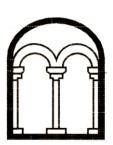
THE ROYAL OAK 33 HIGH STREET ROXTON BEDFORDSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBSERVATION, INVESTIGATION RECORDING, ANALYSIS AND PUBLICATION

Albion archaeology





THE ROYAL OAK 33 HIGH STREET ROXTON BEDFORDSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBSERVATION, INVESTIGATION RECORDING, ANALYSIS AND PUBLICATION

Project: RO1956 Museum accession no. BEDFM: 2012.25 OASIS ref: albionar1-122196

> Document: 2012/61 Version 1.0

Compiled by	Checked by	Approved by
Slawomir Utrata and Wesley Keir	Wesley Keir	Drew Shotliff

8th May 2017

Prepared for Vincent & Associates



Contents

1 INTR	RODUCTION	5
1.1 l	Project Background	5
1.2	Site Location and Description	5
1.3	Archaeological and Historical Background	5
1.4	Project Objectives	6
2 MET	HODOLOGY	7
3 RES	ULTS	8
3.1	Introduction	8
3.2	Overburden and Undisturbed Geological Deposits	8
3.3	Archaeological Features	8
3.4	Finds Summary	10
4 CON	ICLUSIONS	12
5 BIBL	LIOGRAPHY	13
6 APP	ENDIX 1: CATALOGUE OF CONTEXTS	14
List of F	igures	
_	Site location Location of all features Detail of features revealed within the excavations for the new exter and water tank	nsion
Figure 4:	Selected sections of archaeological features excavated within the arthe new extension	
Figure 5:	Selected sections of archaeological features excavated within the arthe new water tank	rea of
Figure 6:	Selected photographs of archaeological features and extract of the edition OS map	1884 1st

The figures are bound at the back of this report.



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

Albion Archaeology was commissioned to carry out the archaeological works by Vincent & Associates. The project was monitored on behalf of the Local Planning Authority by Geoff Saunders of the Historic Environment Team of Bedford Borough Council.

Fieldwork was carried out by Marcin Koziminski, Iain Leslie and Slawomir Utrata (Archaeological Supervisors) under the management of Robert Wardill (Project Manager). This report has been prepared by Slawomir Utrata. 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 \$\mathbb{\alpha}\$: 0300 300 8141

Fax: 0300 300 8141

E-mail: office@albion-arch.com Website: www.albion-arch.com

Version History

Version	Issue date	Reason for re-issue
1.0	08/05/2017	n/a

Key Terms

Throughout this document the following terms or abbreviations are used:

CBM	Ceramic building material
HER	Bedford Borough's Historic Environment Record
HET	Bedford Borough Council's Historic Environment Team
IfA	Institute for Archaeologists (subsequently the Chartered
	Institute for Archaeologists)
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation



Non-technical Summary

A planning application (11/02592/FUL) for the construction of a two-storey rear extension and associated works at the Royal Oak public house in Roxton was approved by Bedford Borough Council. As the development area lies within an area of archaeological sensitivity, the Bedford Borough Council Historic Environment Team (HET) recommended that a condition was attached to the planning consent requiring the implementation of a programme of archaeological work. This advice was in accordance with Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment (PPS5) (DCLG 2010) and its replacement, the National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG 2012).

Albion Archaeology was commissioned by Vincent & Associates to carry out the programme of archaeological work in accordance with methodologies described in a Written Scheme of Investigation (Albion Archaeology 2012). This report presents the results of the archaeological investigation.

A number of archaeological features were revealed during the groundworks, all of which are likely to date to no earlier than the post-medieval period. Though a sherd of recovered pottery suggests the possibility that one of the pits could date to the medieval period, its small and abraded nature means that it cannot be used to date the feature with any confidence. Being located within the medieval settlement core at Roxton, this sherd of 13th–14th-century pottery could easily be derived from medieval activity within the wider vicinity of the Royal Oak PH; similarly a sherd of late Saxon St Neots-type ware recovered from the subsoil hints at activity of this date in the wider vicinity.

A number of structural features were revealed cutting the subsoil; they are associated with the earlier Royal Oak building, which appears to date back to at least 1813 when it is depicted on the Roxton enclosure map. It was demolished in the early 20th century and replaced by the current building. These features included one of the exterior walls and the remains of a cellar and water tank.

A number of post-medieval features were revealed that appeared to pre-date the earlier Royal Oak building. They included a large boundary ditch [113/120] aligned parallel with the nearby School Lane; it is likely to define the northern edge of a narrow plot which fronted onto the High Street. Several smaller ditches may represent perpendicular divisions of the plot. Some of the revealed pits, including [137] and [144], appear to respect the boundaries; they are probably associated with activities taking place at the rear end of the plot.

Following approval of this report by Bedford Borough Council's Historic Environment Team, the archive of materials (subject to the landowner's permission) and accompanying records will be deposited with The Higgins Art Gallery & Museum, Bedford (accession no. BEDFM 2012.25). This report will be uploaded onto the ADS Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS ref: albionar1-122196).



1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

A planning application (11/02592/FUL) for the construction of a two-storey rear extension and associated works at the Royal Oak PH in Roxton was approved by Bedford Borough Council.

As the development area lies within an area of archaeological sensitivity, the Bedford Borough Council Historic Environment Team (HET) recommended that a condition was attached to the planning consent, requiring the implementation of a programme of archaeological work. This advice was in accordance with *Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment* (PPS5) (DCLG 2010) and its replacement, the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

Albion Archaeology was commissioned by Vincent & Associates to carry out the programme of archaeological work in accordance with methodologies described in a Written Scheme of Investigation (Albion Archaeology 2012). This report presents the results of the archaeological investigation.

1.2 Site Location and Description

The Royal Oak PH is located on a plot on the corner of High Street and School Lane within the centre of the village of Roxton centred on grid reference TL 15292/54596 (Figure 1). Prior to development the site was occupied by the 20th-century public house, its associated outbuildings, car park and beer garden.

The site is reasonably level, lying at a height of *c*. 25m OD and has a size of c. 0.09ha.

The geology of the area comprises river terrace deposits of sand and gravel overlying Oxford Clay Formation mudstone.

1.3 Archaeological and Historical Background

The site lies within the core of the medieval settlement at Roxton (HER17154), a locally designated Conservation Area. The public house is located at the crossroads of High Street and School Lane, an area which is likely to have been a focus for early settlement (Bedford Borough Council 2012). St Mary's Church (HER1105) and churchyard (HER8958) are located c. 40m to the south-east of the development area. The Historic Environment Record (HER) also lists a number of buildings in the area which are of post-medieval date and of special interest. Archaeological finds from the village include Anglo-Saxon strap ends, a brooch and pinhead, a medieval seal die and a medieval to post-medieval purse (HER 16029).

The existing Royal Oak PH was constructed during the early 20th century and is shown on the 3rd edition OS map of 1926; it replaced a previous Royal Oak building marked on the earlier OS maps a little to the south-east of the existing building (Figure 6). This earlier building also appears to be shown on the



1813 Roxton Enclosure map, though the 'Royal Oak' itself is not mentioned in historical sources before 1819¹.

1.4 Project Objectives

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

Archaeological remains uncovered could potentially contribute to important research topics identified in published *Research Frameworks for Bedfordshire* and the East of England (Brown and Glazebrook 2000; Medlycott 2011) and specifically for Bedfordshire: *Bedfordshire Archaeology. Research and Archaeology: Resource Assessment, Research Agenda and Strategy* (Oake et al 2007). The location of the site within the medieval core of the village suggested that it might contain archaeological remains relevant to topics regarding the origins and development of villages (Oake 2007, 14; Medlycott 2011, 70).

_

¹http://bedsarchives.bedford.gov.uk/CommunityArchives/Roxton/TheRoyalOakPublicHouseRoxton.as px. Accessed 10/04/17.



2 METHODOLOGY

Archaeological monitoring of the groundworks took place during three phases of works (see Figure 2):-

- 27th–28th March 2012 during the stripping of a car park area near the back of the plot.
- 19th–24th April 2012 during groundworks associated with excavation of foundation trenches for the rear extension to the existing building.
- 15th May 2012 during excavation of a pit for a water tank.

Foundation trenches for the extension measured c. 0.6m wide and 0.9–1.2m deep. The water tank pit was 4.6m long, 2.8m wide and 3.0m deep. In the car park area only c. 0.3–0.45m of overburden was removed, leaving subsoil still *in situ*.

Archaeological features and deposits encountered were investigated and recorded in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (Albion Archaeology 2012) and Albion's *Procedures Manual*. Spoil heaps were checked on a regular basis for the recovery of archaeological artefacts.

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

Albion Archaeology	Procedures Manual: Volume 1 Fieldwork (2nd ed, 2001).
 East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 14 	Gurney, D. Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England (2003)
Historic England (formerly English Heritage)	Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) (2009; re-issued/revised in 2015 by Historic England)) Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation (Second Edition) (2011; reissued/revised in 2015 by Historic England)
• IfA ²	By-Laws and Code of Conduct (2010) Standard and Guidance for Excavation (2008) Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief (2008)

Following approval of this report by Bedford Borough Council's Historic Environment Team, the archive of materials (subject to the landowner's permission) and accompanying records will be deposited with The Higgins, Bedford (accession no. BEDFM 2012.25). The report will be uploaded onto the ADS Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS ref: albionar1-122196).

_

² Since the fieldwork was undertaken, the IfA has been renamed the CIfA and the relevant documents updated



3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

All archaeological deposits and features revealed during the groundworks are summarised below and shown on Figures 2–5. Detailed technical information on all archaeological features and deposits can be found in Appendix 1. Although every effort was made to recover datable finds, more than half of the features produced no artefacts and can only be approximately dated on the basis of stratigraphic evidence.

3.2 Overburden and Undisturbed Geological Deposits

The overburden observed in the area of the new car park consisted of a topsoil (101) of dark brown-grey silty sand and a subsoil (102) of lighter brown silty sand, with a combined thickness of 0.4–0.55m. As well as modern finds, a small sherd of pottery dating to the late Saxon (St Neots-type) period was recovered from the subsoil (102).

The overburden within the area of the new rear extension to the existing building was markedly different; it comprised tarmac hardstanding (105), overlying a sequence of modern make-up layers and possible earlier yard surface (107) with an overall thickness of c. 0.16–0.25m. These deposits overlay topsoil (101) and subsoil (102), although in this area the topsoil and subsoil deposits were no more than 0.39m thick. In the north-east corner of the area, the topsoil had been partially removed and replaced by a <0.22m-thick layer of dark grey/black clay silt (119).

These modern deposits as well as the underlying topsoil and subsoil deposits in the area of the proposed building extension were truncated in several places by more recent intrusions such as a NE–SW aligned soak-away pipe and rubbish pits. A number of iron objects and CBM (not retained) were identified within these very recent features.

Undisturbed geological deposits were generally revealed c. 0.6m below the existing ground surface and consisted of mid orange sandy gravels (103).

3.3 Archaeological Features

3.3.1 Medieval – post-medieval features sealed by the subsoil

The modest assemblage of recovered artefacts indicates that most, if not all, the revealed features sealed by the subsoil date to the post-medieval period (c. 1500–1750).

The only feature containing evidence to suggest that it might be earlier in date was a large oval-shaped pit [137] identified towards the eastern end of the area of the new extension (Figures 3 and 4). One of its three fills contained a small sherd of 13th–14th-century pottery, though its abraded nature and proximity of the pit to other features containing similar fills dating to the post-medieval period suggest that it cannot be used to date the pit with any certainty. A



further large pit [144] (with similar fills to pit [137]) was located nearby, although it contained no artefacts (Figures 3 and 4).

Several ditches were revealed beneath the subsoil in the area of the new extension (Figures 3 and 4). The largest, ditch [113/120] (see also Figure 6), was distinctly V-shaped in profile and parallel with the ESE–WNW aligned School Lane to the south. It was 1.7m wide, 0.93m deep and at least 22.5m in length. Its three fills contained few artefacts, including small fragments of coal and clinker suggesting that the ditch is likely to date to no earlier than the post-medieval period. Two substantial perpendicular ditches [122] and [141] appeared to join the ENE–WSW aligned boundary [113/120]; a large post-medieval brick fragment was recovered from the upper-most fill of ditch [141].

Three smaller ditches [127], [129] and [131] were also located in the vicinity of ditch [122] and approximately perpendicular to the large boundary [113/120]; ditch [127] may have been a precursor to ditch [122], being largely truncated by the later ditch. A small, slightly curving ditch [109] was visible within the foundation trenches at the other end of the new building footprint. All four smaller ditches had similar fills, largely comprised of grey-brown sandy silt that contained no artefacts.

The only other features sealed by the subsoil were two circular postholes. Posthole [154] was revealed in the location of the new water tank (Figures 3 and 5); its single fill of mid brown-grey clayey silt contained a very small sherd of post-medieval pottery and a fragment of clay pipe. The second posthole was located in the vicinity of the large pits [137] and [144]; it contained three fills consisting of yellow-grey and grey-orange silty sands and sandy silts.

3.3.2 Later post-medieval – modern features cutting the subsoil

The remnants of two brick structures were revealed during the excavation of foundation trenches for the extension to the existing building (Figures 3 and 6). Only the south face of an ESE–WNW aligned brick wall (150) was partially visible within the edge of one of the foundation trenches; its location indicates that it is likely to be the remains of the northern exterior wall to the earlier Royal Oak building that was previously located in this vicinity. The brick walls (117) of a probable cellar (149) were located immediately to the south of wall (150); the rectangular cellar measured 4.9m x 2m across and survived to a depth of c. 0.95m. The backfill (118) within the cellar contained CBM, building rubble and other modern material (not retained) which included a 19th-century glass bottle embossed with the Jarvis Brewery label.

In the area of the new car park a 1.8m-long wall of roughly hewn sandstone blocks, bonded with mortar, was discovered (Figure 2). It was E–W aligned, 0.34m wide with only one course of stones surviving. An imprint of a brick on the upper-most mortared surface indicates that the structure is likely to have been a foundation for a brick wall; a number of outbuildings and walled areas are shown within this general area to the rear of the previous Royal Oak building on the 1884 OS map.



The brick walls of a probable water tank were revealed during excavation for a new water tank to the north of the new building extension (Figures 3, 5 and 6); it measured 3.5m x 1.5m and 1.35m in depth. The brick walls (152) were bonded with dark yellow mortar and set on a 0.1m-thick concrete raft (161). The inside faces of the walls were covered by greyish-white plaster; some of the pipes leading into the tank were still in place. The feature had been backfilled with deposits of mid brown-grey sandy silt, which contained a number of modern finds (not retained), prior to this area being covered with concrete hardstanding.

The water tank had truncated a large pit [156], which may also once have been used for storage; the lowest (159) and (160) of its four fills appeared to have been formed in waterlogged conditions, with deposit (160) consisting of dark grey to black silty clay. These deposits were overlain by a thin layer of decayed wood (158), which may represent a collapsed lining of the upper parts of the feature. This layer in turn was sealed by deposits of mid orange-brown silty sand and gravel (157), deriving from the collapsed sides; modern pottery, roof tile and vessel glass were recovered from the uppermost deposit.

Two further pits cutting the subsoil were revealed during the excavation of the foundation trenches for the new extension (Figures 3 and 4). Sub-circular pit [111] was at least 1.75m in diameter and 0.65m deep with a fill of light yellow-brown sand that contained no artefacts. Pit [124] was more rectangular in plan, measuring 2.2m long, at least 0.4m wide and 0.52m deep; a fragment of clay pipe within its main fill (126) of mid brown-grey clay silt indicates that it dates to no earlier than the post-medieval period.

3.4 Finds Assemblage

Eight deposits yielded a small assemblage comprising mainly pottery, ceramic building material and animal bone (Table 1).

Feature	Description	Fill	Date Range	Finds Summary
102	Subsoil	-	Modern	Pottery (75g); ceramic roof tile (68g); clay pipe (6g)
113	Ditch	115	Undated	Pottery (4g); clinker (2g); animal bone (19g)
113	Ditch	116	Undated	Coal (2g)
124	Pit	126	Post-medieval	Clay pipe (3g)
137	Pit	138	13th-14th century	Pottery (32g)
141	Ditch	143	Post-medieval	Brick (438g)
154	Posthole	155	Post-medieval	Pottery (2g); clay pipe (4g)
156	Pit	157	Modern	Pottery (66g); ceramic roof tile (59g); vessel glass (4g);
				animal bone (70g)

Table 1: Finds assemblage by feature

3.4.1 Ceramics

Eleven pottery sherds (179g), mainly of post-medieval and later date were collected from subsoil (102), ditch [113], pits [137], [156] and posthole [156]. They include single sherds of glazed earthenware, creamware, blue willow pattern transfer-printed ware, and modern plant pot (Table 2). Earlier pottery comprises a late Saxon St Neots-type bowl rim (29g) and a 13th–14th-century



glazed Potterspury ware sherd (32g), recovered respectively from subsoil (102) and pit [137].

Fabric code ³	Common name	Date	No. Sherd	Wt. (g)
B01B	St Neots-type ware (fine)	10th-11th century	1	29
C10	Potterspury ware	13th-14th century	1	32
P01	Glazed red earthenware	17th-18th century	1	60
P33	Tin-glazed earthenware	17th-early 18th century	1	2
P38	Creamware	18th-19th century	1	6
P45	Transfer-printed ware	19th-20th century	1	2
P100	Misc. modern	19th-20th century	3	30
Unid	Misc indeterminate	-	2	18

Table 2: Pottery type series

Three sand-tempered pieces of flat roof tile (127g) and a brick fragment (438g) were collected from subsoil (102), ditch [141] and pit [156]. All are likely to be of later medieval or post-medieval date.

3.4.2 Other finds

Four post-medieval clay tobacco pipe stem fragments (13g) were collected from subsoil (102), pit [124] and posthole [154]. Modern pit [156] yielded a weathered olive green glass body sherd (4g), probably deriving from a wine bottle.

Two pieces of large mammal rib, scapula (?) and a cow molar (89g) were recovered respectively from modern pit [156] and undated ditch [113].

_

³ Fabric types identified in accordance with the Bedfordshire Ceramic Type Series.



4 CONCLUSIONS

A number of archaeological features were revealed during the groundworks. Due to the general lack of datable finds they are best split into two broad phases of activity — those features sealed by the subsoil (which is likely to have been created during the late post-medieval – modern period) and those features cutting the subsoil.

All the revealed features are likely to date to no earlier than the post-medieval period; though a sherd of recovered pottery suggests the possibility that one of the pits sealed by the subsoil could date to the medieval period. The small and abraded nature of the sherd means that it cannot be used to date the feature with any confidence. Being located within the medieval settlement core at Roxton, this sherd of 13th–14th-century pottery could conceivably be derived from medieval activity within the wider vicinity of the Royal Oak PH; similarly a sherd of late Saxon St Neots-type ware recovered from the subsoil hints at activity of this date in the wider vicinity.

A number of structural features were revealed cutting the subsoil that are associated with the earlier Royal Oak building, which appears to date back to at least 1813 when it is depicted on the Roxton enclosure map; it was demolished in the early 20th century and replaced by the current building. These features included one of the exterior walls and the remains of a cellar and water tank.

A number of post-medieval features were revealed beneath the subsoil and appeared to pre-date the earlier Royal Oak building. These included a large boundary ditch [113/120] aligned parallel with the nearby School Lane; it is likely to define the northern edge of a narrow plot which fronted onto the High Street; several smaller ditches may represent perpendicular divisions of the plot. Some of the revealed pits, including [137] and [144], appear to respect the boundaries, being probably associated with activities taking place at the rear end of the plot.

Following approval of this report by Bedford Borough Council's Historic Environment Team, the archive of materials (subject to the landowner's permission) and accompanying records will be deposited with The Higgins At Gallery & Museum (accession no. BEDFM 2012.25). This report will be uploaded onto the ADS Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS ref: albionar1-122196).



5 BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Albion Archaeology, 2012, The Royal Oak, 33 High Street, Roxton, Bedfordshire: Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Observation, Investigation, Recording, Analysis and Publication, Report 2012/51
- Bedford Borough Council, 2012, Brief for a Programme of Archaeological Observation, Investigation, Recording, Analysis and Publication at 4 The Royal Oak, 33 High Street, Roxton, Bedfordshire. 26th March 2012.
- Brown, N. and Glazebrook, J. (eds.), 2000, Research and Archaeology: A framework for the Eastern Counties: Research Agenda and Strategy, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 8
- DCLG, 2010, Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment. London: TSO.
- DCLG, 2012, National Planning Policy Framework
- Medlycott, M., 2011, Research and Archaeology Revisited: A Revised Framework for the East of England, EAA Occasional Papers 24
- Oake, M., 2007, 'Research Agenda and Strategy.' In: *Bedfordshire Archaeology. Research and Archaeology: Resource Assessment, Research Agenda and Strategy.* Bedfordshire Archaeology Monograph 9, 7–18.
- Oake, M., Luke, M., Dawson, M., Edgeworth, M. and Murphy, P., 2007, Bedfordshire Archaeology. Research and Archaeology: Resource Assessment, Research Agenda and Strategy, Bedfordshire Archaeology Monograph 9



6 APPENDIX 1: CATALOGUE OF CONTEXTS

Area: 1
Extent (ha): 0.06

OS Co-ordinates: TL1529154593

Description: Areas of all groundworks.

Context:	Type:	Description: Excava	ted: Finds	Present:
101	Topsoil	Compact dark brown grey silty sand occasional small stones. 0.45m thick	✓	
102	Subsoil	Compact mid grey brown silty sand occasional small stones. 0.1m thick	✓	✓
103	Natural	Loose mid orange sandy gravel frequent small-medium stones		
104	Wall	Single course aligned WNW-ESE, roughly hewn sandstone blocks bonded with light yellow mortar. Imprint of brick at the top surface. 1.8m long, 0.34m wide and 0.2m high		
105	Tarmac	Hard black tarmac . 0.04m thick	✓	
106	Make up layer	Cemented light grey yellow concrete . 0.06m thick	✓	
107	External surface	Firm dark grey silty sand frequent small stones. 0.06m thick	✓	
108	Make up layer	Loose light grey yellow sand frequent small-medium concrete, frequent small-medium mortar, frequent small-large stones. 0.04m thick	✓	
109	Gulley	Linear E-W sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.58m, max depth 0.2m, max length 2.25m	V	
110	Fill	Friable light grey brown silty sand moderate small stones	✓	
111	Pit	Sub-circular sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.4m, max depth 0.65m, max length 1.75m	✓	
112	Fill	Loose light yellow brown silty sand occasional small stones	✓	
113	Ditch	Linear ESE-WNW sides: 45 degrees base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.7m, max depth 0.93m, max length 22.5m. Same as ditch [120]	V	
114	Lower fill	Friable light grey brown sandy silt moderate small stones	✓	
115	Main fill	Friable mid grey brown sandy silt occasional small stones	✓	✓
116	Upper fill	Firm mid brown grey sandy silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones	✓	✓
119	Dump material	Friable dark grey black clay silt moderate flecks charcoal, occasional small stones. 0.26m thick	✓	
120	Ditch	Linear ESE-WNW sides: 45 degrees dimensions: max breadth 2.m, min depth 0.43m, max length 22.5m. Same as ditch [113]	✓	
121	Fill	Firm mid brown grey sandy silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones. 0.43m thick		
147	Fill	Friable mid grey brown sandy silt occasional small stones. 0.25m+ thick		
148	Fill	Friable light grey brown sandy silt moderate small stones. 0.09m+ thick		
122	Ditch	Linear NNE-SSW sides: convex dimensions: max breadth 1.5m, max depth 0.28m, max length 1.m	✓	
123	Fill	Friable mid red grey sandy silt occasional small stones		



124	Pit	Rectangular sides: near vertical dimensions: min breadth 0.4m, max depth 0.52m, max length 2.2m	✓	
125	Fill	Loose mid yellow silty sand . 0.52m thick	✓	
126	Main fill	Friable mid brown grey clay silt occasional small stones. 0.52m thick		~
127	Gulley	Linear NNE-SSW sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.46m, max depth 0.18m, max length 0.6m	✓	
128	Fill	Friable mid grey brown sandy silt occasional small stones	✓	
129	Gulley	Linear NNE-SSW sides: vertical base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.35m, max depth 0.31m, max length 0.6m $$	✓	
130	Fill	Friable light grey brown sandy silt occasional small stones	✓	
131	Ditch	Linear NE-SW sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.92m, max depth 0.19m, max length 0.65m	✓	
132	Fill	Friable mid grey brown sandy silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones	✓	
133	Posthole	Circular sides: vertical base: flat dimensions: max depth 0.3m, max diameter 0.66m	✓	
134	Fill	Friable light yellow grey silty sand moderate small stones, occasional medium stones. $0.06\mathrm{m}$ thick	✓	
135	Main fill	Friable mid grey brown sandy silt occasional small stones. 0.23m thick	✓	
136	Upper fill	Friable mid grey orange silty sand moderate small stones. 0.1m thick	~	
137	Pit	Sub-oval sides: near vertical dimensions: max depth 0.64m, max diameter 2.25m	✓	
138	Main fill	Friable mid brown grey sandy silt occasional small stones. 0.64m+ thick		✓
139	Fill	Friable light brown orange silty sand occasional small stones. 0.12m thick	✓	
140	Upper fill	Friable mid brown grey sandy silt occasional small stones. 0.21m thick	✓	
141	Ditch	Linear NNE-SSW sides: steep dimensions: min breadth 1.1m, min depth 0.61m, max length 3.6m $$	✓	
142	Lower fill	Friable mid grey red silty sand moderate small-medium stones, occasional large stones. $0.28\mathrm{m}$ thick		
143	Upper fill	Friable mid brown grey silty sand moderate small stones, occasional medium stones. $0.61\mathrm{m}$ thick	✓	✓
144	Pit	Oval sides: concave dimensions: min breadth 3.25m, min depth 0.57m, min length 3.5m	✓	
145	Lower fill	Friable mid orange red silty sand moderate small-medium stones, occasional large stones. $0.25 \mathrm{m}$ thick		
146	Main fill	Friable mid red grey sandy silt occasional small-large stones. 0.49m thick	✓	
149	Brickwork	Rectangular ESE-WNW sides: vertical base: flat dimensions: max breadth 2.2m, max depth 0.95m, max length 4.9m. A probable cellar associated with the earlier Royal Oak building.	✓	
117	Wall	Red brick wall forming a rectangular structure. Up to 12 courses surviving (0.35m wide and 0.95m high), bonded with white/light grey mortar.	~	
118	Backfill	Friable mid brown grey sandy silt frequent small-medium CBM, moderate small-large mortar, frequent small-large stones. 0.95m thick. Mixture of rubble and modern finds such as glass bottle, rubble, bike tyres and corroded iron objects.	✓	



150	Wall	Red brick wall aligned WNW-ESE - visible for a length of 3m and to a height of 0.35m. 3 slightly uneven brick courses surviving, bonded with white/light grey mortar. Brick dimentions: 22x11x6.5 cm. Visible only in the baulk section.		
151	Brickwork	Rectangular NW-SE sides: vertical base: flat dimensions: max breadth 1.5m, max depth 1.35m, max length 3.5m	V	
152	Wall	Red brick wall forming an outline of a rectangle. Bonding material: dark yellow sandy mortar. Inside face covered by greyish white plaster. Bricks dimensions: 22x10.5x6.5cm. 15 courses surviving.	✓	
153	Backfill	Friable mid grey brown sandy silt frequent small-medium CBM, frequent small-large stones. Number of iron objects (not retained) discovered.	✓	
161	Concrete	Hard mid grey white concrete. Concrete raft. Base for brick wall (152).	✓	
162	Backfill	Friable dark grey clay silt occasional small stones	✓	
154	Posthole	Circular sides; near vertical base; concave dimensions; max depth 0.3m, max diameter 0.45m	V	
155	Fill	Friable mid brown grey clay silt occasional small stones	✓	✓
156	Pit	Sub-circular sides: convex base: flat dimensions: max breadth 2.5m, max depth 0.57m, max length 3.25m	✓	
157	Upper fill	Loose mid orange brown silty sand frequent small-medium sand	✓	✓
158	Fill	Friable dark brown . Thin layer of decomposed wood/timber.	✓	
159	Lower fill	Loose mid grey silty sand frequent small stones	✓	
160	Lower fill	Friable dark grey black silty clay	✓	



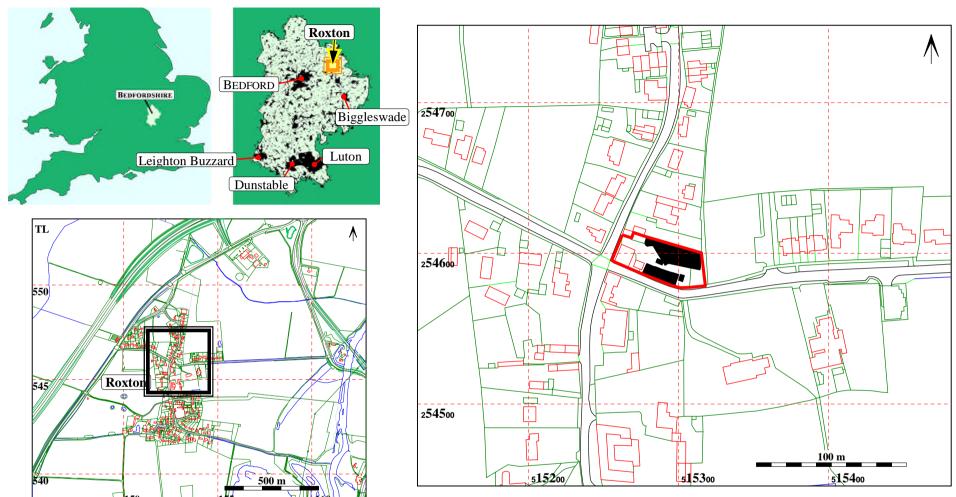


Figure 1: Site location

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



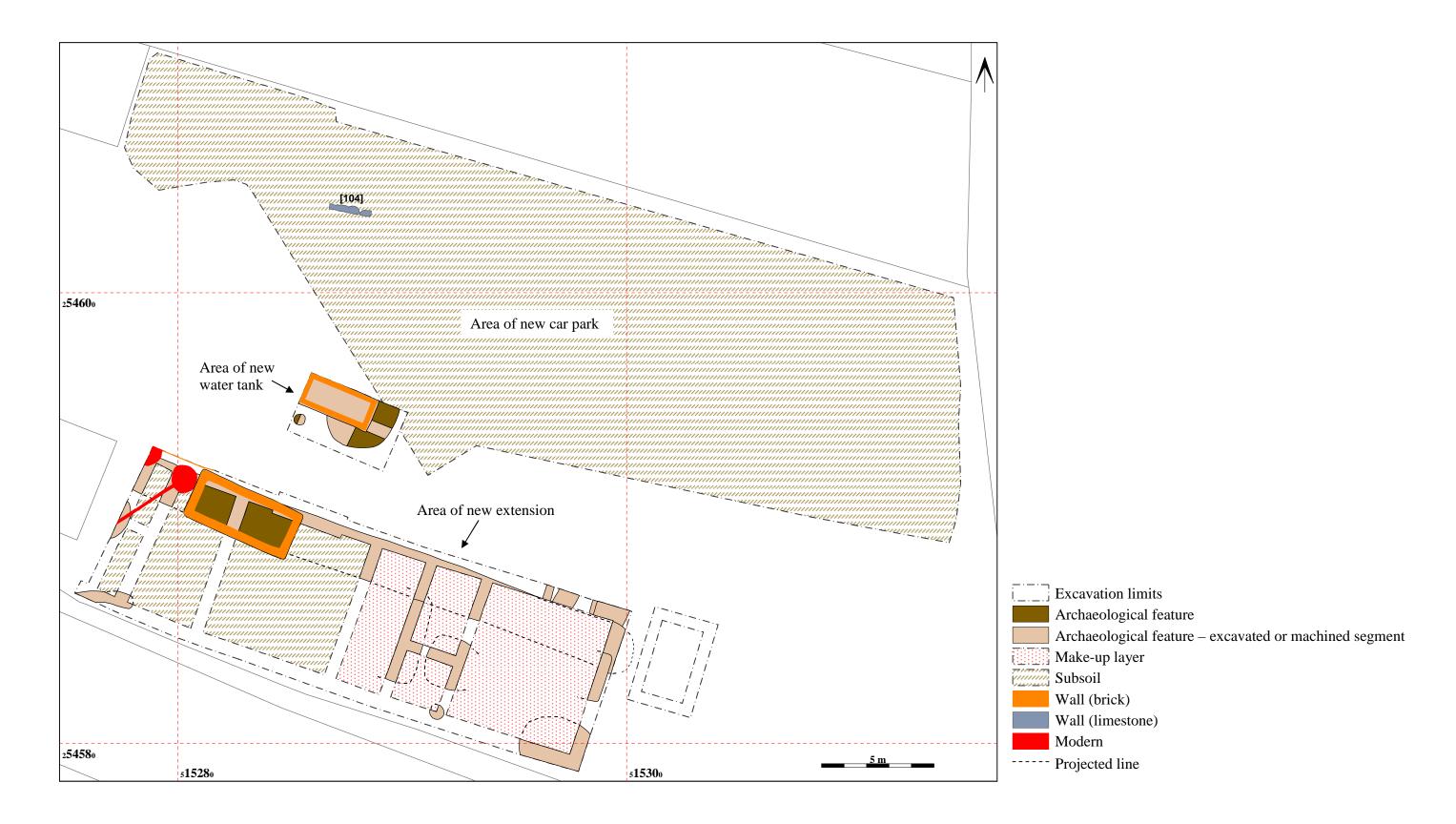


Figure 2: Location of all features

This map is based upon Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright.

Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Central Bedfordshire Council. Licence No. 100049029 (2012)



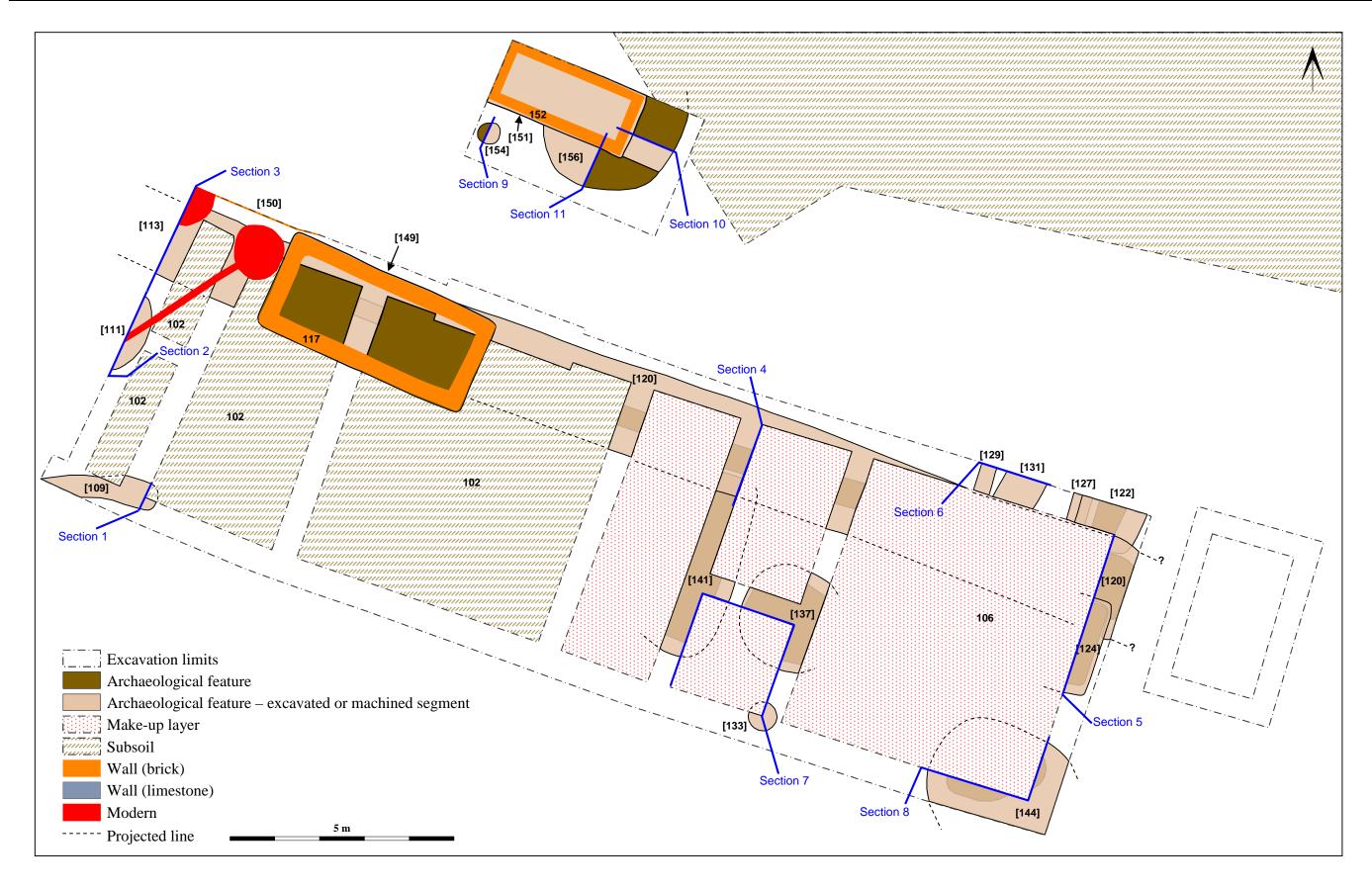


Figure 3: Detail of features revealed within the excavations for the new extension and water tank



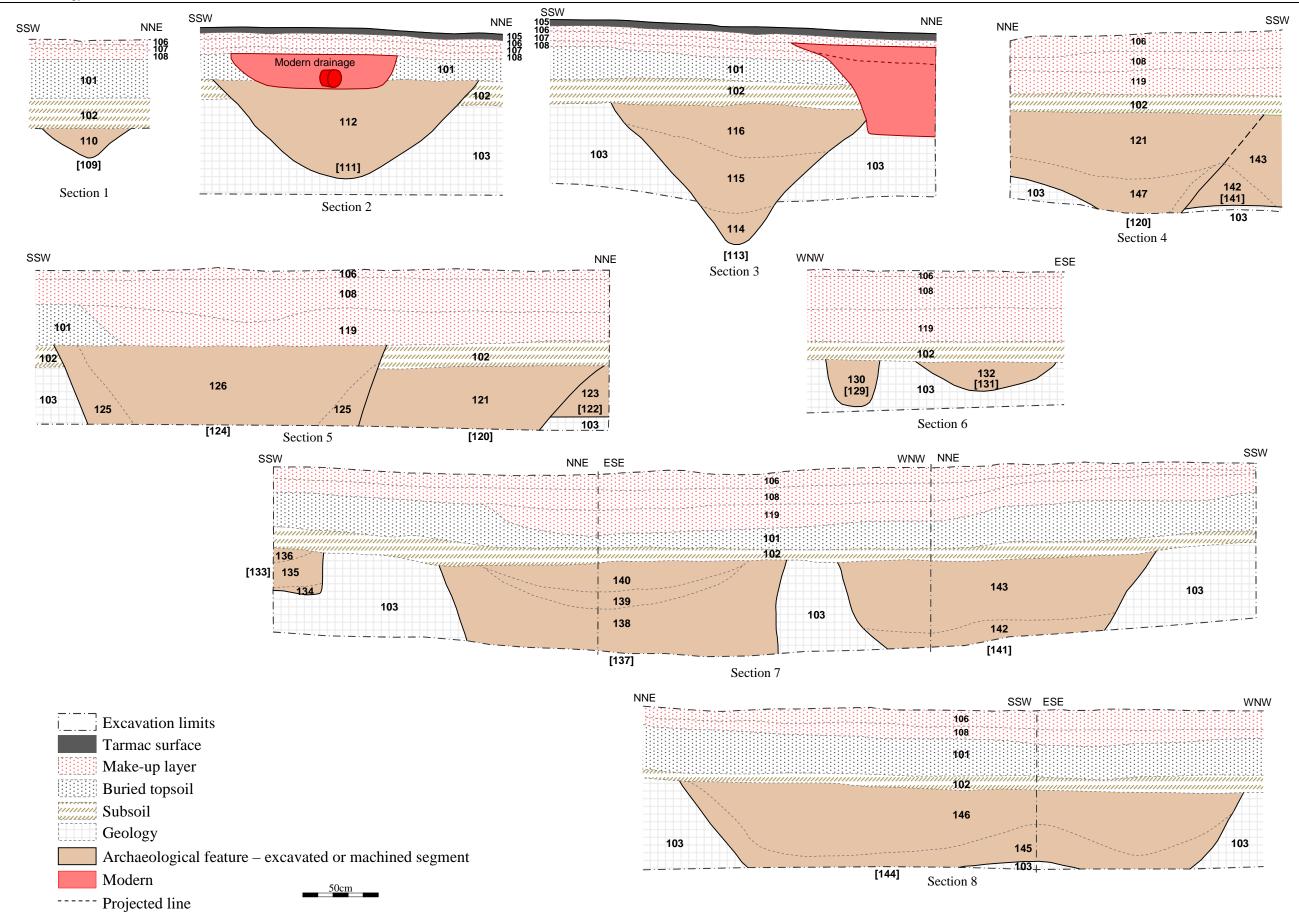


Figure 4: Selected sections of archaeological features excavated within the area of the new extension



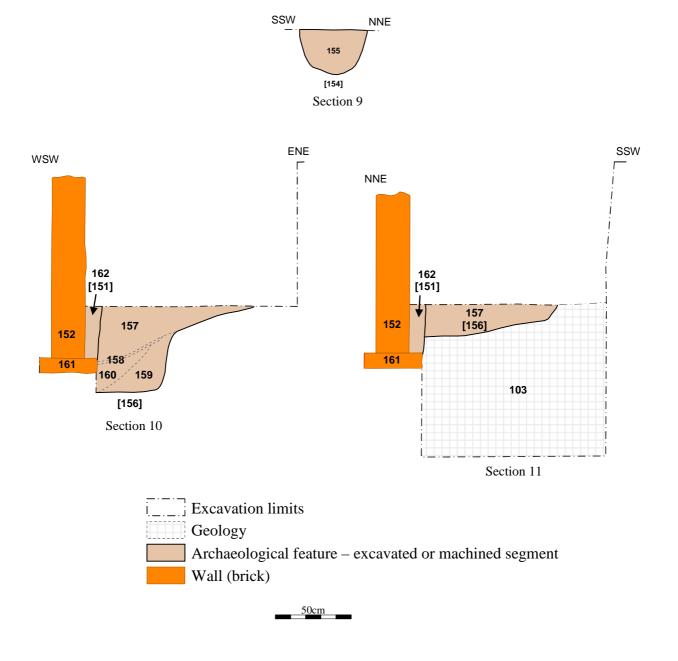
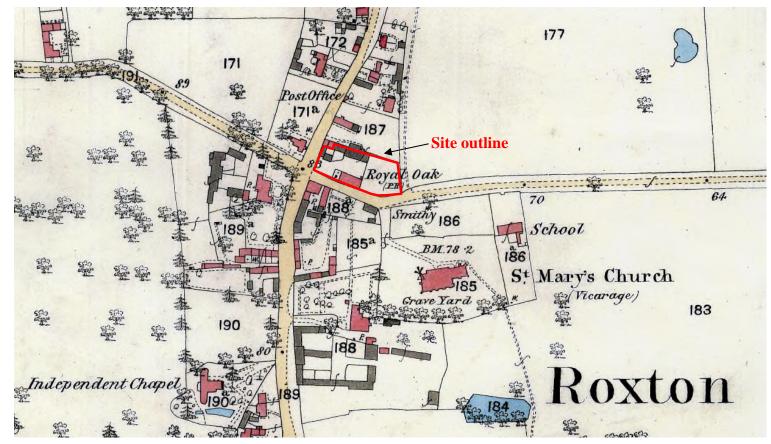


Figure 5: Selected sections of archaeological features excavated within the area of the new water tank





Extract of the 1884 1st edition OS map



View of brick structure [149] (facing NE)



View of brick structure [151] and partially exposed pit [156] (facing NE)



View of ditch [113/120] (facing NW)



View of brick wall [150] (facing NE)



Albion archaeology



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

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

