WHITEHOUSE FARM TILSWORTH ROAD, STANBRIDGE BEDFORDSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION







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Contents

Prefa	ce	3
Versio	on History	3
Struct	ture of the Report	3
Key T	erms	3
Non-T	Fechnical Summary	4
1. IN	TRODUCTION	5
1.1	Project Background	5
1.2	Site Location and Description	5
1.3	Archaeological Background	5
1.4	Project Objectives	7
2. MI	ETHODOLOGY	8
3. RE	SULTS	9
3.1	Introduction	9
3.2	Overburden and Undisturbed Geological Deposits	9
3.3	Undated Cremation Burial	9
3.4	Medieval Ridge and Furrow	9
3.5	19th-century Cottages	10
3.6	Pre 19th- to 20th-century Field Boundaries and Farmyard Features	10
4. HE	ERITAGE ASSET ASSESSMENT	11
4.1	Significance of Heritage Assets	11
4.2	Setting of Heritage Assets	12
4.3	Impact of the Potential Development	12
5. BI	BLIOGRAPHY	14
6. AF	PPENDIX 1: CONTEXT SUMMARY	15



Figure 1: Site locationFigure 2: All features plan (including sections and photographs)Figure 3: 1882 25-inch first edition OS mapFigure 4: 1901 25-inch second edition OS map

All figures are bound at the back of the report.



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Albion Archaeology was commissioned to undertake the project by Chris Terelinck of David Coles Architects. Fieldwork was monitored by the Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeologist Martin Oake.

The project was managed for Albion Archaeology by Jeremy Oetgen (Project Manager) and Christiane Meckseper (Project Officer). Fieldwork was undertaken by Richard Gregson (Archaeological Supervisor). Artefacts were analysed by Jackie Wells (Artefacts Officer). All Albion Archaeology projects are under the overall management of Drew Shotliff (Operations Manager).

This report has been prepared by Christiane Meckseper with contributions by Richard Gregson. Joan Lightning (CAD Technician) prepared the main figures. It was approved by Drew Shotliff.

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Version History

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Structure of the Report

Section 1 is an introduction to the project, the methodology for which is described in Section 2. The results of the fieldwork are presented in Section 3. The heritage assessment is presented in Section 4. Section 5 is a bibliography.

Detailed descriptions of the archaeological deposits encountered can be found in *Appendix 1*.

Key Terms

The following terms or abbreviations are used throughout this report:

CBC	Central Bedfordshire Council
CBCA	Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeologist
Client	David Coles Architects
HER	Central Bedfordshire Council Historic Environment Record
IfA	Institute for Archaeologists
PDA	Potential Development Area
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation (Albion Archaeology 2011)

Non-Technical Summary

David Coles Architects are gathering baseline information on Whitehouse Farm, Stanbridge, in order to support a planning application for the partial demolition and conversion of existing buildings into private dwellings, and the erection of a number of new residential buildings.

In accordance with national planning guidelines in the National Planning Policy Framework – Section 12: 'Conserving and enhancing the historic environment', Albion Archaeology was commissioned to prepare a heritage assessment incorporating the results of a programme of archaeological field evaluation.

The focus of the archaeological and historical background of Stanbridge and Tilsworth lies in the medieval and post-medieval periods. Whitehouse Farm is located on the road between the medieval villages of Stanbridge and Tilsworth. It lies within the envelope of Stanbridge medieval village. A potential Roman settlement may be located at Wickham Hill but this is based on place name evidence only.

The most significant heritage assets close to the potential development area (PDA) are Warren Knoll, a medieval motte castle, and Tilsworth Manor, two scheduled monuments which lie to the north-east and south-east of the PDA. Tilsworth Manor survives as a moated enclosure surrounding the manor house, a Grade II listed building with 15th-century foundations. Excavations at Stanbridge Manor to the west of Whitehouse Farm revealed evidence of occupation from the 11th–14th centuries.

The archaeological evaluation confirmed the evidence provided by the Historic Environment Record. The majority of archaeological features revealed dated to the 19th and 20th centuries and related to the use of the farm complex and adjacent postmedieval cottages which were demolished at the turn of the century. Medieval furrows suggest that the area always lay some distance from the contemporary settlement foci and was used for agriculture. The exception to this was the presence of a small unurned cremation, which contained 2g of human bone from a juvenile, c. 3 years of age.

The significance of the heritage assets on the PDA is classed as low to negligible for the 19th- and 20th-century standing and below ground remains. The presence of the unurned cremation burial suggests there is moderate potential for the survival of further similar assets; such assets could be of local to regional significance depending on their exact nature.

Any groundworks associated with the potential development are likely to lead to the extensive disturbance and irreversible loss of any surviving archaeological remains within the PDA, leading to a reduction in their significance. However, the results of evaluation indicate a low density of archaeological features, so any such potential impact could be mitigated by means of a suitable programme of archaeological works.

The relatively small-scale nature of the development (at the time of writing this assessment) is classed as having a low impact on the agricultural and "village-edge" setting of the heritage assets. The setting of the designated assets at Warren Knoll and Tilsworth manor is not thought to be affected.

1.1 Project Background

David Coles Architects are gathering baseline information on Whitehouse Farm, Stanbridge, in order to support a planning application for the partial demolition and conversion of existing buildings into private dwellings, and the erection of a number of new residential buildings.

As part of this work Albion Archaeology was commissioned to prepare a heritage assessment incorporating the results of a programme of archaeological field evaluation. This is in accordance with national planning guidelines in the form of the *National Planning Policy Framework – Section 12: Conserving and enhancing the historic environment*, which was published on 27 March 2012 (Department for Communities and Local Government 2012) and replaces the previous Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment.

Albion Archaeology produced a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) which set out the scope of the evaluation and the methods to be used for the programme of field evaluation (Albion Archaeology 2012). The results of the field evaluation were incorporated into the heritage assessment which is presented in this report.

1.2 Site Location and Description

Stanbridge lies in south-west Bedfordshire, roughly halfway between Leighton Buzzard and Dunstable (Figure 1). Whitehouse Farm lies on the eastern edge of the village of Stanbridge on the northern side of Tilsworth Road, which leads to the adjacent village of Tilsworth. The site is centred on grid reference SP 9715 2422 and lies at an average height of 105m OD.

Both villages lie on the southern slope of a small east-west outcrop of Greensand overlooking a valley containing a small tributary of the River Ouzel. The land then rises again to the Greensand Ridge in the south. The underlying geology is Gault Formation Mudstone.

1.3 Archaeological Background

The focus of the archaeological and historical interest of Stanbridge and Tilsworth lies in the medieval and post-medieval periods. A potential Roman settlement may be located at Wickham Hill (HER 16508) but this is based on place name evidence only. Undated cropmarks (HER 10964) adjacent to Pedder's Lane could represent a ditch or trackway and are potentially medieval in date.

Stanbridge is not mentioned in Domesday Book and is first recorded in historical documents of the 12th century (CBC 2012). Stanbridge was part of the parish of Leighton Buzzard until the latter quarter of the 19th century when it became its own civil parish (Page 1912).

Whitehouse Farm lies within the boundary of Stanbridge medieval village as defined in the HER (HER 16886) and only 300m from the boundary of

Tilsworth medieval village (HER 16887). Stanbridge and Tilsworth each had at least one manorial site in the medieval period.

Stanbridge Manor (HER 10959), 600m to the west of Whitehouse Farm, only survives as a known location at Little and Great Bury Close, today the site of a large farm. Possible earthworks relating to the manor were destroyed during levelling of the area for a school playing field in 1961. Excavations on the site in 2006 revealed the remains of several early medieval enclosures; pottery indicated that they were in use between the mid-11th and 13/14th centuries (Abrams 2010).

Tilsworth, to the east of Whitehouse Farm, has the better preserved heritage assets (including at least three designated assets) of the two villages, all of which, including the Church of All Saints (NHLE¹ 132130, 8HER 959), a Grade I listed building, lie near the western limit of the village.

Warren Knoll (HER 24408), a scheduled monuments (NHLE 1009397), is a medieval mottle castle reused as a rabbit warren; it lies to the north of Tilsworth Manor and c. 330m east of the PDA. It consists of a circular motte surrounded by an infilled ditch. The castle most likely was of a timber-framed construction and is thought to have been built in the 11th century. It was probably abandoned in the 15th century when Tilsworth Manor was established on the valley floor to the south.

The scheduled monument of Tilsworth Manor (NHLE 1013452, HER 11554) is probably the most important site within the vicinity of the PDA. The manor survives as a medieval moated enclosure surrounding the upstanding remains of the manor house, itself a Grade II listed building (HER 3265) with 15th-century foundations and 17th-, 19th- and 20th-century extensions and alterations.

Several earthworks likely to be medieval in date and representing remains of shrunken or shifted settlement, as well as ridge and furrow cultivation, lie around and within the present village of Stanbridge but at a distance further than 500m from the PDA. The place name of Asson/Aston Well, recorded in documents from 1623–1826, together with possible earthworks (HER 10961), lie c. 200m to the north-west of Whitehouse Farm. No distinct earthworks survive today.

The sites of two post-medieval cottages, part of Stanbridge's expansion along its main roads, also lie close to the PDA. They comprise a now demolished early 19th-century cottage (HER 1788), which stood to the back of Whitehouse Farm some distance up the slope, and the surviving building of Dresden Cottage (HER 5953), a timber-framed structure of 17th- or 18th-century date (Figure 3) which lies adjacent to the PDA. Whitehouse Farm itself dates from the 19th century.

An evaluation in advance of construction of a new Community Hall on Stanbridge Road in Tilsworth, *c*.230m east of the Whitehouse Farm, revealed no archaeological remains (HER events reference EBD 159).

¹ National Heritage List for England (NHLE). Available at: http://list.english-heritage.org.uk/

1.4 Project Objectives

The general aim of the evaluation was to establish the character, date and function of any archaeological features within the PDA.

Based on regional and local research frameworks and agendas (Medlycott 2011 and Oake *et al* 2008) the following site-specific and general research objectives were formulated in the WSI (Albion Archaeology 2011):

The specific research aims of the investigation were to establish:

- 1. Is there any evidence for medieval occupation in this part of Stanbridge?
- 2. Is there any roadside occupation or activity on the main road between the two medieval village cores or any village-edge activity that may shed light on the main settlement?
- 3. Is there any evidence on the post-medieval occupation of the site relating to Whitehouse Farm and its uses?

The general research aims of the archaeological investigations were to:

- 1. Establish the date, nature and extent of any activity or occupation on the PDA.
- 2. Recover palaeo-environmental remains to determine local environmental conditions.

The objective of the archaeological investigations is to determine and understand the nature, function and character of the site in its cultural and environmental setting.

2. METHODOLOGY

Trial trenching took place between 15th and 18th July 2012. An initial layout of six trenches measuring 10–20m by 2m and covering 300sqm of the PDA was agreed with the CBCA. Some alterations were made to the trench layout to avoid access routes still in use and a large drain. The revised layout is shown on Figures 1 and 2.

Trenches were opened by a mechanical excavator, fitted with a toothless bucket and operating under close archaeological supervision. Overburden was removed down to the top of the archaeological deposits or undisturbed geological deposits, whichever were encountered first, and the spoil heaps were scanned for artefacts.

The bases and sides of all trenches were cleaned as necessary by hand. Any potential archaeological features were investigated by hand and recorded using Albion Archaeology's *pro forma* sheets. Each trench was subsequently drawn and photographed as appropriate. All deposits were recorded using a unique number sequence, commencing at 101 for Trench 1, 201 for Trench 2 *etc*.

A full methodology is provided in the WSI (Albion Archaeology 2012). The trenches were inspected by the CBCA on 18th July, prior to their backfilling. The project adhered throughout to the standards set out in the following documents:

•	Albion Archaeology	Procedures Manual: Volume 1 Fieldwork (2nd edn, 2001).
•	Bedford Borough Council	Preparing Archaeological Archives for Deposition in Registered Museums in Bedford (2010)
•	EAA	Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England (Gurney 2003)
•	English Heritage	Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) Project Managers' Guide (2006) Management of Archaeological Projects (MAP2) (1991)
		Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation (2011)
•	CBC	Brief for a programme of Archaeological Field Evaluation of Land at Whitehouse Farm, Tilsworth Road, Stanbridge, Bedfordshire. 12th March 2012 V1 MKO.
•	IfA ²	By-Laws and Code of Conduct Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (updated 2008) and finds (updated 2008)

² All IfA codes, standards and guidelines are available at: http://www.archaeologists.net/codes/ifa.

3. RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

All the deposits and features of archaeological interest are summarised below. Their location and extent are shown on Figure 2. Detailed technical information on all archaeological features and deposits can be found in Appendix 1.

3.2 Overburden and Undisturbed Geological Deposits

Topsoil was generally 0.12–0.25m thick and consisted of a friable dark brownish grey clayey silt. This slightly varied in colour and consistency, leading to the definition of an "upper" and "lower" topsoil and/or ploughsoil in most trenches. This could have been the result of the transformation of recent agricultural soils that were later put down to pasture and turfed over.

In places the soils were interspersed with lenses of other material probably resulting from relatively recent use of the area as a farmyard (see Section 3.6). Part of a decorated creamware plate rim (63g: fabric P38) of mid 18th- to early 19th-century date was recovered from buried topsoil (807).

A markedly lighter subsoil, c. 0.18m thick, was also present in all trenches and may have been the result of earlier ploughing, hill wash and soil creep. A sherd of medieval pottery was recovered from subsoil layer (402) in Trench 4 — an abraded pottery rim (16g) in a sand-tempered fabric (C59A³) datable to the early medieval period (c. 1150-1250).

Trench 1, at the base of the slope west of Whitehouse Farm, had an additional lower colluvial subsoil (102) that was 0.15m thick.

Undisturbed geological deposits consisted of firm light grey-brown silty clay with occasional small stones.

3.3 Undated Cremation Burial

An isolated, un-urned cremation burial [803] was located towards the northern end of Trench 8 (Figure 2, Section 2 and photograph). No human bone was visible during excavation, but a very small quantity (2g) of burnt bone including several tooth crowns — was recovered from a sieved soil sample. A visual appraisal of the assemblage identified the best preserved fragments as a partially complete first maxillary incisor crown and two deciduous molar crowns from a child of around 3 years at death⁴. The cremation was completely excavated so all human remains from the feature have been recovered and removed from site.

3.4 Medieval Ridge and Furrow

Three cultivation furrows [404], [504], [506] and [508] in Trenches 4 and 5, corresponded with existing ridge and furrow in the field to the north of the

³ Fabric types identified in accordance with the Bedfordshire Ceramic Type Series, maintained by Albion Archaeology

⁴ Natasha Powers (MOLA) via email 23 July 2012.

evaluation area. They were aligned NW-SE, following the natural slope of the ground.

3.5 19th-century Cottages

A possible brick soak-away [304] was located towards the southern end of Trench 3. It may have been associated with a row of 19th-century cottages that stood on the northern edge of Tilsworth Road to the west of Whitehouse Farm, as shown on the 1st edition OS map of the area dating to 1881 (they have no HER entry). They had been demolished by 1901 when the 2nd edition map was produced (Figures 3 and 4). A well that most likely once served the cottages still exists in the south-west corner of the present field.

Close to the soakaway was a pit [307] for the burial of a livestock animal of indeterminate species. It might have been an animal that belonged to the farm or, alternatively, to one of the owners of the 19th-century cottages.

The southern end of Trench 1 contained a thick soil mixed with demolition debris (101) which was up to 0.5m thick and consisted of a grey brown sandy clay with inclusions of brick and tile, charcoal flecks and small stones. This is most likely a layer formed when the cottages were demolished at the turn of the century and the area levelled to convert the field into arable land.

3.6 Pre 19th- to 20th-century Field Boundaries and Farmyard Features

A shallow ENE-WSW aligned ditch [805] was revealed in Trench 8 on the same alignment as the existing garden hedge. Ditch fill (806) contained a complete clay tobacco pipe bowl with a flat heel and milled rim, datable to c.1640-1660. Just to the south of the ditch was a shallow, gravel- and clay-filled footing trench [808], which probably helped support an overlying chalk pathway (see below).

The 17th-century tobacco pipe bowl could indicate that the boundary is part of the pre-enclosure and late medieval layout of fields in this area. The ditch is shown on the1881 OS map (Figure 3) and the boundary is still in existence today.

Layers of imported material in the form of external gravel surfaces (601, 603), pathways (810, 811) and make-up and levelling layers (104, 201, 604, 901, 902) were found in most trenches. Often they were interleaved with the "upper" and "lower" topsoil and ploughsoils. The layers most likely formed as a result of the ongoing work and processes on the farm, where temporary surfaces and paths were created and areas changed in use. Section 1 on Figure 2 gives a good representation of those layers.

4.1 Significance of Heritage Assets

4.1.1 Undated cremation burial

No heritage assets dating to the Anglo-Saxon period or earlier were revealed during the evaluation. The exception was the un-urned cremation that was present in Trench 8.

Although no datable artefacts were recovered, cremation deposition practices of this type were carried out in Britain from the prehistoric to early medieval period. With the adoption of Christianity, inhumation became the favoured burial rite and cremation was not widely revived until the end of the 19th century. No associated burial or settlement features, or any other pre-medieval remains were revealed within the evaluation area so it is difficult to know if this was an isolated burial, one of a cluster of similar deposits or associated with a nearby settlement not picked up by the trial trenches.

The poor degree of survival and seemingly isolated position of the cremation burial give it a relatively low significance. Because it was completely excavated and the remains recovered from the site as part of the evaluation it is no longer an *in situ* heritage asset. However, the find does suggest that there is moderate potential for similar features within the immediate vicinity of the deposit.

The research agenda for Bedfordshire states that there is still a need for a greater understanding of prehistoric to early medieval burial practices and their relationship with associated settlement (Oake 2007, 11-13). If any further burials were found, particularly associated with datable material, they would be of local to regional significance, depending on their exact nature.

4.1.2 Medieval

The evaluation revealed the presence of a number of medieval plough marks in Trenches 4 and 5. Some of those plough marks are still visible as low ridge and furrow earthworks to the north of Whitehouse Farm. They demonstrate that much of the land of and around Whitehouse Farm was most likely used for agriculture from at least the medieval period onwards.

For this reason the potential for the survival of medieval assets on the PDA is low. The ridge and furrow earthworks to the north of Whitehouse Farm are fairly eroded and of local significance only.

4.1.3 Post-medieval and modern features

Whitehouse Farm represents a farm complex that was built in the 19th century and extended in the early and mid-20th century with the addition of workshops and outhouses.

The majority of heritage assets revealed during the evaluation date to the 19th and 20th centuries and are closely related to the development and use of the farm complex and its associated agricultural fields. The evaluation also revealed

evidence for the demolition of the 19th-century cottages that formerly stood on the edge of Tilsworth Road before their removal at the turn of the century.

The evaluation demonstrated that, overall, the potential for the survival of postmedieval and modern assets on the PDA is low. The features revealed also entirely consisted of demolition layers, make-up layers and temporary surfaces, with the exception of one field boundary still in existence, and are of negligible significance.

4.2 Setting of Heritage Assets

The setting of any heritage assets on the PDA is very much defined by their location on the roadside between two medieval settlement foci. The form and setting of any heritage assets on the site is predominantly agricultural. To the north and south (across from Tilsworth Road) of the farm are open fields, currently put to pasture. To the east and west there is 19th-century and modern residential development, mainly restricted to the roadside.

4.3 Impact of the Potential Development

The potential development at Whitehouse Farm consists of the partial demolition and conversion of existing buildings into private dwellings, and the erection of a number of new residential buildings.

Any groundworks associated with the potential development would lead to the extensive disturbance and irreversible loss of any surviving archaeological remains within the PDA, leading to a reduction in their significance.

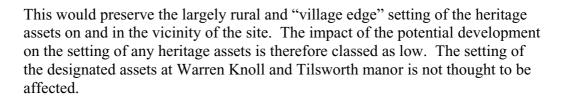
Demolition of some of the existing farm buildings would lead to their irreversible loss and change the setting of the existing farm complex, which would reduce its significance.

The existing and potential heritage assets, both standing and below-ground, within the PDA are post-medieval and modern in date and their significance has been classed as low to negligible. The impact of the potential development on those assets is therefore classed as low.

One exception is the small un-urned cremation burial that was revealed in Trench 8. The fact that this contained human remains raises the significance and likelihood of any further potential assets of a similar nature from low to moderate and the impact of the potential development on those deposits is therefore classed as moderate to high.

Any such potential impact could be mitigated by means of a suitable programme of archaeological works.

The potential development is relatively small-scale in nature, converting and modernising the core of the existing farm complex to residential use and adding a small number of additional buildings set back from the main road to the west and north-east. These retain most of the current field boundaries and are shielded from the road, surrounding properties and open land to the north by existing mature and newly planted hedges.



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6. APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT SUMMARY

				5
Trench:	1			
Max Dimensions:	Length: 15.00 m.	Width: 2.00 m.	Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.45 m.	Max: 0.85 m.
Co-ordinates:	OS Grid Ref.: SP	(Eastin	g: 97127: Northing: 24219)	
	OS Grid Ref.: SP	(Eastin	g: 97126: Northing: 24235)	
Reason:	To evaluate area.			
Context: Type:	Description	•	Excava	ted: Finds Present:

Context:	Туре:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
100	Topsoil	Firm dark brown grey clay silt occasional small-large CBM, occasional flecks charcoal 0.25m thick.	\checkmark	
101	Demolition layer	Firm mid grey brown sandy clay occasional small-large CBM, occasional flecks chalk, occasional flecks charcoal, moderate small stones 0.5m thick.	\checkmark	
102	Buried subsoil	Firm light grey brown silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional smal stones 0.15m thick.		
103	Natural	Firm light brown grey silty clay occasional small-medium stones		
104	Make up layer	Friable dark grey clay silt frequent small-large chalk 0.18m thick.	\checkmark	
105	Subsoil	Firm mid grey brown silty clay occasional small stones 0.1m thick.	\checkmark	

Trench:	2				
Max Dimensions:	Length:	10.00 m.	Width: 2.00 m.	Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.45	5 m. Max: 0.5 m.
Co-ordinates:	OS Grid	Ref.: SP	(Eastin	g: 97118: Northing: 24236)	
	OS Grid	Ref.: SP	(Eastin	g: 97127: Northing: 24240)	
Reason:	To evalua	ate area.			
Context: Type:	n	escription		Fxc	avatad: Finds Prosent:

Context:	Туре:	Description:	Excavated: Finds Presen	ıt:
200	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey clay silt occasional small-large CBM, occasional flecks charcoal 0.15m thick.		
201	Make up layer	Friable dark grey clay silt frequent small-large chalk 0.13m thick.		
202	Ploughsoil	Firm dark brown grey clay silt occasional small CBM, occasional flecks charcoal 0.15m thick.		
203	Subsoil	Firm mid brown grey silty clay occasional small stones 0.2m thick.		
204	Natural	Firm light brown grey silty clay occasional small-medium stones		

Trench:	3				
Max Dimensions:	Length:	20.00 m.	Width: 2.00 m.	Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.36 m.	Max: 0.41 m.
Co-ordinates:	OS Grid Ref.: SP		(Easting: 97123: Northing: 24239)		
	OS Grid Ref.: SP		(Easting: 97115: Northing: 24258)		
Reason:	To evalua	ate area.			

Context:	Туре:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
300	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey clay silt occasional small-large CBM, occasional flecks charcoal 0.12m thick.	\checkmark	
301	Ploughsoil	Firm dark brown grey clay silt occasional small CBM, occasional flecks charcoal 0.12m thick.	\checkmark	
302	Subsoil	Firm mid brown grey silty clay occasional small stones 0.17m thick.	\checkmark	
303	Natural	Firm light brown grey silty clay occasional small-medium stones		
304	Soak-away	Sub-square dimensions: max breadth 0.47m, max length 0.52m		
305	Brickwork	Single course of bricks roughly arranged around an unbricked core area.		\checkmark
306	Backfill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay occasional flecks CBM, occasional flecks charce	al 🗌	
307	Animal grave	Sub-rectangular ENE-WSW sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.3m, max depth 0.03m, max length 1.3m		
308	Fill	Friable dark brown grey sandy silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones		
309	Animal skeleton	Remains of a livestock animal located in the western half of the grave cut were le undisturbed because the deposit was deemed to be modern.	ft 🗌	

Trench:	4				
Max Dimensions:	Length:	15.00 m.	Width: 2.00 m.	Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.4 m.	Max: 0.41 m.
Co-ordinates:	OS Grid	Ref.: SP	(Easting: 97146: Northing: 24236)		
	OS Grid Ref.: SP		(Easting: 97142: Northing: 24277)		
Reason:	To evalua	ate area.			

Context:	Туре:	Description:	Excavated: Finds P	resent:
400	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal 0.18m thick.	\checkmark	
401	Ploughsoil	Firm mid brown grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal 0.13m thick.		
402	Subsoil	Firm mid brown grey silty clay occasional small stones 0.18m thick.		\checkmark
403	Natural	Firm light brown grey silty clay occasional small-medium stones		
404	Furrow	Linear NW-SE dimensions: max breadth 1.m, min length 6.4m		
405	Fill	Firm mid brown grey clay silt occasional small-medium stones		

libion Archaeology					
Trench:	5				
Max Dimensions:	Length:	25.00 m.	Width: 2.00 m.	Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.36 m.	Max: 0.4 m.
Co-ordinates:	OS Grid	Ref.: SP	(Easting	g: 97138: Northing: 24283)	
	OS Grid	Ref.: SP	(Easting	g: 97162: Northing: 24288)	
Reason:	To evalua	ate area.			

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
500	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal 0.18m thick.	\checkmark	
501	Ploughsoil	Firm mid brown grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal 0.12m thick.	\checkmark	
502	Subsoil	Firm mid brown grey silty clay occasional small stones 0.13m thick.	\checkmark	
503	Natural	Firm light brown grey silty clay occasional small-medium stones		
504	Furrow	Linear NW-SE dimensions: max breadth 1.m, min length 2.05m		
505	Fill	Firm mid brown grey clay silt occasional small-medium stones		
506	Furrow	Linear NW-SE dimensions: max breadth 1.07m, min length 2.05m		
507	Fill	Firm mid brown grey clay silt occasional small stones		
508	Furrow	Linear NW-SE dimensions: max breadth 0.7m, min length 2.05m		
509	Fill	Firm mid brown grey clay silt occasional small-medium stones		

Trench:	6				
Max Dimensions:	Length:	3.50 m.	Width: 1.60 m.	Depth to Archaeology Min: m.	Max: 0.58 m.
Co-ordinates:	OS Grid Ref.: SP		(Eastin	g: 97163: Northing: 24241)	
	OS Grid	Ref.: SP	(Eastin	g: 97166: Northing: 24242)	
Reason:	To evalu	ate area.			

Context:	Туре:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
600	Topsoil	Friable dark grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stone 0.12m thick.	es 🗸	
601	External surface	Friable dark grey clay silt frequent small stones 0.02m thick.	\checkmark	
602	Buried topsoil	Friable dark grey sandy silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones 0.1m thick.		
603	External surface	Friable dark grey sandy silt frequent small-medium stones 0.08m thick.	\checkmark	
604	Levelling layer	Firm mid brown grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional medium sand 0.06m thick.	n 🗸	
605	Ploughsoil	Firm mid brown grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal 0.11m thick.	\checkmark	
606	Subsoil	Firm mid brown grey silty clay occasional small stones 0.1m thick.	\checkmark	
607	Natural	Firm light brown grey silty clay occasional small-medium stones		

					<u> </u>
Trench:	7				
Max Dimensions:	Length:	10.00 m.	Width: 2.00 m.	Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.48 m.	Max: 0.54 m.
Co-ordinates:	OS Grid	Ref.: SP	(Eastin	g: 97184: Northing: 24253)	
	OS Grid	Ref.: SP	(Eastin	g: 97192: Northing: 24259)	
Reason:	To evalua	ate area.			

Context:	Туре:	Description:	Excavated: Finds P	Present:
700	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional sma stones 0.29m thick.	11 🔽	
701	Make up layer	Firm mid brown grey clay silt occasional flecks chalk, moderate flecks charcoal, occasional small stones 0.1m thick.		
702	Subsoil	Firm light brown grey silty clay occasional flecks chalk, occasional small stones 0.24m thick.		
703	Natural	Firm light brown grey silty clay occasional small stones		

Trench:	8				
Max Dimensions:	Length:	10.00 m.	Width: 2.00 m.	Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.48 m.	Max: 0.52 m.
Co-ordinates:	OS Grid Ref.: SP		(Easting: 97188: Northing: 24246)		
	OS Grid	Ref.: SP	(Easting	g: 97191: Northing: 24237)	
Reason:	To evalua	ate area.			

Context:	Туре:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
800	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional sma stones 0.22m thick.	II 🔽	
801	Subsoil	Firm light brown grey silty clay occasional flecks chalk, occasional small stones 0.29m thick.	\checkmark	
802	Natural	Firm light brown grey silty clay occasional small-medium stones		
803	Grave	Oval ESE-WNW sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.37m, max depth 0.09m, max length 0.5m	\checkmark	
804	Cremation deposit	Firm dark brown grey silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small ston	es 🗸	\checkmark
805	Ditch	Linear ENE-WSW sides: concave base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.95n max depth 0.1m, min length 2.05m	n, 🔽	
806	Fill	Firm dark brown grey clay silt occasional flecks chalk, occasional flecks charcoa occasional small stones	l, 🔽	\checkmark
807	Buried topsoil	Friable dark brown grey clay silt moderate small chalk, occasional flecks charcoal 0.1m thick.	\checkmark	\checkmark
808	Pathway	Linear ENE-WSW sides: steep base: flat dimensions: max breadth 1.55m, max depth 0.11m, min length 2.05m	\checkmark	
809	Backfill	Firm mid orange brown sandy clay occasional medium-large CBM, frequent sma stones	11	
810	Pathway	Loose light brown white silty chalk 0.11m thick.	\checkmark	
811	Pathway	Loose light grey brown sand 0.08m thick.	\checkmark	
812	Ploughsoil	Friable mid brown grey clay silt occasional flecks chalk, occasional flecks charcoal 0.15m thick.	\checkmark	

Trench:	9				
Max Dimensions:	Length:	12.00 m.	Width: 2.00 m.	Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.73 m.	Max: 0.73 m.
Co-ordinates:	OS Grid	Ref.: SP	(Eastin	g: 97187: Northing: 24227)	
	OS Grid	Ref.: SP	(Eastin	g: 97198: Northing: 24231)	
Reason:	To evalua	ate area.			

Context:	Туре:	Description:	Excavated: Finds	Present:
900	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional sma stones 0.24m thick.	11	
901	Make up layer	Firm mid grey brown silty clay occasional small CBM, occasional flecks chalk, occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small-large sand 0.1m thick.		
902	Make up layer	Firm mid brown grey clay silt occasional flecks chalk, moderate flecks charcoal, occasional small stones 0.27m thick.		
903	Subsoil	Firm light brown grey silty clay occasional flecks chalk, occasional small stones 0.21m thick.	\checkmark	
904	Natural	Firm light brown grey silty clay occasional small-medium stones		



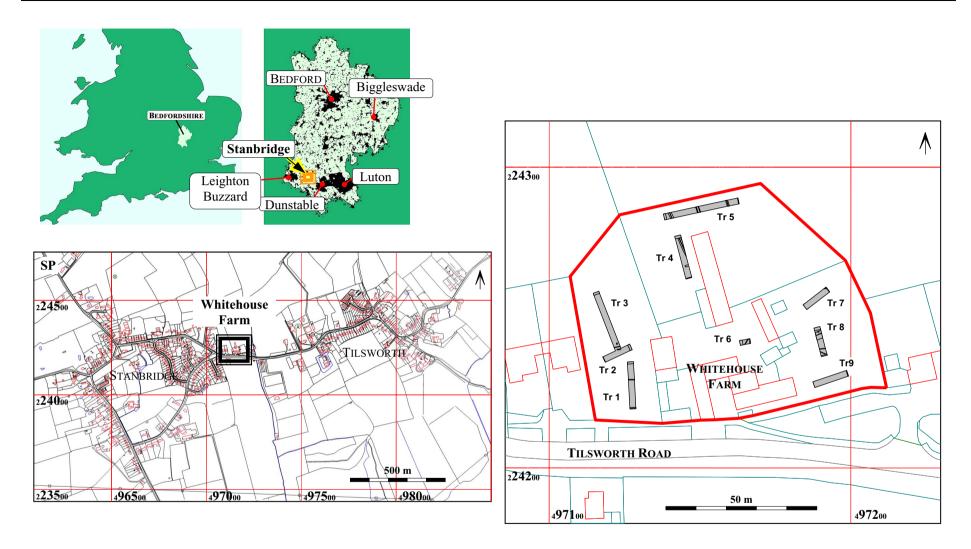
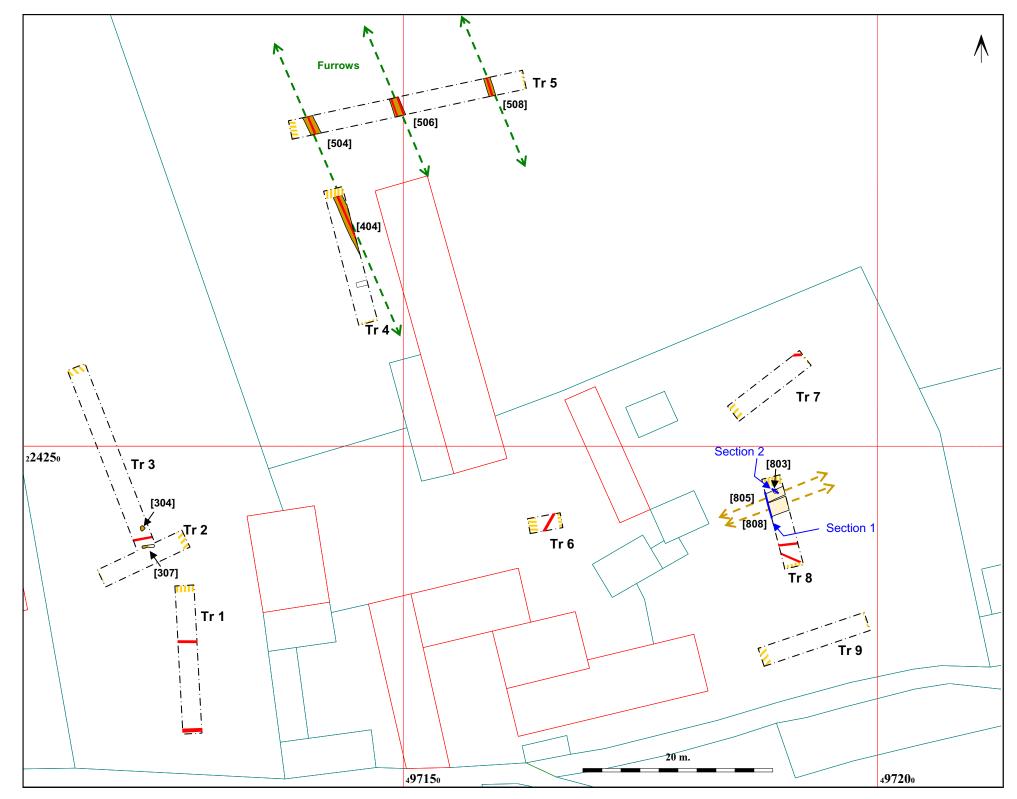
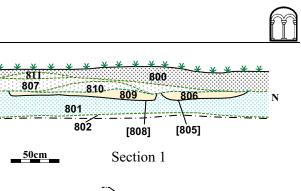


Figure 1: Site location This map is based upon Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Central Bedfordshire Council. Licence No. 100049029 (2011)

- Archaeological feature; unexcavated section
- Archaeological feature; excavated/machined segment
- Topsoil
- Layers
- Subsoil
- Land drain



Whitehouse Farm, Tilsworth Road, Stanbridge, Bedfordshire: Archaeological Field Evaluation



[803] NW SE

Section 2 (cremation)



Trench 8: Field boundary [808]



Trench 8: Cremation [803]

Figure 2: All features plan 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

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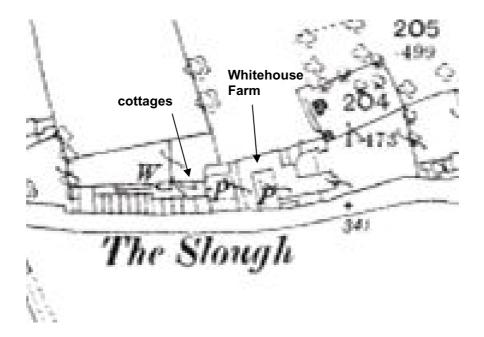


Figure 3: 1882 25-inch first edition OS map

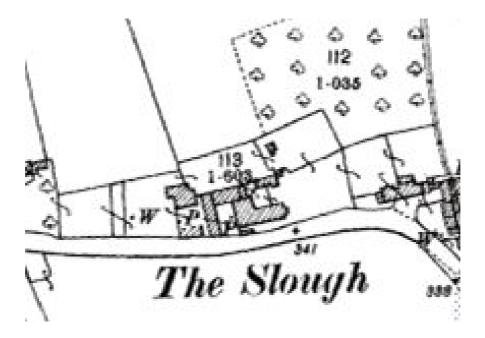


Figure 4: 1901 25-inch second edition OS map





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