and a flat base. It was >3.5m long, 0.60m wide and 0.23m deep. It was probably an internal division within the enclosure represented by ditch G17.

### **2.2.4 Land-Use Area 4 – pit cluster**

Land-use Area 4 comprises three pits G15, which truncated the earlier ditches of Land-use Area 3. The shape of the pits varied from oval to irregular; they had steep concave sides and flat bases. They were 1.60–3m long, 1.05–2.25m wide and 0.60–0.88m deep. Two of the pits contained fragments of ferrous slag which are probably of late medieval or post-medieval date and are considered to be intrusive.

The function of these pits is uncertain. They may have been excavated as quarry pits to obtain clay, possibly for wattle and daub for construction or repair of buildings.

## **2.3 Phase 2 – Late Medieval Settlement (c. 1400–1500)**

Phase 2 was represented by Land-use area 5, which comprised two ditches, a small stone-filled pit, the main fill sequence within Phase 1 pit G4, and a number of post-holes. The latter may represent either part of a structure, such as an outbuilding or dwelling, or they may represent part of a fence line. The Phase 2 features are similar in nature to those of the early / high medieval period. They represent another stage of development as the settlement continued into the late medieval period. The feature density and quantities of recovered artefacts are lower than in Phase 1 but the significance of this is uncertain, given the small size of the investigation area.

### **2.3.1 Land use area 5 – pits, ditches and post-holes**

Short elongated pit G3 had concave sides and a flat base; it was 1.25m long, 0.50m wide and 0.05m deep. It contained frequent large stones which appeared to have been pushed into the underlying geological clay. The presence of oyster shell fragments suggests the pit may have been associated with food preparation.

Ditch G6 was aligned NE-SW and truncated pit G3. It had concave sides, a concave base and was >5m long, 0.38m wide and 0.13m deep. It may have represented an internal division within an enclosure.

Ditch G11 was aligned NW-SE. It had a concave profile and was 4.40m long, 0.46m wide and 0.15m deep.



Late medieval pottery was recovered from the main fill sequence G24 in the Phase 1 pit G4. The deposits principally comprised dark green-grey clay silts with charcoal flecks. This large pit, which was probably used as a ground / rain water sump, may have survived from the earlier medieval period, either because it was simply slow to silt up or because it was periodically cleaned out.

A line of three circular post-holes G12, one with a post-pipe, were identified in the northern half of the investigation area. They had concave profiles and were 0.40m in diameter and 0.12–0.15m deep. Although they did not produce any artefacts, their fills were similar to those of the surrounding medieval features. Their function is uncertain but they are likely to represent either part of a structure or possibly a fence line.

An additional small pit or post-hole G13 was partially visible against the western baulk. It was at least 0.35m wide and 0.27m deep but produced no artefacts. It is also judged to be late medieval in date based on the basis of its fill and the assumed phasing of the other post-holes within the investigation area.

## **2.4 Phase 3 – Post-medieval Activity (c. 1500–1750)**

Phase 3 was represented by three Land-use areas, which were stratigraphically sequential, not contemporary. The evidence points to a significant change in land-use in the post-medieval period. Together the Phase 3 features comprised a ditch, two large pits and the backfill of three earlier pits (including a layer that was similar in nature). They produced a small assemblage of post-medieval pottery. The late medieval settlement focus appears to have gone out of use or to have shifted by this time. The two large pits may have been associated with clay extraction, perhaps for the building of the present-day Church Cottage.

### **2.4.1 Land-use Area 6 – ditch**

Ditch G16 was aligned NW-SE. It had steep concave to convex sides, a narrow concave base and was >5.25m long, 1.05m wide and 0.50m deep. It was probably an enclosure / boundary ditch, maintaining the land division defined by the Phase 1 ditch G17 (see Land-use area 3).

### **2.4.2 Land-use Area 7 – pits**

Two large pits G18 and G19 were identified in the south-east corner of the investigation area, extending beyond its limits. The upper profiles of both pits were shallow but became near vertical with depth. The bases of the features were not observed, as they extended below the 1.20m depth of excavation.

These pits may have originally been dug to quarry clay before being back-filled in the post-medieval period.

### **2.4.3 Land-use Area 8 – levelling**

Deposits G20 (Figure 2, Sections 1 and 6) represent the final infilling of a number of Phase 1 pits. They contained frequent medium and large stones and produced artefacts of post-medieval date.



Layer G22 was also observed across all but the south-west corner of the investigation area. It was 0.10–0.18m thick and similar to backfill G20. It probably represents part of a levelling process which began with the infilling of the earlier pits. The artefacts within the layer indicate that the levelling was carried out in the post-medieval period, probably when the extant 17th-century cottage was constructed.

## **2.5 Phase 4 – Modern Activity (c. 1750 onwards)**

Phase 4 comprises Land-use area 9, which consists of drain and pipe trenches, a small pit and two post-holes G23. These features produced modern pottery and are probably associated with the use of the garden of Church Cottage.



### 3. ARTEFACT ASSEMBLAGES

#### 3.1 Pottery

##### 3.1.1 Methodology

For each context, pottery was recorded by fabric type and quantified by minimum sherd count and weight. This information was entered onto an Access Table in the project database. Pottery was spot dated by individual fabric and / or form type, and was the principal determinant in assigning contexts to chronological periods. Its presence was also used to assist in the identification of domestic activity.

##### 3.1.2 Quantification

The assemblage comprises 519 sherds, weighing 7.9kg, the majority deriving from features assigned to the early / high medieval period (Phase 1).

Phase	Sherd No.	% Sherd	Wt (g)	% Wt
1	307	59.1	4433	55.8
2	94	18.1	1114	14.0
3	117	22.6	2391	30.1
4	1	0.2	2	0.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>519</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>7,940</b>	<b>100</b>

**Table 1:** Pottery quantification by Phase

##### 3.1.3 Pottery Type Series

Fabrics are listed below in chronological order (Table 2), using common names and type codes in accordance with the Bedfordshire Ceramic Type Series, currently maintained by Albion Archaeology. No new fabric types were identified.

Fabric Type	Common name	Sherd No.	Wt (g)
<i>Early Saxon</i>			
A16	Coarse quartz	1	7
		<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>
<i>Late Saxon / Saxo-Norman</i>			
B01	St Neots-type ware	52	705
B01A	St Neots-type ware (orange)	41	614
B01B	St Neots-type ware (fine)	6	96
B01C	St Neots-type ware (mixed)	16	186
B04	St Neots-type ware (coarse)	9	47
B04A	St Neots-type ware (hand-made)	4	67
C12	Stamford ware	1	15
		<b>129</b>	<b>1730</b>
<i>Early and high medieval</i>			
B07	Shell	226	3007
B09	Lyveden/Stanton 'A' ware	51	795
B09	Lyveden/Stanton 'B' ware	12	223
C01	Sand	5	81
C04	Reduced coarse sand	1	7
C05	Sand (red margins)	1	4
C10	Potterspury ware	9	144
C59A	Coarse sand	2	12
C59B	Harsh sand	11	64
C60	Hertfordshire-type grey ware	2	19
C67	Mixed inclusions	2	41



<b>Fabric Type</b>	<b>Common name</b>	<b>Sherd No.</b>	<b>Wt (g)</b>
C71	Sand (buff-grey cored)	1	61
C88A	Oxidised sand and limestone	5	99
C88B	Reduced sand and limestone	1	7
C89	Oxford type	1	4
C	Non-specific medieval ware	1	30
		<b>331</b>	<b>4598</b>
<b><i>Late medieval</i></b>			
E01	Reduced sand	5	33
E01D	Reduced sand (red margins)	6	57
E02	Oxidised sand	7	301
E03	Smooth oxidised sand	2	7
		<b>20</b>	<b>398</b>
<b><i>Post-medieval</i></b>			
P01	Fine glazed red earthenware	12	468
P02	Coarse glazed red earthenware	1	28
P03	Black-glazed earthenware	7	424
P06	Fine slip-decorated earthenware	1	63
P19	Mottle/speckle-glazed ware	1	8
P30	Staffordshire slipware	1	29
P33	Tin-glazed earthenware	1	24
P34	Chinese porcelain	1	1
P47	Vitrified earthenware	1	6
P57	Midland Yellow	3	28
		<b>29</b>	<b>1079</b>
<b><i>Modern</i></b>			
P39	Mocha ware	2	68
P43	Pearlware	1	16
P45	Transfer-printed ware	5	34
P55	White earthenware	1	4
		<b>9</b>	<b>122</b>

**Table 2: Pottery Type Series****3.1.4 Provenance, phasing and date range**

The pottery displays a wide date range, spanning the early Saxon period, peaking in the early / high medieval periods, and continuing up to the present day. A total of 21 features (51% of contexts producing pottery) contained less than 100g, and two features (4%) yielded in excess of 1kg. Single sherds were collected from six features (15% of contexts yielding pottery). Although the assemblage is fragmentary, indicated by a modest average sherd weight of 15g, a proportion of the early and high medieval vessels are represented by more than single sherds. This suggests that parts of the assemblage occur in a primary context, close to areas where the pottery was used. The assemblage is summarised below by chronological period, and quantified by Land-use Area and Group (Table 3).

<b>Phase</b>	<b>Land-use Area</b>	<b>Group</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Sherd No.</b>	<b>Wt (g)</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	1	Ditch	18	219
		2	Ditch	12	123
		4	Large pit	13	175
		5	Ditch	10	121
		7	Ditch	5	28
		8	Ditch	1	5
		9	Ditch	14	126
		10	Ditch	80	1047
		21	Curving linear feature	27	587
		14	Ditch	23	649
		17	Ditch	46	407



Phase	Land-use Area	Group	Description	Sherd No.	Wt (g)
2	4	15	Three pits	58	946
	5	3	Small pit	3	19
	5	6	Ditch	27	372
	5	11	Ditch	4	94
	5	24	Pit AG4 main deposits	60	629
3	6	16	Ditch	31	292
	7	18	Quarry pit	13	561
	7	19	Quarry pit	5	136
	8	20	Three pits	58	1007
	8	22	Layer	10	395
4	9	23	Modern post holes	1	2

**Table 3:** Pottery quantification by Phase, Land-use Area and Group

*Phase 1 Early / high medieval (c. 1150–1400)*

Features assigned to Phase 1 yielded 307 sherds, weighing 4.4kg, associated mainly with Land-use Area 2 (Table 3). The largest assemblage derived from the re-cut G10 of enclosure ditch G9. Medieval pottery totals 205 sherds weighing 2.5kg. The majority comprises wheel-thrown shell-tempered vessels of 12th–13th-century date (B07), and sherds of unglazed Lyveden/Stanion ware (B09), types known to derive from production centres on the Beds./Bucks./Northants. borders. Vessel forms are jars varying in diameter from 160–260mm, with everted, square, triangular and hook rims; bowls with upright or rounded rims, ranging in diameter from 240–300mm; and jugs, some of the latter with thumbled decoration on applied strips. The remainder of the assemblage comprises locally manufactured sand-tempered fabric types (C01, C04, C05, C59, C61, C88) and Hertfordshire-type greyware (C60), occurring in a similar range of forms to the shell-tempered vessels. A number of sherds have stabbed, slashed and thumbled decoration. Sooting marks on both shell- and sand-tempered sherds confirm that a proportion of these types represent kitchen wares.

High medieval pottery (c. 13th–14th century) is represented by 12 sherds of glazed Lyveden/Stanion ware and three Potterspury ware sherds, fineware imports from Northamptonshire. Diagnostic forms are jugs with rod or strap handles, one with combed longitudinal decoration.

Residual pottery totals 87 sherds (1.2kg), datable to the late Saxon / Saxo-Norman period (c. mid 9th–11th century). Interestingly, the presence of this material suggests a phase of activity on the site which is not represented in the contextual sequence. It comprises shell-tempered wheel-thrown vessels in the St Neots-ware tradition (type B01), and its variants (B01A-C, B04). Three hand-made sherds (B04A) also occur. Vessel forms are bowls with inturned and simple upright rims, ranging in diameter from 320–340mm; and an everted rim jar with a diameter of 200mm. Vessel wall thickness ranges from 3–14mm. Thumbled decoration occurs on a single bowl rim. The exterior surfaces of many of the sherds are heavily sooted, indicating their use as cooking pots.

*Phase 2: Late medieval*

Phase 2 features yielded 94 pottery sherds, weighing 1.1kg. The majority of the assemblage comprises residual late Saxon / Saxo-Norman, and early / high



medieval sherds (total weight 974g), deriving from the infilling deposits G24 (L5) of Phase 1 pit G4. Late medieval pottery comprises eleven sand-tempered sherds (90g) in the south-east Midlands late medieval reduced ware tradition (E01, E01D), and a single contemporary oxidised sherd (E02; 39g). The sole diagnostic form is a straight-sided bowl with a diameter of 300mm. A sherd of 17th-century glazed red earthenware (P01) from pit G24 represents an intrusive find.

#### *Phase 3: Post-medieval c. 1500-1750*

Features assigned to Phase 3 yielded 117 sherds weighing 2.3kg. The largest pottery concentration (1kg) was associated with the infilling G20 of the Phase 1 pits. As with the preceding phase, the majority of the assemblage comprises residual late Saxon / Saxo-Norman, and early / high medieval sherds (total weight 1.1kg). A single burnished, sand-tempered sherd (7g), datable to the early Saxon period, was also identified (A16). Two oxidised sand-tempered body sherds (7g), datable to the late medieval/early post-medieval transitional period, were recovered from pits G18 and G20.

Post-medieval pottery comprises 28 sherds, weighing 1kg. Glazed and slip-decorated red earthenwares of 17th–18th-century date constitute the bulk of the assemblage, with three sherds of Midland Yellow, and single sherds of tin-glazed earthenware, Staffordshire slipware, Chinese porcelain, and mottle/speckle-glazed ware. Vessel forms are mainly large shallow bowls.

Modern pottery comprises nine sherds (122g) of mass-produced tableware of 18th–20th-century date, including transfer-printed wares, pearlware and mocha ware.

#### *Phase 4: Modern (c. 1750 onwards)*

An undiagnostic, shell-tempered early medieval sherd (2g) occurred as a residual find in modern post-hole G23.

## **3.2 Ceramic Building Material**

### **3.2.1 Methodology**

For each context, ceramic building material (brick and tile) was recorded by fabric type in accordance with the Bedfordshire Ceramic Type Series, and quantified by minimum fragment count and weight. This information was entered onto the Context Assemblage Table in the project database. Where possible, the ceramic building material was also spot-dated.

### **3.2.2 Quantification, variety and provenance**

Sand-tempered post-medieval building material comprises twelve pieces of brick and twenty-four flat roof tile fragments (total weight 3.1kg), all but one piece deriving from the Phase 3 infilling G20 of earlier Phase 1 pits. A single brick fragment occurred as an intrusive find in Phase 1 ditch G17 (L3).

Roof tiles are 10–14mm thick; one has a circular peg hole with a diameter of 14mm, and one a rectangular nail hole measuring 10 x 8mm. Bricks range in thickness from 36–60mm. An abraded shell-tempered brick fragment (322g)





recovered from pit G20 may be a residual Roman find. The brick is 36mm in thickness, and has pre-firing perforations through the body to assist drying while in a 'plastic' state.

### 3.3 Other Artefacts

#### 3.3.1 Quantification and variety

A total of nine other artefacts, one piece of copper alloy waste/miscast and 664g of ferrous slag were recovered via hand excavation. The objects were assigned to one of eighteen possible categories; the majority of categories relate to the function objects performed, although there are two categories (Prehistoric Flint and Objects of Uncertain Identity) which are not functionally related. Three categories are represented within the assemblage (*Table 4*).

Material	Iron	Copper alloy	Glass	Slag	Total no	Total wt.
<b>Functional category &amp; object type</b>						
Fasteners & fittings						
Nails	5	-	-	-	5	-
Household						
Stopper	-	-	1	-	1	-
Vessel	-	-	2	-	2	-
Crafts & Industry						
Waste/miscast	-	1	-	-	1	29.5g
Ferrous slag	-	-	-	664g	-	664g
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>664g</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>693.5g</b>

**Table 4:** Other Artefacts by function and material

#### 3.3.2 Date range

Dateable 'other artefacts' are restricted in number, due to the nature of the assemblage. Of the two nails which retained their heads, one was a 'figure-of-eight' form, a known medieval and post-medieval type sometimes associated with hanging roofing slate/tiles (e.g. Thompson 2007, 180) but may also have had other uses within a building. Part of a base sherd and a body sherd from a pale green translucent vessel, thought to be a globular flask, is likely to date to the first half of the 16th century (Charleston 1984, 268 and fig. 148 no. 59). The glass stopper is of modern date with 'Daddies' moulded on its top.

#### 3.3.3 Provenance

##### *Phase 1 Early / high medieval (c. 1150–1400)*

Phase 1 deposits produced a small assemblage of ferrous smelting slag, a nail shank and a body sherd from a clear dark green vessel (*Table 5*). Much of this assemblage may be intrusive. The small quantity of ferrous slag derives from smelting, and is tap slag. Tapping furnaces were in use in the Iron Age, Roman and later medieval and post-medieval periods, whereas during the early medieval period, although some tapping furnaces were in use, non-tapping furnaces were the norm. The irregular lump of copper alloy waste or possibly miscast might suggest copper alloy casting, although there is no supporting evidence in the form of crucibles or moulds.

The vessel from which the glass body sherd derived is not identifiable, but the sherd is not of pot ash glass and is intrusive within G10 deposits. The nail



from G15 (L4) survives as part of a shank only and cannot be typologically dated.

L	G	Ferrous slag	Copper alloy waste	Vessel glass	Nail
L1	G4	15g	-	-	-
L2	G10	-	-	1	1
L4	G15	30g	1	-	1

**Table 5:** Other Artefacts from Phase 1 deposits

*Phase 3: Post-medieval c. 1500-1750*

Ferrous smelting tap slag (599g) had been re-deposited in enclosure ditch G16 (L6). This is a small to moderate sized assemblage and is suggestive of a tapping furnace in the vicinity.

The fills of large pit G19 (L7) yielded part of a base and a body sherd from a flask of pale green glass. The base is pushed in with a slight point and a pontil mark, the body sherd suggesting a rather globular body. The closest parallel found is a flask from Exeter of 16th-century date (Charleston 1984, 268 no.54 and fig.148). The same fills also produced a nail, with flat narrow rectangular head.

A small quantity of ferrous tap slag (20g) was recovered from pit G20 (L8), and a single figure-of-eight headed nail from layer G22. The latter is a medieval and post-medieval form.

*Phase 4: Modern (c. 1750 onwards)*

A single nail shank was recovered from intrusive feature G23 (L9); it cannot be dated. The glass stopper derived from unphased deposits.



## 4. ECOFACT ASSEMBLAGES

### 4.1 Animal Bone

#### 4.1.1 Methodology

For each context, animal bone was quantified by minimum fragment count and weight. Where possible, diagnostic bone elements and species were identified. This information was entered onto the Context Assemblage Table in the project database. Bone fragments sorted from environmental samples were scanned, but not recorded to the same level of detail as hand-collected material.

#### 4.1.2 Quantification, variety and provenance

A total of 163 animal bone fragments, weighing 2.5kg, was collected, the majority deriving from features assigned to Phase 1 (Table 6 and 7). Individual pieces are small, with an average weight of 15g, although relatively unabraded, displaying little surface erosion. Identifiable species are cattle, sheep/goat, dog, pig, deer and bird (?domestic fowl). Both adult and immature animals are present, the latter indicated by an unfused large mammal metapodial, and tooth and mandible fragments from a young dog.

Phase	Frag. No.	% Frag.	Wt (g)	% Wt
1	76	46.6	1395	55.7
2	20	12.3	437	17.4
3	67	41.1	673	26.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2,505</b>	<b>100</b>

**Table 6:** Animal bone quantification by Phase

Diagnostic bone elements are mainly representative of post-cranial meat-bearing parts (limb bones, ribs, scapulae, pelvis). However, the presence of a number of foot bones, vertebrae and cranial elements, the latter represented by loose teeth, hore cores, antler, and mandible fragments, suggest the practice of butchery. Cut / chop marks were noted on a large mammal vertebra fragment recovered from Phase 3 quarry pit G18. The fill of Phase 1 ditch G10 yielded a burnt rib fragment, although this may have occurred accidentally.

Phase	Land-use Area	Group	Description	Frag. No.	Wt (g)	Bone element
1	1	1	Ditch	1	28	Vertebra
	1	2	Ditch	2	5	Limb bone; skull
	1	4	Large pit	2	16	Limb bone; scapula
	1	5	Ditch	1	3	Tooth
	1	7	Ditch	1	2	Limb bone
	2	9	Ditch	13	555	Antler, limb bone; mandible; pelvis
	2	10	Ditch	26	238	Antler, limb bone; mandible; rib; skull; tooth; vertebra
	2	21	Curving linear feature	3	21	Limb bone
	3	14	Ditch	3	31	Limb bone
	3	17	Ditch	11	335	Limb bone (incl. metapodial); scapula
2	4	15	Three pits	13	161	Limb bone; mandible; rib; scapula; skull
	5	3	Small pit	2	18	Limb bone; vertebra
	5	6	Ditch	4	11	Limb bone; rib; tooth
3	5	24	Pit AG4 main deposits	14	408	Horn core; mandible; rib; skull; vertebra
	6	16	Ditch	44	260	Limb bone (incl. metapodial), mandible; phalanx; tooth
	7	18	Quarry pit	3	9	Limb bone; scapula; vertebra



Phase	Land-use Area	Group	Description	Frag. No.	Wt (g)	Bone element
	7	19	Quarry pit	1	14	Rib
	8	20	Three pits	14	219	Astragalus; limb bone (incl. metapodial); mandible; scapula
	8	22	Layer	5	171	Limb bone; scapula

**Table 7:** Animal bone quantification by Phase, Land-use Area and Group

## 4.2 Charred Plant Remains

### 4.2.1 Methodology

A bulk soil sample (<5>) was collected from the fill of the Phase 1 ditch G9 for the potential recovery of charred plant remains and information on the agricultural economy of the site and human activities taking place close-by.

The soil sample (26 litres in volume) was processed in a 'Siraf'-style type flotation tank using mesh sizes of 0.25 mm and 0.5mm for the recovery of the flot and residue respectively. The flot was dried, measured (53ml) and divided into different fractions using a stack of sieves for ease of sorting. All potentially identifiable charred plant remains were extracted except charcoal and indeterminate cereal fragments, generally smaller than 2mm. The botanical material was identified using a binocular microscope (with a magnification of up to x40) together with modern and charred reference material and reference manuals (Cappers et al 2006; Jacomet 2006). Counts were made of the sorted remains and approximate estimates made of very fragmentary material (cereal, stem, indeterminate items) using the following rating system: + =<5; ++ = 5-25; +++ = 26-100; ++++ = 101-300; +++++ = >300 items.

### 4.2.2 Results

The charred plant remains from the ditch fill are shown in Table 8, with taxonomic order following Stace (2005). The sample produced a fairly rich botanical assemblage with 772 quantified items and a density of almost 30 items per litre of processed soil. Preservation of the charred plant remains, however, was poor. The quantified material was made up almost entirely of cereal remains (92%) virtually all grains and traces of chaff, the other 8% consisting of legumes and a small range of weeds/wild plants. The flot included a relatively large number of wood charcoal fragments greater than 2mm in size.

### 4.2.3 Discussion

The identifiable cereal grains consisted almost entirely of free-threshing wheat, either hexaploid bread wheat (*Triticum aestivum*) and/or tetraploid rivet wheat (*T. turgidum*); these two cereals may be distinguished by their rachis fragments although the few free-threshing wheat chaff fragments in the sample were too poorly preserved to be used as such. Rivet wheat is found on sites in southern England throughout the medieval period but appears to be less common than bread wheat (Moffet 2006, 49). There were a significantly smaller number of *Hordeum vulgare* (barley) grains, including hulled barley, and *Avena* sp. (oat) grains in the flot. Almost 33% of the grains could not be



identified but probably belong to wheat, while there was a large amount of uncounted indeterminate cereal fragments smaller than 2mm.

Free-threshing wheat (both bread and rivet wheat), hulled barley and oats are three of the main cereals identified in charred plant assemblages from southern England in the medieval period (Greig 1991, 321) including sites in Bedfordshire, *e.g.* the Bedford Western Bypass/ Land West of Bedford (Giorgi 2011) and the 13th-century moated site at Tempsford (Robinson 1996), in both instances free-threshing wheat being the main cereal. Wheat was the most valued cereal during the medieval period, with bread wheat being preferred to rivet wheat for bread making (Moffet 2006, 49). The different cereals at the site may have also been used for biscuits, cakes or added to pottage (Campbell *et al* 1993, 25) while barley and oats were used for animal feed and brewing, although no sprouted grains in the assemblages were present to suggest the latter use.

There were also a small number of poorly preserved legume seeds, some of which were tentatively identified as *Vicia faba* (broad bean); beans are frequently found in medieval deposits but usually only in small amounts (Moffet 2006, 53) including sites in Bedfordshire, *e.g.* Great Barford (Druce 2007, 378) and the Bedford Western Bypass/Land West of Bedford (Giorgi 2011). Beans were mainly grown as fodder but sometimes used together with cereals for bread especially following poor cereal harvests and also in pottage (Wilson 1991, 201-2). Pulses were grown in the medieval period as a means of restoring nitrogen to the soil as part of crop rotation (Campbell *et al* 1993, 134). The other legume seeds could only be broadly identified as *Vicia/Lathyrus* sp. (vetch/tare/vetchling) or *Vicia/Lathyrus/Pisum* sp. (vetch/tare/vetchling/pea) and may be simply weeds.

The small assemblage of wild plant/weed seeds included a few seeds of *Anthemis cotula* (stinking chamomile), indicative of waterlogged loams and clay soils, and common on other medieval sites in Bedfordshire, *e.g.* Bedford Western Bypass/Land West of Bedford (Giorgi 2011) and at Great Barford (Druce 2007). The few other weed seeds included *Rumex* sp. (dock), *Rumex acetosella* (sheep's sorrel) and *Bromus* sp. (brome), a large-seeded grass, often found in storage deposits or almost fully cleaned cereals, because the seeds are difficult to separate from grains other than by hand-sorting. A few grass stem fragments in the sample may be from cereals.

#### 4.2.4 Summary

The charred plant assemblage from ditch G9 largely represents the burnt debris from a virtually fully processed grain deposit of free-threshing wheat, the grain being accidentally burnt, possibly while being dried before storage or milling or during cooking of whole grains. While free-threshing wheat appears to have been the main cereal, traces of hulled barley, oats and broad bean suggest that these crops may have also been grown and used at the site, their remains in the wheat crop possibly representing residues from previous harvests. The few weed seeds suggest the use of clay soils for cereal cultivation, with free-threshing bread wheat being typically associated with deep clay loams (Jones 1981, 106), while beans also grow best on clay soils



(Barker 1985, 46). There is little debris from the earlier stages of crop-cleaning except for the few small weed seeds (removed by sieving), traces of chaff and possibly cereal straw, which may have been burnt as tinder.

	Phase	1
	Group	G10
	Feature	ditch [528]
	Sample number	5
	Vol sample (l)	26
	Vol flot (ml)	53
LATIN NAME	ENGLISH NAME	
<b>Cereal grains</b>		
<i>Triticum aestivum/turgidum</i>		
type	free-threshing wheat	127
<i>T. cf. aestivum/turgidum</i> type	?free-threshing wheat	214
<i>Triticum</i> spp.	wheat	60
<i>cf. Triticum</i> spp.	?wheat	29
<i>Triticum sp./Secale cereale</i> L.	wheat/rye	1
<i>Hordeum vulgare</i> L.	barley, hulled	3
<i>H. vulgare</i> L.	barley, indet.	13
<i>cf. H. vulgare</i>	?barley	8
<i>Avena</i> spp.	oat	11
<i>cf. Avena</i> spp.	?oat	10
Cereal	indet. cereal	229
	indet cereal fragments	
Cereal	<2mm	++++
<b>Cereal chaff</b>		
<i>Triticum aestivum/turgidum</i>	free-threshing wheat	
type	rachis	3
<b>Other plant/weed seeds</b>		
<i>Ranunculus</i>		
<i>acris/repens/bulbosus</i>	buttercups	1
<i>Rumex acetosella</i> agg.	sheep's sorrel	1
<i>Rumex</i> sp.	dock	1
<i>cf. Vicia faba</i>	?broad bean cotyledons	6
<i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> spp.	vetch/tare/vetchling	6
<i>Vicia/Lathyrus/Pisum</i> spp.	vetch/tare/vetchling/pea	5
<i>Medicago/Trifolium</i> spp.	medicks/clovers	2
	small indet legume	
Fabaceae indet.	fragments	6
	large indet legume	
Fabaceae indet.	fragments	11
<i>Anthemis cotula</i> L.	stinking chamomile	6
<i>Bromus</i> spp.	brome	5
<i>cf. Bromus</i> spp.	?brome	2
Poaceae indet.	grasses	12
	grass/cereal	
Poaceae indet.	node/internode	+
indeterminate	wood charcoal	+++++
indeterminate	items	+
<b>total</b>		<b>772</b>
<b>density items (per litre of soil)</b>		<b>29.7</b>
key: item frequency: + =<5; ++ = 5-25; +++ = 26-100; ++++ = 101-300; +++++ = >300 items.		

**Table 8:** Charred plant remains from ditch [528]



## 5. ANALYTICAL POTENTIAL OF THE DATA

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### 5.1 *Original Research Objectives*

The overall purpose of the archaeological works was to determine and understand the nature, function and character of the site in its cultural and environmental setting, and to prepare and disseminate a report that fully described the findings.

The results of the trial trenching had suggested that the site would produce remains dating from the Saxo-Norman, medieval and post-medieval periods, most likely in the form of backfilled ditches and pits and other features representing domestic and agrarian activities. Such evidence could contribute to important fields of research into these periods as highlighted in research strategy documents for the region and county (Glazebrook 1997, Brown and Glazebrook 2000, Oake *et al* 2007, Medlycott 2011):

- understanding settlement form and pattern
- settlement character – origins and development of villages, including manorial centres
- settlement continuity – evidence for earlier and later settlement at the site
- chronology – development of regional pottery sequences, clarification of the dating of pottery sequences
- environment – improve understanding of local environmental conditions

The extent to which the individual data-sets can address these objectives is assessed below.

### 5.2 *Contextual Data*

The contextual data have allowed reconstruction of a sequence of activity on the site from the medieval periods onwards. Some of the features are relatively well preserved and have provided some insight into medieval settlement activity. However, their analytical potential is limited. The small size of the excavation area reduces the legibility of the remains and hampers their interpretation. Sequential activity on the site has also resulted in significant truncation of the earliest features, which again reduces their analytical potential. This process is exemplified by the relatively large quantities of residual Saxo-Norman pottery recovered from Phase 1 and 2 features. The contextual data have made a minor contribution to understanding of the sequence of activity on the site but have no potential for further analysis.

### 5.3 *Artefactual and Ecofactual Data*

The pottery assemblage is of limited interest and comprises types which are typical of the region and period. There are regional imports from Stamford, Lyveden and Potterspury but these are not unexpected, given the site's location. The vessels represented in the assemblage are all standard forms and



do not include any of the more exotic tablewares *etc* that might be expected on a higher status site.

However, although relatively small and fragmentary, the assemblage does represent one of the first excavated bodies of material from Melchbourne. Of particular interest is its wide date range, spanning the early Saxon to modern periods, with Saxo-Norman and medieval fabric types being the best represented. It has provided the basis for the chronological phasing of the contextual data but has no potential for further analysis.

The other artefactual data-sets, including the ceramic building material, have no further analytical potential. The assemblages are either too small in size or too poorly dated to contribute further to the project's research objectives.

The animal bone assemblage is too small and too poorly preserved to contribute further to the project's research objectives. It has no further analytical potential.

The charred plant remains from Phase 1 ditch G9 have provided a useful insight into crops grown in the area during the medieval period. However, they only derive from a single sample and do not warrant any further work beyond what has been carried out for the assessment.

#### **5.4 Summary Analytical Potential**

The results of the investigations have made a modest contribution to understanding of the evolution of a small part of Melchbourne in the medieval and later periods. A relatively complex sequence of development has been elucidated. The recovered artefacts and ecofacts have shed light on the types of ceramics in use in the village and the crops grown by the inhabitants. The pottery also indicates that there was activity on the site in the Saxo-Norman period, even though this is not represented in the contextual sequence.

However, the small size of the investigation area, in particular, has hampered interpretation of the remains. For example, it has not been possible to demonstrate conclusively that the remains are associated with a manorial centre. However, the work has clearly indicated that this part of the village has considerable potential to preserve significant archaeological remains which could potentially contribute to understanding of its origins and development.





## 6. UPDATED PROJECT DESIGN

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### 6.1 *Introduction*

Assessment of the data from the investigations has indicated that it has no potential for further analysis, principally because of the small size of the site and the condition of the recovered artefacts and ecofacts. However, the results of the investigations are relevant to the early history and development of Melchbourne. Accordingly, they will be disseminated further as set out below.

### 6.2 *Publication*

This report will be uploaded onto the ADS Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS ref: albionar1-116879. In addition, summaries will be prepared for submission to *Medieval Archaeology* and *South Midlands Archaeology*. The summaries will be cross-referenced to the online OASIS entry.

### 6.3 *Archiving*

Following approval of this document by the HET, the archive of materials (subject to the landowner's permission) and accompanying records will be deposited with Bedford Museum (accession no. 2012.1) in accordance with IFA (2001) and Museum (1998) guidelines.



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## 8. APPENDIX 1 – HERITAGE ASSETS

HER no.	Description	Date
342	Knights Hospitallers Preceptory	Medieval
343	Market cross – probable site of	Medieval
1810	Settlement earthworks	Medieval
2328	Grade II* listed Melchbourne House	Post-medieval
2330	Row of houses – demolished	Post-medieval
2331	Grade II listed Church Cottage – 17th-century thatched cottage with 20th-century additions	Post-medieval
2332	Grade II listed St Mary Magdalene's Church	Medieval + post-medieval
2333	Grade II listed 17th-century cottage	Post-medieval
2334	Row of Grade II listed 18th-century thatched cottages	Post-medieval
3292	Ridge and furrow	Medieval
4244	Two 18th-century buildings	Post-medieval
6991	Melchbourne Park	Post-medieval
8934	St Mary Magdalene's parish churchyard	Post-medieval
9517	Grade II listed Old School House – 19th century	Modern
9522	20th-century lion head standpipe	Modern
9523	Cottage – site of	Post-medieval
9656	Melchbourne Park ice house – site of	Post-medieval
9657	Melchbourne Park boathouse – site of	Post-medieval
9663	Settlement earthworks	Medieval
9664	Site of destroyed road	Medieval + post-medieval
9665	Site of demolished settlement	Medieval + post-medieval
9673	Dove House Close – placename	Post-medieval
9675	Fish ponds – site of	Post-medieval
9748	19th-century stable block	Modern
12090	Inn Farmhouse – 19th-century	Modern
12095	Grade II listed 18th-century cottage	Post-medieval
12096	Grade II listed Meadow Cottage	Post-medieval
12097	Park Farm – 19th-century farm buildings	Modern
12098	Hillands Farmhouse – 18th-century	Post-medieval
12099	27-28 Park Road – 19th-century houses	Modern
15210	?Manorial enclosure	Medieval
15894	Findspot of brooch and 4th-century coin	Roman
16572	Cropmark of rectilinear enclosure	Prehistoric
17080	Melchbourne's medieval settlement core	Medieval



## 9. APPENDIX 2 – TABLE OF GROUPS AND CONTEXTS

Group	Context	Group	Context	Group	Context	Group	Context
1	449	9	458	15	518	23	493
	450		460		519		494
	454		461	16	302		535
	455		529		303	24	509
	483		530		304		510
	484	10	208		441		
2	203		209		442		
	204		459		512		
	420		462		513		
	421		466		533		
	422		467		534		
	463		468	17	443		
	464		469		444		
	465		489		497		
	531		490		498		
	532		527		499		
3	435		528		514		
	436	11	410		515		
	439		411		523		
	440		447		524		
4	205		448	18	305		
	206		521		306		
	207		522		406		
	210	12	472		407		
	506		473		408		
	507		474		409		
	508		475	19	423		
5	470		476		424		
	471		477		425		
	495		478		426		
	496		479		427		
6	437	13	416		428		
	438		417		429		
	451	14	412		504		
	452		413		505		
	453		487	20	414		
	485		488		415		
	486	15	418		503		
7	432		419		511		
	433		445		520		
	434		446	21	525		
8	480		500		526		
	481		501	22	202		
	482		502		401		
9	456		516	23	491		
	457		517		492		



## **10. APPENDIX 3 – LIST OF CONTEXTS**

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**Area:** 1  
**Extent (ha):** 0.027  
**OS Co-ordinates:** TL0286765349  
**Description:** Site of house extension and garage located within core of medieval settlement

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
202	Layer	Firm mid orange brown silty clay occasional large CBM, frequent large stones. Layer contains frequent large round / oval stones towards bottom of layer. Layer 0.17m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
203	Ditch	Curving linear sides: concave base: concave dimensions: min breadth 0.6m, min depth 0.25m, min length 2.m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
204	Fill	Firm dark green grey clay silt moderate flecks charcoal, occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
205	Pit	Sides: irregular base: uneven dimensions: min breadth 0.48m, min depth 0.35m, min length 1.38m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
206	Primary fill	Firm mid grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
207	Main fill	Firm mid green grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small-large stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
208	Ditch	Linear ESE-WNW sides: concave base: concave dimensions: min breadth 0.73m, min depth 0.28m, min length 1.5m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
209	Main fill	Firm dark green grey clay silt moderate flecks charcoal, occasional small-large stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
302	Ditch	Linear NW-SE sides: 45 degrees base: concave dimensions: min breadth 1.1m, min depth 0.37m, min length 1.7m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
303	Primary fill	Plastic mid grey brown clay silt occasional small-medium stones. Deposit contained moderate amounts of metal working slag.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
304	Main fill	Plastic mid grey brown clay silt moderate small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
305	Pit	Dimensions: min breadth 1.6m, min length 2.2m. A large pit that continues beyond the eastern end and sides of the trench. The pit contained artefacts of post-medieval date and was not excavated.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
306	Upper fill	Friable mid grey brown silty clay moderate large CBM, occasional small-medium stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
401	Levelling layer	Firm mid orange brown silty clay moderate large stones. Occ post Med. Brick roof tile and ceramic inclusions. 0.18m thick	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
406	Quarry	Oval E-W sides: concave dimensions: min depth 0.9m, min diameter 0.7m, min length 3.75m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
407	Quarry	Compact dark brown grey silty clay . 0.15m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
408	Quarry	Compact mid brown grey silty clay occasional small-medium stones. 0.75m thick. Pot, bone, CBM finds	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
409	Quarry	Compact mid grey brown silty clay occasional small stones. 0.32m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
410	Ditch	Linear E-W sides: U-shaped base: flat dimensions: min breadth 0.2m, max depth 0.17m, min length 1.1m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
411	Ditch	Compact mid brown grey silty clay . 0.17m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
412	Ditch	Linear N-S sides: Assymetrical base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.57m, max depth 0.24m, min length 1.m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
413	Ditch	Compact mid brown grey silty clay occasional flecks chalk, occasional flecks charcoal. 0.24m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
414	Pit	Oval E-W sides: steep dimensions: max breadth 0.27m, min depth 0.4m, max length 0.45m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
415	Pit	Compact dark brown grey silty clay occasional flecks chalk, occasional flecks charcoal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



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416	Pit	Irregular N-S sides: steep dimensions: min breadth 0.12m, min depth 0.27m, min length 0.28m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
417	Pit	Compact mid brown grey silty clay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
418	Pit	Oval N-S sides: steep base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.7m, min depth 0.32m, min length 0.15m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
419	Pit	Compact mid brown grey silty clay occasional flecks chalk, occasional flecks charcoal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
420	Ditch	Linear E-W sides: steep base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.75m, max depth 0.38m, min length 1.m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
421	Ditch	Friable light green orange silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
422	Ditch	Friable mid green grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
425	Quarry	Irregular sides: concave dimensions: max breadth 7.25m, min depth 1.1m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
423	Pit	Friable light orange grey silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
424	Pit	Friable mid grey clay silt occasional small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
426	Quarry	Friable light green grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones. 0.35m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
427	Quarry	Firm mid grey orange clay silt occasional small-medium stones. 2.6m wide, 0.13m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
428	Quarry	Friable dark green grey clay silt . 3.6m wide, 0.2m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
429	Quarry	Firm mid grey orange silty clay . Lenses of mid grey clay silt. 4.9m+ wide, 0.46m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
432	Ditch	Curving linear NE-SW sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.37m, max depth 0.2m, min length 1.5m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
433	Ditch	Friable dark orange grey clay silt moderate flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones. 0.33m wide, 0.13m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
434	Ditch	Friable dark grey black clay silt moderate flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones. 0.4m wide, 0.12m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
435	Pit	Oval NW-SE sides: concave base: uneven dimensions: min breadth 0.37m, min depth 0.04m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
436	Pit	Friable mid grey silty clay frequent medium-large stones. Stones pressed into base with shell fragments. Maybe a food processing pit.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
437	Ditch	Curving linear NE-SW sides: concave base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.37m, max depth 0.13m, min length 1.m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
438	Ditch	Friable dark brown grey clay silt moderate flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
439	Pit	Oval NW-SE sides: concave base: uneven dimensions: max breadth 0.37m, min depth 0.04m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
440	Pit	Friable mid grey grey silty clay frequent small-medium stones. Stones are pressed into the base with shell fragments. Maybe a food processing pit?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
441	Ditch	Linear E-W sides: steep base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.55m, max depth 0.45m, min length 1.m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
442	Ditch	Compact mid brown grey silty clay occasional flecks chalk, occasional flecks charcoal. Pot, A. bone, CBM finds	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>





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443	Ditch	Linear E-W sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.8m, max depth 0.4m, min length 1.m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
444	Ditch	Compact dark brown grey silty clay occasional flecks chalk, occasional flecks charcoal. Pot, A.bone, CBM, Fe nail finds	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
445	Pit	Oval N-S sides: steep base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.66m, min diameter 0.6m, max length 1.3m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
446	Pit	Compact dark grey brown silty clay occasional flecks chalk, occasional flecks charcoal. Pot, A. bone, CBM, Cu alloy finds	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
447	Ditch	Linear E-W sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.45m, max depth 0.15m, min length 1.m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
448	Ditch	Compact mid brown grey silty clay occasional flecks chalk, occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
449	Ditch	Curving linear ESE-WNW sides: concave base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.75m, max depth 0.09m, min length 1.m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
450	Ditch	Firm mid orange grey silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
451	Ditch	Curving linear NE-SW sides: concave base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.7m, max depth 0.09m, min length 1.m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
452	Ditch	Friable dark brown grey clay silt moderate flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones. 0.55m wide, 0.09m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
453	Ditch	Friable dark brown grey clay silt occasional small stones. 0.3m wide, 0.03m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
454	Ditch	Curving linear ESE-WNW sides: concave base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.75m, max depth 0.09m, min length 1.m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
455	Ditch	Firm mid orange grey silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
456	Ditch	Linear N-S sides: 45 degrees base: flat dimensions: min breadth 0.6m, max depth 0.36m, min length 1.m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
457	Ditch	Friable mid green grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones. 0.6m wide, 0.13m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
458	Ditch	Friable light orange grey silty clay occasional flecks charcoal. 0.24m wide, 0.18m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
459	Ditch	Friable dark orange grey clay silt frequent flecks charcoal, frequent medium-large stones, moderate small stones. 0.48m wide, 0.23m deep	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
460	Ditch	Curving linear NE-SW sides: steep base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.7m, max depth 0.38m, min length 1.m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
461	Ditch	Compact mid green grey silty clay occasional flecks chalk, occasional small stones. 0.15m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
462	Ditch	Compact dark brown grey silty clay occasional flecks chalk, occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones. 0.23m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
463	Ditch	Linear NW-SE sides: concave base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.6m, max depth 0.14m, min length 1.m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
464	Ditch	Firm light orange grey silty clay occasional small-medium stones. 0.06m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
465	Ditch	Friable dark orange grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones. 0.48m wide, 0.11m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
466	Ditch	Linear N-S sides: 45 degrees base: concave	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
467	Ditch	Friable dark green grey clay silt moderate flecks charcoal, occasional large stones, occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



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468	Ditch	Linear E-W sides: 45 degrees base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.57m, max depth 0.17m, min length 1.1m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
469	Ditch	Friable dark green grey clay silt moderate flecks charcoal, occasional large stones, occasional small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
470	Ditch	Linear NNE-SSW sides: concave base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.55m, min depth 0.14m, min length 0.8m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
471	Ditch	Firm light orange grey silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
472	Posthole	Circular sides: concave base: flat dimensions: max depth 0.12m, max diameter 0.4m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
473	Posthole	Firm light orange grey silty clay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
474	Postpipe	Circular sides: steep base: flat dimensions: max depth 0.12m, max diameter 0.3m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
475	Postpipe	Friable dark orange grey silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small-large stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
476	Postpipe	Circular sides: 45 degrees base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.12m, max diameter 0.4m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
477	Posthole	Friable dark orange grey silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small-large stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
478	Posthole	Circular sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.14m, max diameter 0.4m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
479		Firm light orange grey silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
480	Ditch	Linear E-W sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.55m, max depth 0.15m, min length 0.53m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
481	Ditch	Firm mid orange grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
482	Ditch	Friable dark orange grey clay silt moderate flecks charcoal, occasional medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
483	Ditch	Curving linear ESE-WNW sides: concave base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.75m, min depth 0.09m, min length 1.1m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
484	Ditch	Firm mid orange grey silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
485	Ditch	Curving linear NE-SW sides: concave base: flat dimensions: min breadth 0.7m, min length 1.1m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
486	Ditch	Friable dark brown grey clay silt moderate flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
487	Ditch	Linear N-S sides: Assymetrical base: flat dimensions: min breadth 0.57m, min length 1.1m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
488	Ditch	Compact mid brown grey silty clay occasional flecks chalk, occasional flecks charcoal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
489	Ditch	Linear E-W sides: concave base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.59m, min length 1.1m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
490	Ditch	Compact mid brown grey silty clay	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
491	Posthole	Circular sides: concave base: concave . Probably modern	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
492	Posthole	Friable dark orange grey clay silt frequent flecks charcoal, occasional small-large stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
493	Posthole	Circular sides: concave base: concave	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
494	Posthole	Friable mid orange grey clay silt moderate flecks charcoal, occasional small-large stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



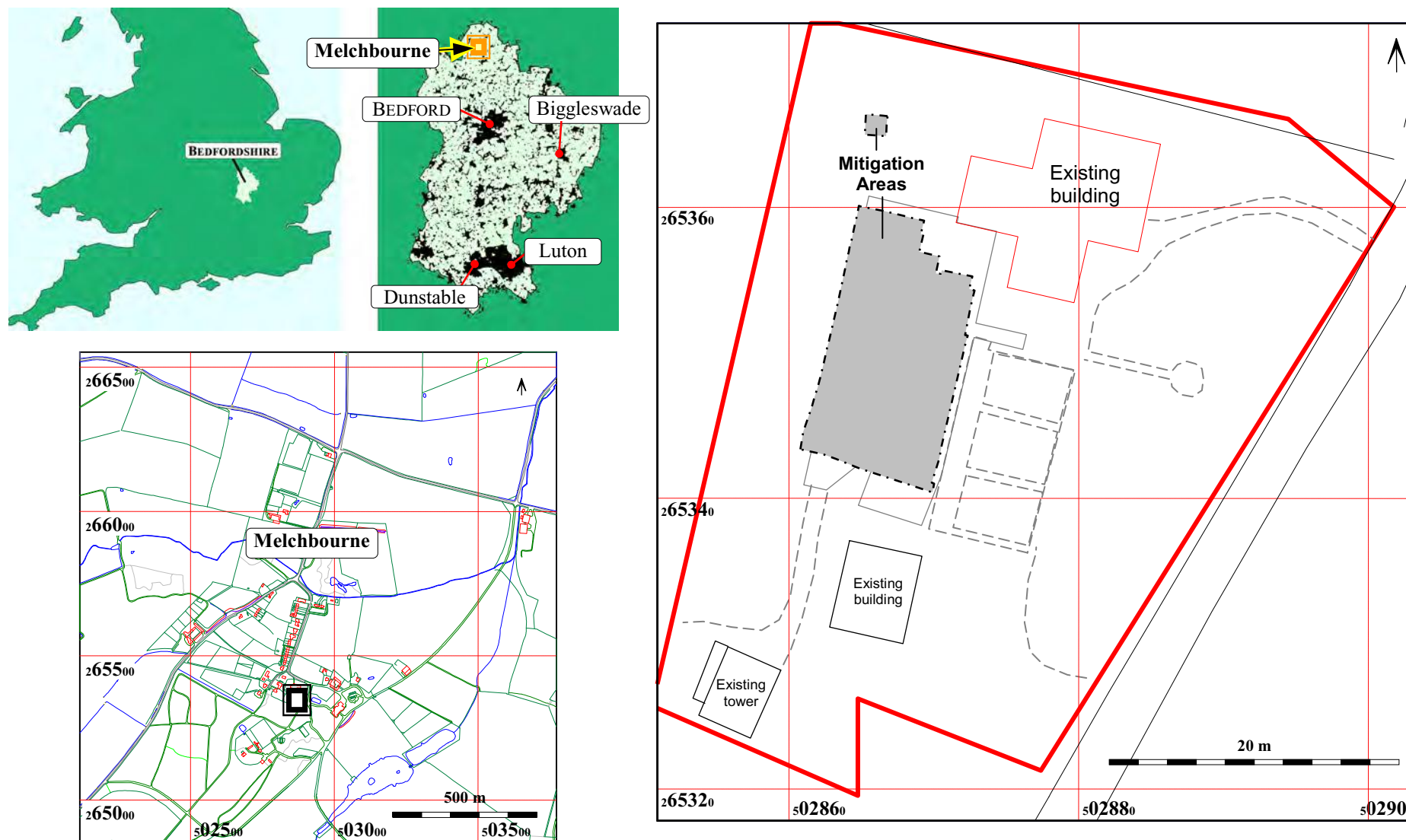
**Area: 1**  
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495	Ditch	Linear NNE-SSW sides: concave base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.55m, max depth 0.14m, min length 0.8m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
496	Ditch	Firm light orange grey silty clay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
497	Ditch	Linear N-S sides: steep base: flat dimensions: min breadth 0.4m, max depth 0.3m, min length 0.65m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
498	Ditch	Compact mid grey brown silty clay occasional flecks chalk, occasional flecks charcoal. 0.19m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
499	Ditch	Compact mid brown grey silty clay occasional flecks chalk, occasional flecks charcoal. Pot, A. bone, CBM finds. 0.15m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
500	Pit	Oval E-W sides: steep base: concave dimensions: min breadth 0.75m, max depth 0.9m, max length 2.9m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
501		Compact dark green grey silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones. Pot, A. bone, CBM, Fe nail finds. 0.35m thick	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
502	Pit	Compact dark brown grey silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones. Pot, A. bone, CBM finds. 0.23m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
503		Compact mid brown grey silty clay occasional flecks charcoal. Pot, A. bone, CBM finds. 0.42m thick.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
504	Pit	Oval E-W dimensions: min breadth 0.3m, min depth 0.25m, min length 1.15m. Part excavated, probably modern.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
505	Pit	Compact dark brown grey silty clay frequent small stones. Pot, CBM, clay pipe finds. Modern?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
506	Pit	Sub-oval sides: irregular base: uneven dimensions: max breadth 2.7m, max depth 0.95m, min length 4.m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
210	Backfill	Firm mid green grey clay silt frequent large stones. Probable deliberate backfill - possibly contemporary with layer (202)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
507	Pit	Firm mid orange grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones. 1.15m wide, 0.4m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
508	Pit	Friable light orange grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones. 1.7m wide, 0.2m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
509	Pit	Friable dark green grey clay silt moderate flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones. 2.63m wide, 0.35m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
510		Friable dark orange grey clay silt moderate flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones. 2.1m wide, 0.33m thick	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
511	Pit	Firm light orange grey silty clay frequent medium-large stones. 3m+ wide, 0.48m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
512	Ditch	Linear E-W sides: irregular base: flat dimensions: min breadth 0.89m, min depth 0.4m, min length 1.m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
513	Ditch	Compact mid brown grey silty clay occasional flecks chalk, occasional small stones. Pot finds	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
514	Ditch	Linear NE-SW sides: irregular base: flat dimensions: max breadth 1.16m, max depth 0.37m, min length 0.4m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
515	Ditch	Compact mid brown grey silty clay occasional flecks chalk, occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones. Pot, A. bone, CBM finds	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



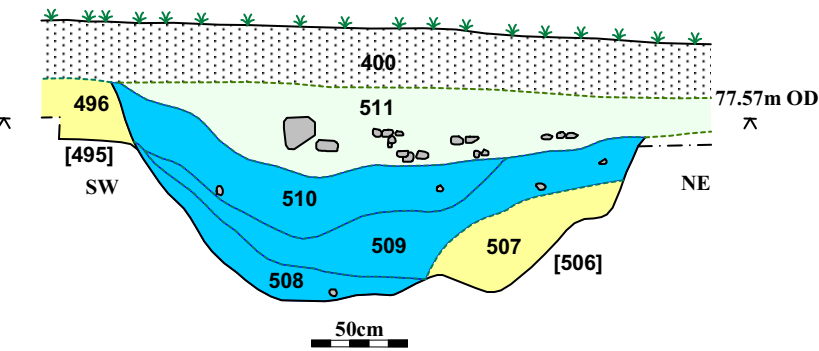
**Area: 1**  
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516	Pit	Oval sides: irregular base: flat dimensions: max breadth 1.05m, max depth 0.6m, min length 1.85m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
517	Pit	Friable mid green grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones. 1.3m long, 0.15m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
518	Pit	Friable light grey orange clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones. 0.35m long, 0.13m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
519	Pit	Friable mid orange grey clay silt occasional small-medium stones. 1.9m long, 0.27m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
520	Pit	Firm light grey yellow silty clay . Frequent post Med. Brick and roof tile. 1.7m long, 0.24m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
521	Ditch	Linear E-W sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.57m, max length 4.44m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
522		Compact mid brown grey silty clay occasional flecks chalk, occasional small stones. Pot, CBM finds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
523	Ditch	Linear E-W sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.01m, max length 11.67m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
524	Ditch	Compact dark brown grey silty clay occasional flecks chalk, occasional flecks charcoal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
525	Ditch	Curving linear N-S sides: concave . Not fully excavated.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
526	Ditch	Friable dark green grey clay silt frequent flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
527	Ditch	Curving linear N-S sides: 45 degrees base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.6m, max depth 0.28m, min length 1.m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
528	Ditch	Linear N-S sides: 45 degrees base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.5m, max depth 0.22m, min length 1.m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
529	Ditch	Curving linear N-S sides: steep base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.7m, max length 13.05m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
530	Ditch	Compact dark brown grey silty clay occasional flecks chalk, occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
531	Ditch	Linear NW-SE sides: concave base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.6m, max length 6.04m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
532	Ditch	Friable dark orange grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
533	Drain	Linear E-W sides: convex base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.57m, max length 4.42m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
534		Compact mid brown grey silty clay	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
535	Modern disturbance	General context for unexcavated modern pits, postholes and services.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

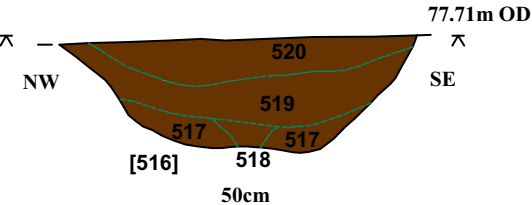


**Figure 1: Site location**

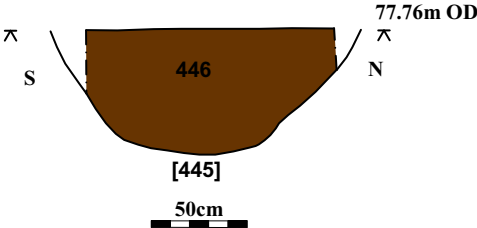
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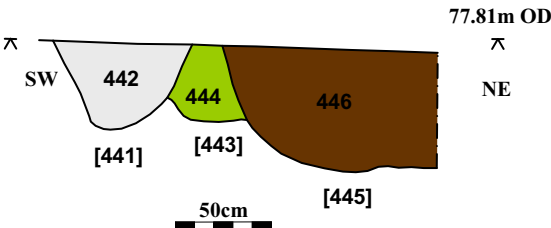
Section 1



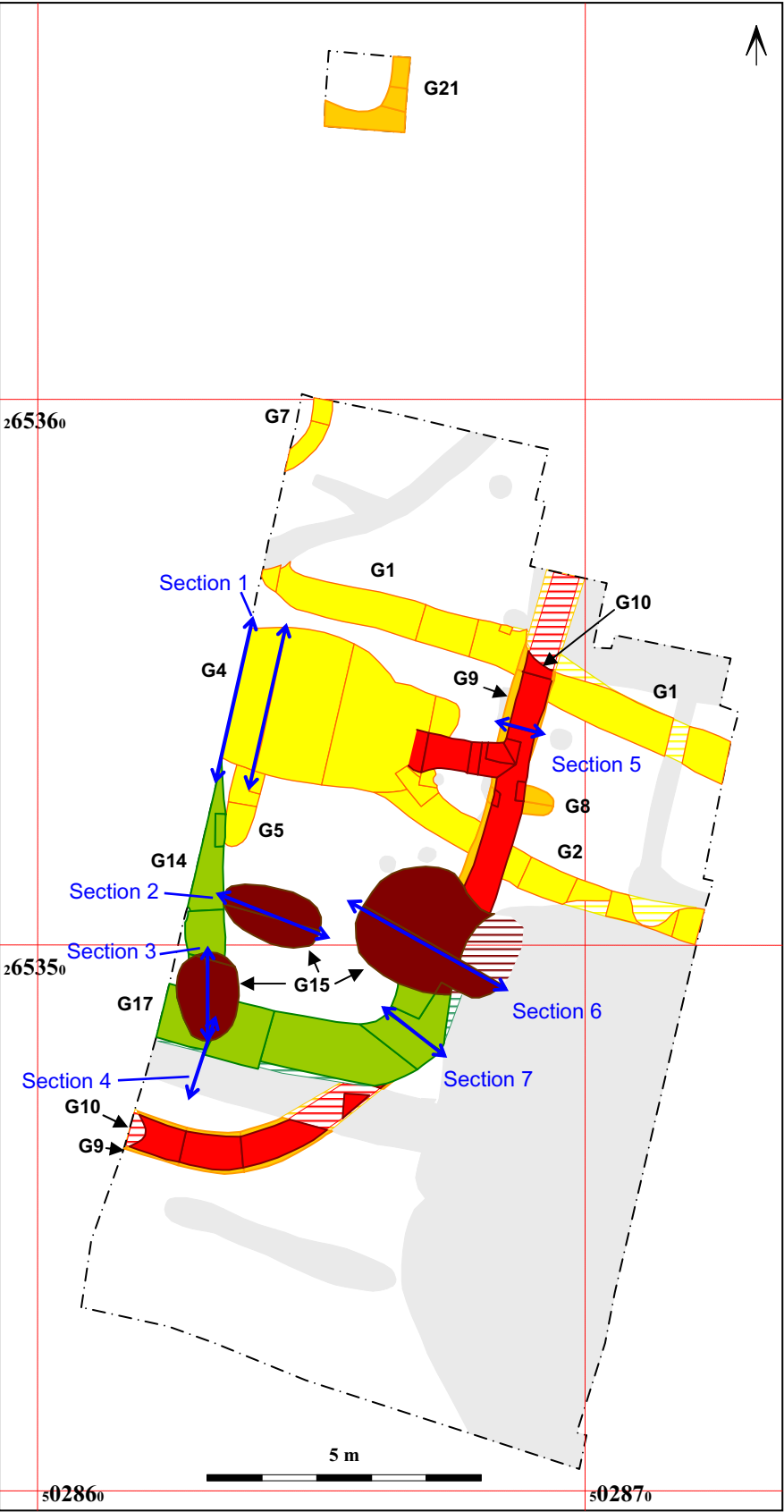
Section 2



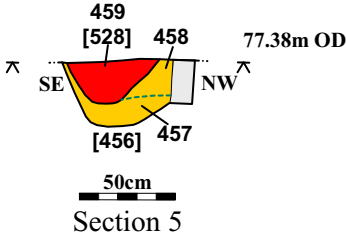
Section 3



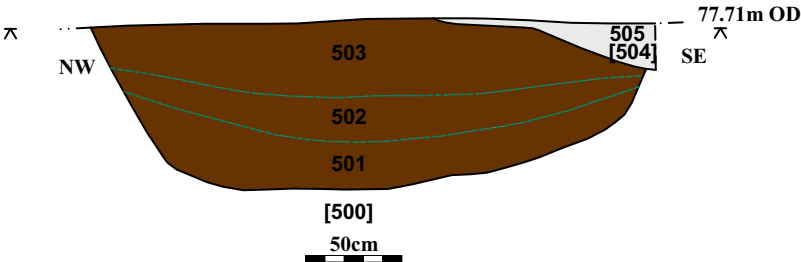
Section 4



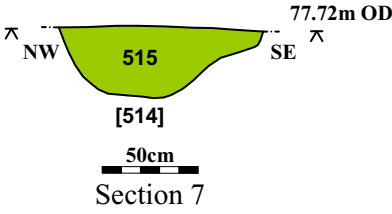
- L1
- L1 reconstructed
- L2
- L2 reconstructed
- L2 re-cut
- L2 re-cut reconstructed
- L3
- L3 reconstructed
- L4
- L4 reconstructed
- L5 (Phase 2)
- L8 (Phase3)



Section 5



Section 6



Section 7

Figure 2: Phase 1 – early / high medieval

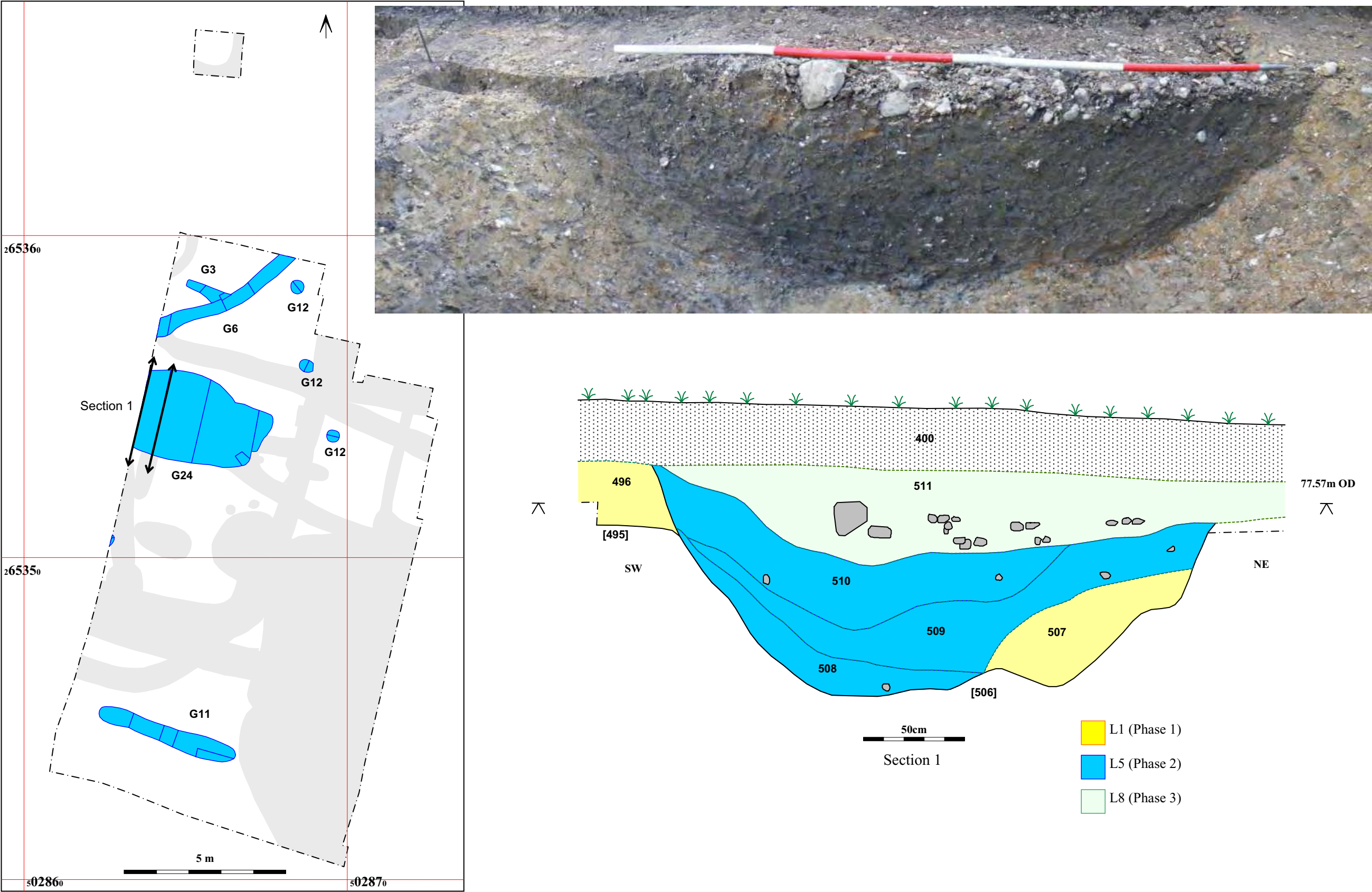


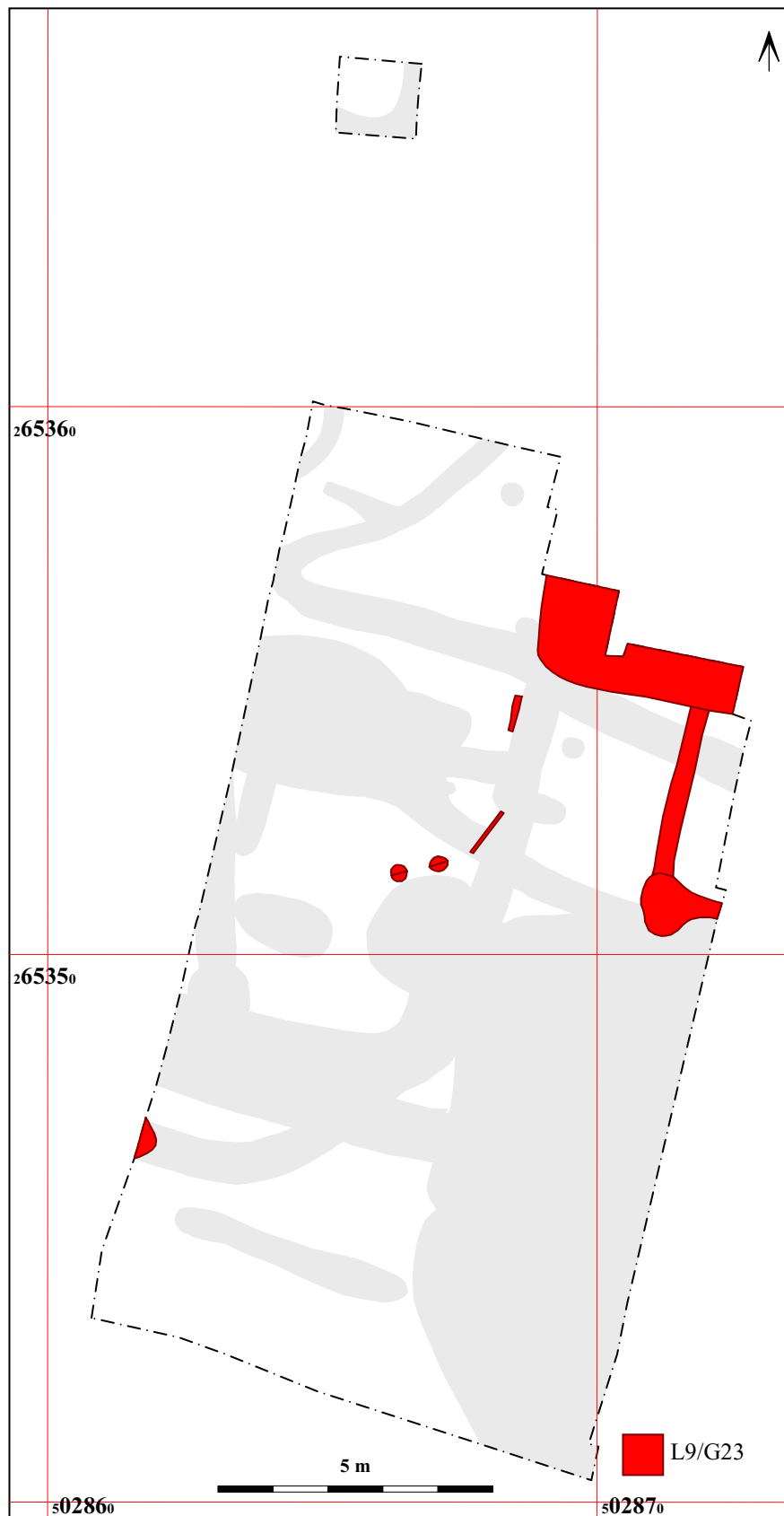
Figure 3: Phase 2 – late medieval



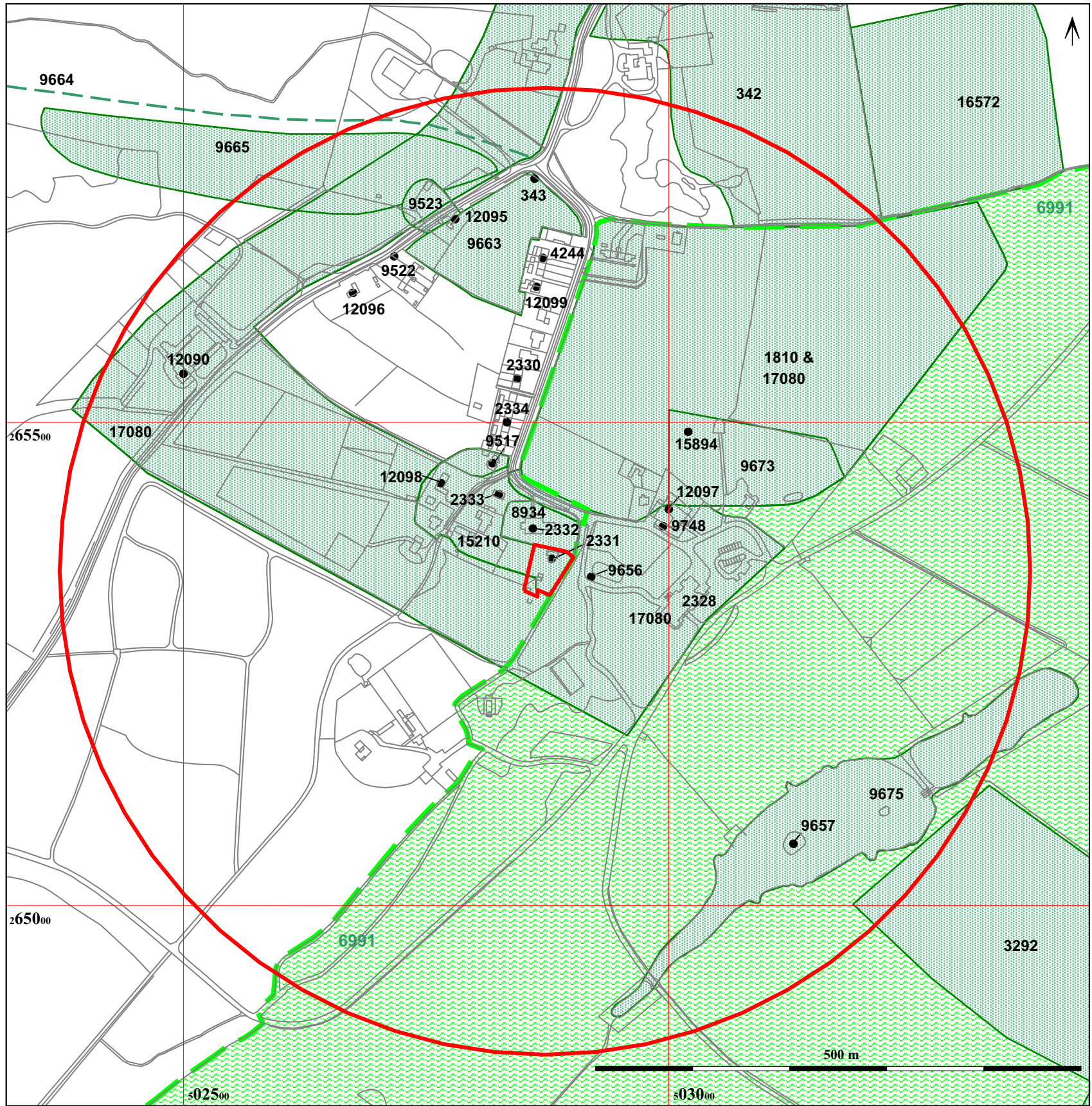


**Figure 4:** Phase 3 – post-medieval





**Figure 5:** Phase 4 modern intrusions



**Figure 6: Heritage assets within a 500m radius of the site**

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