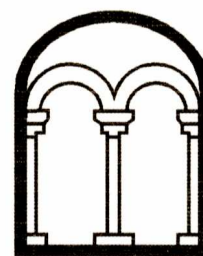


**LAND TO THE REAR OF STATION ROAD
LOWER STONDON
BEDFORDSHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION AND
OPEN AREA EXCAVATION**

Albion
archaeology



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Preface

Every effort has been made in the preparation and submission of this document and all statements 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.

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Key Terms

The following terms or abbreviations are used throughout this document:

CBCA	Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeologist
HER	Central Bedfordshire and Luton Historic Environment Record
IfA	Institute for Archaeologists
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation



Non-Technical Summary

An initial evaluation has demonstrated that most of the proposed development area is devoid of archaeological features or contains relatively recent features of negligible heritage value. However, Trenches 1 and 3, at the south-west of the development area, each contained one feature that produced Iron Age pottery.

Subsequently, two stages of stripping were undertaken in Area 1 to map and record the extent of the Iron Age features. This has demonstrated that they comprise a small group of enclosure ditches and other features. These are considered to date from the early to middle Iron Age, on the grounds that the only datable artefacts (pottery) were all of that period. Within this timeframe, stratigraphic relationships suggested that many of the features could not have been contemporary, giving the impression of a site that was used repeatedly, possibly for relatively short periods separated by long periods of abandonment.

Approximately 1kg of early and middle Iron Age pottery was recovered. It is highly fragmentary, with few diagnostic vessel forms identifiable. The animal bone assemblage was also small (less than 1kg) and fragmentary; it is not suitable for statistical analysis.

An environmental archaeology assessment by the Environmental Archaeology Consultancy suggests that there was limited environmental evidence and this afforded very limited interpretive potential. Pollen, assessed by Rob Sciafe, was present in the lower layers within a c. 1.5m-deep boundary ditch, but preservation was poor and no further post-excavation analysis is recommended.

Although the artefact assemblage was not large and the environmental potential was not high, the identification of early to middle Iron Age enclosures at Lower Stondon adds significantly to the distribution of such sites in Central Bedfordshire. The surviving artefacts and environmental evidence suggest that the site was possibly not a settlement, but might have been used for stock management.

A summary of the results of the project, as submitted to the OASIS database, is provided in Appendix 3 of this report.



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 **Project Background**

In 2012 Albion Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Ltd on behalf of Bovis Homes Ltd to carry out a programme of evaluation by trial trenching to support a planning application for residential development of land to the rear of nos. 186 and 188 Station Road, Lower Stondon, Bedfordshire (planning ref. CB/12/02929/FULL).

1.2 **Site Location, Topography and Geology**

The site is located to the south of Station Road, Lower Stondon, Bedfordshire. The proposed development area is approximately 3.5 ha in extent and is centred on NGR TL164 3560 (Figure 1). It is currently a single, largely flat, field.

The British Geological Survey (<http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyviewer>) records the bedrock below the site as belonging to the Woburn Sands Formation. The drift geology comprises Lowestoft Formation diamicton.

1.3 **Planning Background**

Bovis Homes Ltd has submitted a planning application (CB/12/02929/FULL) for demolition of 186 and 188 Station Road and for the erection of 97 dwellings, garages and associated works on the land to the rear.

A desk-based assessment (Dawson 2012) of the site was prepared by CgMs Consulting Ltd in June 2012. This was submitted by Bovis Homes Ltd to Central Bedfordshire Council. Central Bedfordshire Council's Archaeologist, Hannah Firth, acting in her role as archaeological adviser to the Planning Authority, confirmed that she agreed with the conclusions of the assessment that further archaeological evaluation was necessary.

In her comments on the pre-application inquiry Hannah Firth stated that:-

The proposed development site lies within an archaeologically sensitive landscape and the Central Bedfordshire Historic Environment Record indicates the presence of a series of cropmark enclosures (HER reference 16793) partially within the boundary of the site. These cropmarks show morphological similarities with later prehistoric and Roman rural settlements found elsewhere within Central Bedfordshire and are a heritage asset with archaeological interest (as defined by the National Planning Policy Framework).

Her advice proceeded to state that:

I recommend that an archaeological trial trench evaluation is undertaken prior to the submission of any planning application and that the results are used to inform a Heritage Asset Assessment which must be included with the application.'

In a discussion with the Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeologist (CBCA) it was agreed to carry out trial trenching within the site, using a sample size of c.



3% of the proposed development area, with a contingency for a maximum of a further 2% sample by area.

1.4 Archaeological Background

Existing knowledge of the site is comprehensively collated in the desk-based Heritage Assessment (Dawson 2012). The known heritage assets within 500m of the site were identified; among these was a series of cropmark enclosures (HER 16793). The cropmarks are rather ephemeral, but according to the HER they might extend onto the south-western part of the proposed development area.

1.5 Project Objectives

The principal purpose of the trial trenching was to gather information on potential archaeological features or deposits located within the proposed development area. This information is to be used by Central Bedfordshire Council to assess the likely impact of the proposed development on any buried heritage assets.

Where archaeological remains were found in the trial trenching, the archaeological investigations endeavoured to determine their extent, nature, date, condition and state of preservation. This information will be used to assist in determining the nature, function and character of any archaeological remains in their cultural and environmental setting. These characteristics are what form the significance of an archaeological heritage asset, from which we derive its value for this and future generations as defined by the National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG 2012, Annex 2).



2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 Summary

A full methodology was provided in the written scheme of investigation (WSI) (Mortimer 2012), which was approved by the CBCA prior to commencement of fieldwork.

Fieldwork was undertaken between 23rd October and 16th November 2012, in accordance with the WSI and monitored for compliance by the CBCA. The proposed eleven trenches were opened and the small number of archaeological features present were investigated and recorded (Figure 2). The results of the trial trenching are summarised in Section 3.

The CBCA visited the site on 24th October to inspect the trenches. At the meeting it was agreed between CBCA and CgMs that it would be possible, with the developer's consent, to complete all of the archaeological work required on the site prior to the determination of the planning application. The results of the trenches were of a significance that required a limited amount of additional fieldwork, but they did not warrant agreement of a further WSI. Given that the archaeologically significant features appeared to be relatively localised, it was agreed that a small area would be opened up to characterise and record the archaeological remains associated with Iron Age pottery. Initially, a 20m by 20m area was proposed, but further features were exposed that continued beyond the limit of excavation. With the agreement of the client and CBCA, the excavation was therefore extended to cover a total area of c. 35m by 24m (Figure 2, Area 1). The results of the open area excavation are summarised in Section 4.

The trenches and open area were stripped using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, under close archaeological supervision. Overburden was removed down to the top of the archaeological deposits or undisturbed geological deposits, whichever was encountered first. The spoil heaps were also scanned for artefact recovery.

Within the open area excavation (Area 1), to complement the finds collected by hand, soil samples were taken from a representative spread of features, including a column sample for pollen analysis. The results of the assessment of these samples are discussed in Section 6.

A sample of potential archaeological features was investigated by hand and recorded using Albion Archaeology's pro forma sheets. The trenches and open area were subsequently drawn and photographed as appropriate. All deposits were recorded using a unique number sequence, commencing at 100 for Trench 1, at 201 for Trench 2 etc. Context numbers in square brackets refer to the cuts [###] and round brackets to fills or layers (###). The trenches were inspected by the CBCA prior to their backfilling. Soil sample numbers are distinguished by chevrons <#>.



2.2 Standards

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

Albion Archaeology	<i>Procedures Manual: Volume 1 Fieldwork</i> (2nd edn, 2001).
Bedford Borough Council	<i>Procedure for Preparing Archaeological Archives for Deposition in Registered Museums in Bedfordshire</i> (version 2.8, 2010)
EAA	<i>Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England</i> (Gurney 2003)
English Heritage	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) Project Managers' Guide</i> (2006) <i>Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation</i> , (2nd edn, 2011)
IfA	By-Laws and Code of Conduct <i>Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation and Finds</i> (updated 2012)

The project archive will be deposited with Luton Museum (Accession no. LUTNM:2012/39). Details of the project and its findings will be submitted to the OASIS database (ref: albionar1-135687) in accordance with the guidelines issued by English Heritage and the Archaeology Data Service.



3. TRIAL TRENCHING RESULTS

All deposits and features found within the eleven trial trenches are described chronologically below, and are shown on Figure 2. Detailed contextual information on all deposits and features can be found in Appendix 1.

3.1 *Overburden and Geological Deposits*

The topsoil consisted of friable, dark brownish grey clayey silt. It had a fairly standard thickness of 0.25–0.35m across the site. The subsoil, consisting of brownish-orange silty clay, varied from 0.4–0.5m in thickness. The variation in thickness was probably due to the effects of medieval ridge and furrow cultivation.

The geological strata varied slightly across the site from a brownish-orange silty clay with gravel patches at the western end (Trenches 1-9) to a yellowish-grey silty clay with occasional chalk flecks to the east (Trenches 10 and 11).

3.2 *Iron Age (650BC – AD43)*

Two ditches were identified at the northern ends of Trenches 1 and 3 (Figure 2). A large ditch [303] measuring 2.5m wide and over 0.9m deep produced pottery dating from the early/middle Iron Age and late Iron Age. This segment could not be bottomed safely as it was more than 1.2m below the top of the trench. A smaller, V-shaped ditch [103] also produced a small amount of pottery dating to the early/middle Iron Age. Each ditch was on a slightly different alignment.

These ditches were further investigated under a strategy for open area excavation agreed with the client and the CBCA (Section 4).

3.3 *Medieval (1150 – 1500)*

All trenches, with the exception of Trench 10, showed evidence of ridge and furrow ploughing, which is a typically medieval method of cultivation. The furrows followed an approximate east–west alignment (parallel with Station Road) and were up to 2m wide and 0.1–0.2m deep. They were generally filled with orange-grey silty clay; furrow [903] contained fragments of post-medieval roof tile. Only those furrows that cut into natural were planned (Figure 2).

3.4 *Post medieval – Modern (1500 onwards)*

The majority of the medieval furrows contained later land drains, in some cases as many as three within a single furrow. These were located either at the base of the furrows or deeper. This is evidence for extensive land drainage in the post-medieval and modern periods.

Trench 9 also contained a modern ditch [905] aligned at right angles to the furrows and drains. It contained fragments of post-medieval roof tile and probably represents part of the post-medieval drainage system or the boundary of one of the enclosures recorded on the 1814 Inclosure Award map.

3.5 *Undated*

Trench 8 revealed part of a potentially large feature [803], which was 16m wide. A sondage to a depth of 1.2m revealed waterlogged blue clay suggesting that it



was a possible channel or pond. However, it produced no artefacts and is probably periglacial in origin.



4. OPEN AREA EXCAVATION RESULTS

All deposits and features found within the open area excavation (Area 1) are described below, and are shown on Figure 3. All these features are considered to date from the early to middle Iron Age, on the grounds that the only datable artefacts (pottery) were all of that period. Within this timeframe, stratigraphic relationships suggested that some of the features could not have been contemporary, giving the impression of a site that was used repeatedly, possibly for relatively short periods separated by long periods of abandonment.

Detailed contextual information on all deposits and features can be found in Appendix 2.

4.1 Two Large Boundary Ditches (Enclosures A and B)

The ditch revealed in Trench 3 [303] proved to be part of a large curvilinear boundary ditch, possibly forming the south-western corner of an enclosure (Figure 3: Enclosure A). With the agreement of the CBCA a second segment of the ditch [1239] was excavated with the aid of a machine in order to permit safe access to the bottom of the feature; it was 2.9m wide and 1.5m deep. Further segments [1222 and 1263] were excavated to check stratigraphic relationships. Soil sampling was carried out within the main segment to maximise data recovery (Figure 3, inset photo). Two lenses of darker soil (1243) and (1241) within ditch fill deposits suggest that the infilling was episodic, allowing at least two periods of stabilisation and vegetation growth within the ditch, possibly during wetter periods (*see* Section 6). The bulk sample <10> had very little potential for analysis, containing only three charred seeds and comminuted charcoal. Soil monolith samples produced some poorly preserved pollen (*see* Section 6).

A second large ditch [1267] was revealed in the western corner of Area 1. It was 4m wide and 1.5m deep and may have been the boundary of a second enclosure (Figure 3: Enclosure B) lying to the west of Area 1. Seventeen sherds of early/middle Iron Age pottery were recovered from one of the fills (1271) and the deposit sequence suggested this ditch, like [303/1239], had also been filled by stages. It had no stratigraphic relationships with any other Iron Age features.

The two ditches/enclosures probably served a similar function, but it is not possible to say whether or not they were contemporary. However, the way the ditches appear to converge towards the north-west limit of excavation suggests they might have been constructed to form a funnel for managing livestock — such features have been found on Iron Age sites in the region, *e.g.* Butterfield Green, Luton (Luke and Preece, in press).

4.2 Linear Features Predating Enclosure A

A smaller ditch [1281] was cut by the Enclosure A boundary ditch [303/1239] and was also heavily truncated by ditch [1284]. It contained Iron Age pottery, giving a *terminus post quem* for the later features.

The probable terminals of two gullies [1265] and [1261] were also truncated by the Enclosure A boundary ditch [303/1239]. They contained no pottery, but



there was nothing to suggest they were not Iron Age in date. They had similar fills to the linears post-dating the Enclosure A.

4.3 Stratigraphically Isolated Features 'Within' Enclosure A

Two smaller ditches on a north-west to south-east alignment were recorded: ditches [1245/1249] [1247/1251/1253] were 0.9 and 0.5m wide respectively and between 0.08m and 0.39m deep. Although they were situated within Enclosure A, there is no evidence that that were necessarily contemporary with it. Bulk soil sample <8> taken from the fill of [1249] contained only two indeterminate fragments of charred seeds (*see* Section 6).

Three postholes [1255], [1257] and [1259], measuring 0.4–0.6m in diameter, were located within the possible enclosure [303/1239]. They were 0.15m, 0.10m and 0.21m deep, respectively. It is possible that these represent the remains of a four-post structure, if it is assumed that the fourth post had been truncated — an ephemeral area of root disturbance was noted in this location. Four-post structures are typically associated with Iron Age sites in many parts of England; they are characterised by four posts set c. 2m to 3.5m apart (*see* Luke 2008, 36-7). One possible interpretation of four-post structures is that they were for grain storage, but the five charred barley seeds from soil sample <9> (posthole [1259]) are not sufficient evidence to support this suggestion. Again, these were within Enclosure A but there is no evidence that that were necessarily contemporary with it.

4.4 Iron Age Linear Features Post-dating Enclosure A

A smaller ditch [1284] cut across the large enclosure ditch [303/1239] in two places. It was U-shaped in plan and formed a three-sided enclosure (Figure 3: Enclosure C) which covered an area of c. 136m². The width of the ditch varied from 0.4m to 1m and its depth between 0.12m and 0.47m. Several segments of the ditch were excavated [1203, 1205, 1214, 1207/1208, 1224, 1226, 1229, and 1276], most of which produced Iron Age pottery. The eastern arm of the enclosure was re-cut at least once, while a truncated ditch remnant [1278] may be evidence of re-cutting of the western arm. A bulk soil sample <7> taken from the north-east corner contained nothing of archaeological significance (*see* Section 6).

In turn, ditch [1284] was superseded by a small curving ditch [1216/1232/1236] that was cut across its eastern arm. The later, ditch produced a small amount of Iron Age pottery. Its curve suggests it might have been the heavily truncated remnant of a small enclosure, but this is far from certain.

4.5 Isolated Iron Age Ditch

The Iron Age ditch discovered in Trench 1 [103] was found to terminate within Area 1. The terminal [1212] was excavated, but no more pottery was found.

The ditch appeared to be fairly straight, suggesting that it was not part of an enclosure. There was a c. 5m gap between the end of the ditch and the outer edge of the Enclosure B boundary, which might imply that the ditch respected the large enclosure by allowing a gap for passage around it.



4.6 Undated Features

Three features produced no datable artefacts and lacked any direct structural association with other features. However, they are most likely to be Iron Age, given the lack of evidence for archaeological features of other periods within Area 1.

A single shallow posthole [1219] 0.3m in diameter was located within the three-sided enclosure (Enclosure C), but cannot be assumed to be contemporary.

A small pit [1273], 0.83m in diameter and 0.1m deep, featured a blue clay lining. The clay lining showed no signs of having been subjected to fire, but the fill did contain a few burnt stones. Otherwise the pit was unremarkable.

The end of a small gully [1234] was found in the south-east corner of Area 1 terminal. It contained no finds.



5. FINDS SUMMARY

By Jackie Wells

5.1 Introduction

The investigations yielded an artefact assemblage comprising mainly pottery and animal bone (Table 1). With the exception of two post-medieval features, [903] and [905] in Trench 9, and an undated post hole, [1255] in Area 1, all archaeological features with finds contained Iron Age pottery. Some finds were recovered from the exposed surfaces of unexcavated deposits.

	Feature	Description	Context	Finds Summary
Tr. 1	103	Ditch	104	Pottery (28g); animal bone (37g)
	103	Ditch	105	Pottery (17g)
Tr. 3	303	Ditch	304	Pottery (13g); animal bone (41g)
	303	Ditch	305	Pottery (273g); animal bone (114g)
	303	Ditch	306	Pottery (151g); animal bone (33g)
Tr. 9	903	Furrow	904	Ceramic roof tile (16g)
	905	Ditch	906	Ceramic roof tile (38g)
Area 1	1203	Ditch	1204	Pottery (23g)
	1205	Ditch	1206	Pottery (4g)
	1208	Ditch	1209	Pottery (26g); animal bone (9g)
	1208	Ditch	1210	Pottery (23g); animal bone (367g)
	1208	Ditch	1211	Pottery (52g); animal bone (38g)
	1213	Ditch	1213	Pottery (26g)
	1214	Ditch	1221	Pottery (130g)
	1216	Ditch	1218	Pottery (25g)
	1224	Ditch	1225	Pottery (9g)
	1226	Ditch	1227	Pottery (11g)
	1226	Ditch	1228	Pottery (11g); animal bone (61g)
	1229	Ditch	1230	Pottery (7g)
	1236	Ditch	1238	Pottery (6g); animal bone (2g)
	1245	Ditch	1246	Pottery (10g)
	1249	Ditch	1250	Pottery (3g); animal bone (1g)
	1251	Ditch	1252	Pottery (8g)
1253	Ditch	1254	Pottery (8g); animal bone (1g)	
1255	Post hole	1256	Animal bone (3g)	
1259	Post hole	1260	Pottery (4g); animal bone (7g)	
1267	Ditch	1271	Pottery (159g)	
1278	Ditch	1280	Pottery (70g); ferrous slag (12g); animal bone (3g)	
1281	Ditch	1283	Pottery (40g); worked flint (3g)	
1284	Ditch	1285	Pottery (54g)	

Table 1: Artefact Summary

5.2 Pottery

One hundred and forty-seven sherds, weighing 1.1kg were recovered from twenty-one features. The pottery was examined by context and quantified using minimum sherd count and weight. The assemblage is highly fragmented, demonstrated by a low average sherd weight of 8g, largely undiagnostic of vessel form, and generally abraded. Thirteen fabric types were defined using common names and type codes in accordance with the Bedfordshire Ceramic Type Series, currently maintained by Albion Archaeology (Table 2).

The majority of the assemblage is broadly of early to middle Iron Age date, and comprises hand-made vessels in predominantly sand-tempered fabric types, likely to be of local manufacture. The fragmentary condition of the assemblage and a lack of diagnostic vessel forms makes further classification problematic.



Feature sherds are upright, rounded, flat, or slightly everted rims, two of which have finger-impressed decoration; and a fragmentary strap handle. No bases survive. The surfaces of two vessels are scored or brushed. Sooting on the exterior surfaces of two vessels suggests their use as cooking pots.

Ten late Iron Age sherds, representing 6 vessels (133g), were recovered from ditch [303]. Diagnostic elements are a wheel thrown footring and a cordoned body sherd, although no vessel forms are identifiable. As the majority of the pottery recovered from this feature (35 sherds, weighing 304g) is of earlier date, it is likely that these later vessels indicate no more than transient re-use of a site whose primary occupation dates from the early to middle Iron Age.

Fabric Type	Common Name	Sherd No.	Context/Sherd No.
F03	Grog and sand	14	(306):2, (1225):1, (1283):11
F06B	Medium grog	3	(305):3
F06C	Coarse grog	2	(305):2
F09	Sand and grog	2	(305):2
F16	Coarse shell	3	(1204):2, (1221):1
F17	Grog	16	(104):3, (304):1, (305):4, (306):6, (1210):2
F19	Sand and organic	9	(304):1, (305):3, (1209):1, (1218):1, (1221):1, (1238):1, (1246):1
F22	Grog and organic	9	(1210):1, (1285):8
F28	Fine sand	32	(104):2, (304):1, (305):2, (306):2, (1204):1, (1206):1 (1209):3, (1210):3, (1211):8, (1221):1, (1227):1 (1228):1, (1230):1, (1250):1, (1252):1, (1254):1, (1280):2
F29	Coarse sand	27	(104):2, (105):3, (305):6, (306):3, (1213):2 (1218):1, (1221):6, (1230):1, (1252):1, (1280):2
F34	Sand	3	(305):1, (306):2
F35	Fine micaceous	2	(305):2
F38	Glauconitic	25	(305):1, (306):1, (1210):1, (1227):1, (1228):1, (1246):2, (1260):1, (1271):17

Table 2: Pottery Type Series

5.3 Other Finds

In total, the fills of ditches [1278] and [1281] respectively contained 12g of undiagnostic vesicular, ferrous slag, and a damaged flint tertiary flake (3g). Six abraded, sand tempered pieces of post-medieval flat roof tile (54g) were recovered from furrow [903] and ditch [905].

5.4 Animal Bone

The faunal assemblage comprises 239 pieces, weighing 717g, and was recovered from ten features. The greatest quantity (414g) derived from ditch [1208], the secondary fill of which contained the shattered remains of a cattle skull (367g). The assemblage is highly fragmentary (average fragment weight 3g) and generally survives in poor condition. Diagnostic elements are large mammal long bone, rib, scapula, foot bone, skull and tooth fragments, the latter including two cow molars. Butchery is evidenced by cut marks occurring on a rib fragment recovered from post hole [1259].



6. ENVIRONMENTAL ARCHAEOLOGY ASSESSMENT

By Leslie Bode and D. James Rackham

6.1 Introduction

Excavations were carried out by Albion Archaeology (AA) to support a planning application for residential development of land to the rear of Station Road, Lower Stondon, Bedfordshire. The trial trench excavations uncovered Iron Age, Medieval, Post-Medieval and modern features that were dated from pottery. To complement the finds collected by hand, 6 bulk soil samples were taken from a representative spread of features for environmental analysis and four of these (Samples <7> to <10>) (Table 3) were submitted for assessment. Two bulk control samples (<05> and <06>) were taken but were not processed.. A In addition a series of four monoliths (samples <1> to <4>) were taken through a large ditch sequence ([1239] – Figure 5 and Figure 7) of early-middle Iron Age date for sediment, pollen and other environmental assessment. The environmental assessment results from the soil samples and the monolith sequence are presented in this report while the pollen assessment of the ditch sediments will follow as soon as the data becomes available.

sample no.	context no.	Feature	Feature Type	Volume processed by AA(1)	Flot vol (ml).	Residue vol (ml).	Residue weight (g)	Date
07	1211	1207/1208?	Ditch	15	1	600	872	Early/ Middle Iron Age
08	1250	1249	Ditch	15	1.5	400	662	Early/ Middle Iron Age
09	1260	1259	Post Hole	15	1.5	400	626	Early/ Middle Iron Age
10	1240	1239	Ditch	25	1	650	930	Early/ Middle Iron Age

Table 3: Bulk samples submitted for environmental assessment

6.2 Methods

Albion Archaeology initially processed the four soil samples and provided the first flots along with the residues to the Environmental Archaeology Consultancy (EAC) for further processing and assessment. The dried residues from the bulk samples were re-floated by the EAC to provide a second flot and ensure the efficient recovery of charred plant remains and a magnet was run over the dried residue for the recovery of hammerstone and prill. The monolith sequence was cleaned and described and subsamples taken for potential pollen analysis at 4cm intervals throughout the ditch sequence. The lower two monoliths (samples <01> and <02>) were then divided up into 10cm or stratigraphic units (Table 4) and these sub-samples from the two basal monoliths processed for environmental remains and possible material for radiocarbon dating. The monolith samples were processed in the following manner. Sample volume and weight was measured prior to processing. The residues provided and the column samples were washed in a 'Siraf' tank (Williams 1973) using a flotation sieve with a 0.3mm mesh and an internal wet sieve of 0.5 mm mesh for the residue. Both residue and flot were dried and the residues produced from the column samples were subsequently re-floated to ensure the efficient recovery of charred material. The dry volume of the flots was measured and the volume and weight of the residue recorded.



The residues from the monolith samples were sorted by eye, and environmental and archaeological finds picked out, noted on the assessment sheet and bagged independently. A magnet was run through each residue in order to recover magnetised material such as hammerstone and prill and a count made of the number of flakes or spheroids of hammerstone collected. The residue was then discarded.

Section no. / Sample depth (cm)	Assoc. context no.	Sample weight(g)	Flot vol (ml).	Residue vol (ml).	Residue weight (g)
<02>/40-50	1244	1178	0.5	150	296
<02>/30-40	1244	1037	0.5	180	280
<02>/20-30	1243/1244	1442	1.0	200	319
<02>/10-20	1242/1243	1030	<0.5	73	119
<02>/0-10	1242	1073	0.5	100	161
<01>/40-51	1241/1242	1378	2.0	120	174
<01>/30-40	1240/1241	1055	<0.5	700	205
<01>/17-30	1240	989	<0.5	75	133
<01>/7-17	1240	1213	<1	100	178
<01>/0-7	1240	813	<1	30	64
Samples recorded from the base of the column upwards – Sample <01> (0-7m being the deepest)					

Table 4: Monolith samples divided for environmental assessment

The flot of each sample was studied using x30 magnifications and the presence of environmental finds (i.e. snails, charcoal, carbonised seeds, bones etc) was noted and their abundance and species diversity recorded on the assessment sheet. The flots were then bagged and along with the finds from the sorted residue, constitute the material archive of the samples.

The individual components of the samples have been preliminarily identified and the results are summarised below in Tables 5 and 6.

6.3 Results

6.3.1 Bulk samples (Table 5)

The second flotation of the bulk sample residues and subsequent checking and running the magnet over the dried residue produced additional charred material, hammerstone, a little fired earth in samples 8 and 9, and a little burnt and unburnt bone in samples 8, 9 and 10.

The majority of the charcoal present in all four of the bulk sample flots is comminuted. Charred remains of cereal grain are only present in one sample <09> and only 5 grains in total were recovered (3 x *Hordeum vulgare* (barley) and 2 x cf. *Hordeum vulgare*). The charred (non-grain) seed assemblages present in the flots are also poor and are restricted to the identification of two fragments of Poaceae (a wild grass), a *Gallium* sp. seed and a few indeterminate fragments of seeds. A limited amount of uncharred plant material was also present and consisted of low numbers of the following wild and modern seeds: *Chenopodium* sp., *Rubus*, *Sonchus*, and *Ranunculus* sp. which are considered to be intrusive. The samples also all had a relatively high concentration of recent rootlets.



6.3.2 *Monolith samples (Table 6):*

The cleaned monoliths (Figure 7) were described and sub-sampled for pollen. Four of the pollen samples were submitted for assessment from the basal sediments, the darker bands (1241) and (1243), and the upper fill (1244). The monolith samples were then divided into 10cm units or by stratigraphic unit and the samples from the two basal monoliths processed for environmental evidence.

The ditch sequence (Figures 5, 6 and 7) has been divided into five archaeological layers. Two of these, (1241) and (1243), indicate a higher organic component suggesting periods of stabilization and vegetation growth on the ditch floor, perhaps during periods of wetter conditions in the ditch.

The monolith sample units produced very little environmental data. The great majority of the charcoal that emerged after processing was comminuted with the exception of a few slightly larger fragments no larger than 5mm. The sub-sample from monolith 01 originating from 40-51cm from the base of this monolith was the only sample that revealed any charred plant material other than charcoal. Here a single charred *Triticum* sp. cereal grain was identified. No modern or uncharred seeds were found in the monolith sub-samples and the root concentration remained low or moderate throughout the column.

In the four pollen samples assessed there is some pollen, especially in the basal lower silty fill. The sediment is all very much oxidised/gleyed and the pollen reflects this with the dominance of thick walled types, especially Lactucoideae (Dandelion types) which are dominant. This indicates poor preservation and survival of only the most robust pollen types. A count will be made of the surviving pollen in the lower samples but no further analysis can be justified.

6.4 *Pollen Assessment Analysis of the Ditch Sediments*

By Rob Scaife

6.4.1 *Introduction*

A sequence of samples has been examined from the fills of middle Iron Age ditch [1239] with the aim of providing information on the local vegetation and environment of this site after its construction. Pollen has been recovered but preserving conditions are very poor. Some data has, however been obtained from the more humic stabilisation horizons which have been identified. This report details these findings

6.4.2 *Method*

Sub-samples for pollen analysis were taken from monolith/box profiles obtained in the field by James Rackham. A total of 6 samples were used which span the depth and different contexts of the ditch fill. Given the largely minerogenic nature of these ditch sediment fills, samples of 3–4ml were processed. Extraction techniques followed those detailed in Moore and Webb (1978) and Moore *et al.* (1991). Counts range from a maximum of 400 pollen grains obtained at 48–44cm in <02>, but lesser numbers in overlying levels where preservation was much poorer (to 50 grains at 12–16cm in column <03>. Above



this latter level, pollen is almost absent negating any counts from column <04>. Pollen count data are given in Table 5, below.

6.4.3 The pollen data

Depth cm in column	12-16	36-40	20-24	44-48
Monolith	<3>	<2>	<2>	<1>
Trees				
Betula	1	3		
<i>Pinus</i>			1	
<i>Quercus</i>		1		
<i>Alnus</i>		3	2	1
<i>Corylus avellana</i> type		1	1	5
Herbs				
Ranunculus type		37	15	6
Brassicaceae		1		
<i>Dianthus</i> type		7	5	9
<i>Stellaria</i> type			1	2
Chenopodiaceae		1		
Fabaceae indet.				1
<i>Trifolium</i> type		1		4
<i>Polygonum aviculare</i> type			1	
cf. Scrophulariaceae				1
Plantago media/major			7	
Plantago lanceolata	1	17	31	15
<i>Succisa pratensis</i>			1	
<i>Bidens</i> type		1		
<i>Anthemis</i> type			1	1
<i>Cirsium</i> type		1		1
<i>Senecio</i> type			1	
<i>Centaurea nigra</i> type	1	18	3	18
Lactucoideae	44	127	168	224
Poaceae	5	68	61	103
Cyperaceae		1	1	2
Unidentified/degraded		11	2	8
Fern spores				
<i>Dryopteris</i> type		1	5	3
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	4	12	9	15
<i>Polypodium vulgare</i>		1		1
Liverwort			1	
Total pollen counts	50	299	302	401
Total spore count	4	14	15	19

Table 5: Pollen counts data from Iron Age ditch [1239]

Pollen was found to be sparse and poorly preserved throughout most of the column and, as might be expected, absent in the upper levels column <4>. Best preservation occurs in the more humic soils, stabilisation levels of <01> at 48–44cm and <02> at 24–20 cm where some useful data has been obtained (see Figure 5). However, in all samples there is strong evidence for differential



preservation of the more robust pollen taxa, especially and typically the Lactucoideae (dandelion types). These taxa have had a longer residency time in the soils and may also be derived from erosion of the surrounding soil and re-deposition in the ditch. Thus, the assemblages comprise the contemporaneous flora including some preservation of less robust pollen types (e.g. grasses) as well as those robust types mentioned. Clearly, the former group has a greater bearing on the interpretation of the site.

Overall, the pollen spectra are dominated by herbs with extremely small numbers of tree and shrub pollen. The latter comprise occasional *Betula* (birch), *Pinus* (pine), *Quercus* (oak), *Alnus* (alder) and *Corylus* (hazel). All of these are wind-pollinated taxa which produce copious quantities of pollen which may be dispersed over great distances. These trees are, therefore, not considered to have been growing on or in proximity to the site.

The herbs are dominated by Poaceae (grasses) in those levels where preservation is better. These, along with other taxa, include *Ranunculus* type (buttercups), *Trifolium* type (clovers), *Centaurea* spp (knapweeds) and Lactucoideae (dandelion types). These types including the latter, which as noted although of possibly greater age, all indicate that the immediate surrounds were of grassland, possibly pastoral affinity.

The dominance of grassland types contrasts with the paucity of evidence of any cereal cultivation. Small numbers of cereal type grains in samples are, however, present coming from <02>. These pollen may derive from cultivation at some distance or may derive from secondary sources such as crop processing waste, domestic waste and human and animal faecal material.

6.4.4 *Summary conclusions of the pollen assessment*

The following principal points have been made in this assessment study.

- Pollen preservation is poor throughout and especially in the upper ditch fill.
- There is strong evidence of differential preservation of some pollen types which clearly skew the data in their favour.
- Best preservation occurs in stabilisation horizons which are more humic and some useful data has been obtained
- There are few tree and shrub pollen and an open environment, at least close to the site, has been shown.
- The local habitat was one of grassland, probably pasture.
- There is minor evidence of possible cultivation, but the use of cereals is certain.

6.5 *Conclusions and Recommendations*

The samples have yielded only limited environmental evidence that affords very limited interpretive potential. The charcoal assemblages from the samples are fairly limited due to their comminuted nature, although if necessary, a few fragments could be identified to species and there is some suitable material that could be used for radiocarbon dating if required (Column sample <02>: 20-30cm). The few flakes of hammerscale might suggest that iron smithing was



carried out on the site, but even in sample 09 where 10 flakes were recovered, this material could have moved down through the soil from more recent activity

The presence of barley and wheat grains found in the samples studied here is typical of Early/ Middle Iron Age settlements in Britain however, unfortunately this offers little further insight into the potential onsite activities such as farming, storage, crop processing or diet. Due to the scarcity of charred archaeobotanical material, more specifically any other economic plants, no further inferences can be made at this point. None of the samples assessed here merit further analysis..

As an assessment study the pollen analysis set out to establish presence or absence of pollen and the potential for fuller analysis. Although pollen has been obtained, it is unlikely given the characteristics of preservation that further work would contribute significant additional information. The biases that the poor preservation introduces to the data are such that no further work can be recommended on the ditch sequence.

Only charred plant remains and burnt and unburnt bone fragments have survived in the deposits, and some of the latter is eroded. No snail shells or waterlogged material has survived, so with the very limited macrofossil remains from the bulk soil samples and the monoliths there is very limited potential from these samples for contributing to the palaeoeconomy of the site.

No further work can be recommended on these samples.



sample no.	context no.	Feature	Flot vol (ml).	charcoal */<2*	charr'd grain *	chaff *	charr'd seed *	Modern non-charr'd	snails *	Bone wt.g.	hammer scale	comment
07	1211	1207	1	2/2				1			1	No charred grain, chaff or seeds. Low concentration of modern/uncharred seeds: <i>Chenopodium</i> sp., <i>Rubus</i> . High concentration of roots in flot as well as worm capsules and granules.
08	1250	1249	1.5	1/4			1	1		0.6	3	No charred grain or chaff. Two indet fragments of charred seeds. Low concentration of modern/uncharred seeds: <i>Sonchus</i> , <i>Chenopodium</i> sp., <i>Ranunculus</i> sp. and a bud. High concentration of roots in flot as well as occ. worm capsules.
09	1260	1259	1.5	2/2	1		1			0.4	10	c. 3 <i>Hordeum vulgare</i> and 2 cf. <i>Hordeum vulgare</i> . No charred chaff. Two fragments of charred Poaceae grains. No modern/uncharred seeds. High concentration of roots in flot as well as occ. worm capsules.
10	1240	1239	1	2/2			1			0.8	-	No charred grain or chaff. c. 1 charred <i>Gallium</i> sp. seed and c. 1 indet fragments of a charred seed. No modern/uncharred seeds. High concentration of roots in flot.

* = abundance: 1=1-10, 2=11-50, 3=51-150, 4=151-250, 5=250+ */<2* = abundance >2mm/abundance < 2mm yellow-dated

Table 6: Environmental finds from the assessed soil samples

Section no. / Sample depth (cm)	Assoc. context no.	Flot vol (ml).	char coal */<2*	charr'd grain *	chaff *	charr'd seed *	Modern non-charr'd	Snails *	Bone wt.g.	Comment
<02>/40-50	1244	0.5	1/4							No charred grain, chaff or seeds. No modern/uncharred seeds. Moderate concentration of roots in flot. Mostly fragments of comminuted charcoal with a few fragments >3mm and a ~3mm fragment of coal.
<02>/30-40	1244	0.5	1/3							No charred grain, chaff or seeds. No modern/uncharred seeds. Low concentration of roots in flot. Mostly fragments of comminuted charcoal
<02>/20-30	1243/1244	1.0	1/3						<0.1	No charred grain, chaff or seeds. No modern/uncharred seeds. Moderate concentration of roots in flot. Mostly fragments of comminuted charcoal with a few fragments >5mm.
<02>/10-20	1242/1243	<0.5	1/5							No charred grain, chaff or seeds. No modern/uncharred seeds. Low concentration of roots in flot. Mostly fragments of comminuted charcoal with a few fragments >2mm.
<02>/0-10	1242	0.5	1/2							No charred grain, chaff or seeds. No modern/uncharred seeds. Low concentration of roots in flot. Mostly fragments of comminuted charcoal with one fragments >3mm.
<01>/40-51	1241/1242	2.0	1/5	1					0.6	A single <i>Triticum</i> sp. cereal grain. No chaff or seeds. No modern/uncharred seeds. Low concentration of roots in flot. Tiny fragments of comminuted charcoal.
<01>/30-40	1240/1241	<0.5	0/2							No charred grain, chaff or seeds. No modern/uncharred seeds. Low concentration of roots in flot. Mostly fragments of comminuted charcoal with two fragments >2mm.
<01>/17-30	1240	<0.5	0/1							No charred grain, chaff or seeds. No modern/uncharred seeds. Low concentration of roots in flot. Tiny fragments of comminuted charcoal.
<01>/7-17	1240	<1	0/1						<0.1	No charred grain, chaff or seeds. No modern/uncharred seeds. Low concentration of roots in flot. Tiny fragments of comminuted charcoal.
<01>/0-7	1240	<1	0/1							No charred grain, chaff or seeds. No modern/uncharred seeds. Low concentration of roots in flot. Tiny fragments of comminuted charcoal.

* = abundance: 1=1-10, 2=11-50, 3=51-150, 4=151-250, 5=250+ */<2* = abundance >2mm/abundance < 2mm yellow-dated

Table 7: Environmental finds from the assessed sub-samples from the two monoliths



7. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

7.1 *Summary of the Results*

The initial evaluation demonstrated that most of the proposed development area is devoid of archaeological features or contains relatively recent features of negligible heritage value. Only Trenches 1 and 3, at the south-west of the development area, revealed anything of note; each contained one feature that produced Iron Age pottery.

Subsequent mapping, investigation and recording within Area 1 has demonstrated that the Iron Age features comprise a small group of enclosure ditches and other features dating from the early to middle Iron Age. However, stratigraphic evidence supports the conclusion that the Iron Age occupation of the site was sporadic and broken by lengthy periods of abandonment. This is because there was an initial IA phase predating Enclosure A; the ditch defining Enclosure A then silted up in stages; finally Enclosure A was totally filled when replaced by Iron Age Enclosure C. The ditch of Enclosure B showed a pattern of gradual infilling similar to that of the Enclosure A ditch. No evidence of roundhouses was identified by excavation, but it is possible that any such evidence would have been relatively shallow and has been destroyed by the medieval and later cultivation and soil improvement within the proposed development area.

Approximately 1kg of early to middle Iron Age pottery was recovered, but this material is highly fragmentary, with few diagnostic vessel forms identifiable. The animal bone assemblage was also small (less than 1kg) and fragmentary; it is not suitable for statistical analysis. This is partly due to the survival of the material, which was in poor condition, but may also indicate that the density of occupation was relatively light.

The Environmental assessment suggests that the Iron Age deposits within Area 1 contained limited environmental evidence and this suggests that the site has very limited potential to contribute to our knowledge of the Iron Age environment or agrarian economy in this part of Bedfordshire. Charred plant remains are present in small quantities only and, although some pollen was present in the lower layers within a ditch [1239], ground condition meant that pollen preservation was poor and no further work is recommended.

7.2 *Characterisation of the Heritage Asset*

Early to middle Iron Age settlement sites in Bedfordshire tend to be relatively small (with a core *c.* 50m in diameter (Dawson 2007; Webley et al 2007; Luke in prep). They can be enclosed or unenclosed. Enclosed sites are represented by a handful of sub-circular or irregular ditched enclosures, often superimposed on each other in the manner seen in Area 1 at Lower Stondon. The present site lacks the large storage pits, as found, for example, at Fairfield Park (Webley 2007, fig 2.3), but this may support the suggestion that this was not a permanent place of settlement. Alternatively, the possible four-post structure could be interpreted as an above-ground granary or fodder storage structure, which would tie in with the possible use of the site as a stock management suggested by the funnel-like space between Enclosures A and B.



Although the features within Area 1 extended beyond the *c.*35m by *c.*24m of the stripped area, comparison with other sites in the region suggests that it is unlikely the enclosures extend much further. The open area excavation has provided a partial plan of the enclosures that enables the likely layout to be extrapolated with reasonable certainty. The recorded crop-marks, HER 16793, have not been plotted so it is not possible to consider whether there is any relationship with the excavated remains. However, the evidence from Area 1 will be useful for interpretation of the crop marks outside the development area.

7.3 Significance of the Heritage Asset and Potential for Analysis

The chief value of the site at Lower Stondon is that it adds to the distribution of known early to middle Iron Age enclosure sites in Central Bedfordshire.

The surviving features are generally the deeper, more substantial components and any shallower features have been denuded by centuries of agricultural operations. Furthermore, the deposits within the surviving features have been sampled by excavation and have been shown to contain relatively low concentrations of generally poor quality artefacts and biological remains, which is a result of the ground conditions, the relative antiquity and nature of the material. This would suggest that further investigation of the site would be unlikely to yield regionally or nationally significant data that would add to the results already obtained.



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9. APPENDIX 1: TRENCH CONTEXT SUMMARIES

Trench: 1

Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.45 m. Max: 0.47 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 16188: Northing: 35462)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 16165: Northing: 35418)

Reason: Target cropmarks

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
100	Topsoil	Firm mid brown grey clay silt Thickness: 0.3m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
101	Subsoil	Firm mid orange brown silty clay Thickness: 0.17m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
102	Natural	Firm mid brown orange silty clay moderate small-medium stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
103	Ditch	Linear N-S sides: 45 degrees base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.3m, max depth 0.52m, max length 1.m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
104	Fill	Firm mid orange brown silty clay occasional small-medium stones Thickness: 0.4m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
105	Fill	Friable dark brown grey silty clay Thickness: 0.12m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
106	Furrow	Linear ENE-WSW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
107	Fill	Firm mid orange orange silty clay occasional small CBM	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 2

Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.4 m. Max: 0.5 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 16206: Northing: 35422)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 16160: Northing: 35404)

Reason: Target cropmarks

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
200	Topsoil	Firm mid brown grey silty clay Thickness: 0.25m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
201	Subsoil	Firm mid orange brown silty clay Thickness: 0.15m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
202	Natural	Firm mid brown orange silty clay occasional small stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
203	Furrow	Linear ENE-WSW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
204	Fill	Firm mid orange grey silty clay occasional small CBM	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 3

Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.5 m. Max: 0.46 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 16203: Northing: 35477)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 16222: Northing: 35430)

Reason: Target cropmarks

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
300	Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown clay silt occasional small-medium stones Thickness: 0.35m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
301	Subsoil	Firm mid brown orange clay silt occasional small stones Thickness: 0.18m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
302	Natural	Firm light brown orange clay silt occasional small-medium stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
303	Ditch	Linear NE-SW sides: concave dimensions: max breadth 2.5m, min depth 0.9m, max length 1.m Not fully excavated due to depth.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
304	Fill	Firm mid orange brown silty clay moderate flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones Thickness: 0.38m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
305	Fill	Firm light orange brown silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones Thickness: 0.18m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
306	Fill	Firm dark grey silty clay moderate flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones Thickness: 0.18m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
307	Fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones Thickness: 0.25	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
308	Furrow	Linear E-W sides: concave base: flat dimensions: max breadth 1.65m, max depth 0.1m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
309	Fill	Firm mid brown silty clay occasional small stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 4

Max Dimensions: Length: 38.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.47 m. Max: 0.5 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 16276: Northing: 35450)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 16230: Northing: 35431)

Reason: Target cropmarks

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
400	Topsoil	Firm dark brown grey clay silt Thickness: 0.3m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
401	Subsoil	Firm mid grey brown silty clay Thickness: 0.15m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
402	Natural	Firm mid orange grey silty clay occasional flecks chalk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
403	Furrow	Linear ESE-WNW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
404	Fill	Firm mid orange grey silty silt occasional small CBM	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 5

Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.45 m. Max: 0.5 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 16222: Northing: 35481)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 16268: Northing: 35462)

Reason: Target cropmarks

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
500	Topsoil	Firm dark brown grey clay silt Thickness: 0.3m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
501	Subsoil	Firm mid grey brown silty clay Thickness: 0.12m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
502	Natural	Firm mid orange grey silty clay occasional flecks chalk	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
503	Furrow	Linear ESE-WNW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
504	Fill	Firm mid orange grey silty clay occasional small CBM	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 6

Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.5 m. Max: 0.55 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 16191: Northing: 35528)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 16145: Northing: 35509)

Reason: Target blank area

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
600	Topsoil	Firm mid brown grey clay silt Thickness: 0.25m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
601	Subsoil	Firm mid orange brown silty clay occasional small stones Thickness: 0.3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
602	Natural	Firm mid brown orange silty clay moderate small-medium stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
603	Furrow	Linear ESE-WNW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
604	Fill	Firm mid orange grey silty clay occasional small CBM	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 7

Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.55 m. Max: 0.55 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 16207; Northing: 35545)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 16217; Northing: 35522)

Reason: Target blank area

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
700	Topsoil	Friable mid brown grey clay silt Thickness: 0.3m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
701	Subsoil	Firm mid orange brown silty clay Thickness: 0.25m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
702	Natural	Firm mid brown orange silty clay moderate small-medium stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
703	Furrow	Linear ENE-WSW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
704	Fill	Firm mid orange grey silty clay occasional small CBM	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 8

Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.53 m. Max: 0.6 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 16296: Northing: 35527)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 16250: Northing: 35508)

Reason: Target blank area

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
800	Topsoil	Firm mid brown grey clay silt Thickness: 0.33m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
801	Subsoil	Firm mid orange brown silty clay Thickness: 0.2m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
802	Natural	Firm mid brown orange silty clay	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
803	Feature	NW-SE dimensions: min breadth 16.m Natural feature. Channel? 1m sondage revealed waterlogged clay deposits (804) and (805).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
804	Fill	Plastic mid grey blue silty clay Natural deposit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
805	Fill	Firm mid grey silty clay occasional small stones Natural deposit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 9

Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.43 m. Max: 0.6 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 16321: Northing: 35494)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 16323: Northing: 35546)

Reason: Target blank area

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
900	Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown clay silt occasional small stones Thickness: 0.36m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
901	Subsoil	Firm mid brown orange silty clay occasional small stones Thickness: 0.22m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
902	Natural	Firm light brown orange silty clay occasional small-medium stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
903	Furrow	Linear ENE-WSW dimensions: max breadth 1.5m, max depth 0.2m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
904	Fill	Firm mid orange brown silty clay occasional small CBM	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
905	Ditch	Linear N-S dimensions: max breadth 0.9m, min length 5.m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
906	Fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay occasional small-medium CBM, moderate small-medium stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 10

Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.35 m. Max: 0.4 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 16428: Northing: 35501)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 16381: Northing: 35486)

Reason: Target blank area

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1000	Topsoil	Firm mid brown grey clay silt Thickness 0.25m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1001	Subsoil	Firm mid orange brown silty clay Thickness: 0.15m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1002	Natural	Firm mid orange grey silty clay occasional small chalk	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 11

Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.45 m. Max: 0.45 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 16396: Northing: 35567)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 16414: Northing: 35521)

Reason: Target blank area

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1100	Topsoil	Firm mid brown grey clay silt Thickness: 0.3m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1101	Subsoil	Firm mid brown orange silty clay Thickness: 0.15m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1102	Natural	Firm mid yellow grey silty clay occasional small chalk	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1103	Furrow	Linear ESE-WNW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1104	Fill	Firm mid orange grey silty clay occasional small-medium CBM	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



10. APPENDIX 2: AREA 1 CONTEXT SUMMARY

Area: 1
 Extent (ha): 0.0832
 OS Co-ordinates: TL1619235466
 Description: Area excavation to define and characterise features associated with Iron Age pottery

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1200	Topsoil	Friable mid brown grey clay silt. Thickness: 0.3m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1201	Subsoil	Firm mid orange brown silty clay occasional small stones. Thickness: 0.2m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1202	Natural	Firm mid brown orange silty clay	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1203	Ditch	Linear N-S sides: steep base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.45m, max depth 0.22m, max length 1.m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1204	Fill	Friable dark brown grey clay silt occasional small-medium burnt stones, occasional flecks charcoal. Thickness: 0.22m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1205	Ditch	Linear N-S sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.45m, max depth 0.12m, max length 1.m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1206	Fill	Friable dark brown grey clay silt. Thickness: 0.12m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1207	Ditch	Linear NW-SE sides: 45 degrees base: concave	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1208	Ditch	Linear NNE-SSW sides: convex base: flat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1209	Fill	Friable dark orange brown clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones. Thickness: 0.27m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1210	Fill	Friable mid orange brown clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones. Thickness: 0.27m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1211	Fill	Friable dark orange grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones. Thickness: 0.18m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1212	Ditch	Linear N-S sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.55m, max depth 0.19m, max length 1.m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1213	Fill	Friable mid brown grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones. Thickness: 0.19m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1214	Ditch	Linear N-S sides: steep base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.87m, max depth 0.47m, max length 1.m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1215	Fill	Friable mid brown grey clay silt occasional small stones. Thickness: 0.12m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1221	Fill	Firm dark brown grey clay silt occasional medium burnt stones, occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones. Thickness: 0.42m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1216	Ditch	Linear E-W sides: steep base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.68m, max depth 0.42m, max length 1.m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1217	Fill	Friable mid orange grey clay silt occasional small stones. Thickness: 0.18m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1218	Fill	Friable mid grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones. Thickness: 0.24m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1219	Posthole		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1220	Fill	Friable dark brown grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal. Thickness: 0.06m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1222	Ditch	Linear E-W. Partially excavated as part of relationship section.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1223	Fill	Friable light grey orange silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1224	Ditch	Linear N-S. Partially excavated as part of relationship section.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1225	Fill	Friable dark orange grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



Area: 1

Extent (ha): 0.0832

OS Co-ordinates: TL1619235466

Description: Area excavation to define and characterise features associated with Iron Age pottery

1226	Ditch	Linear N-S sides: steep base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.53m, max depth 0.37m, max length 1.m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1227	Fill	Friable dark orange grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones. Thickness: 0.14m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1228	Fill	Friable mid orange grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones. Thickness: 0.23m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1229	Ditch	Linear N-S sides: steep base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.67m, max depth 0.31m, max length 1.m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1230	Fill	Friable mid orange grey silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones. Thickness: 0.11m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1231	Fill	Friable dark orange grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones. Thickness: 0.2m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1232	Ditch	Curving linear NW-SE sides: steep base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.38m, max depth 0.21m, max length 0.8m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1233	Fill	Friable mid grey brown clay silt occasional flecks charcoal. Thickness: 0.21	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1234	Gulley	Linear NE-SW sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.38m, max depth 0.15m, max length 0.9m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1235	Fill	Friable mid brown grey clay silt. Thickness: 0.15m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1236	Ditch	Curving linear E-W sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.03m, max depth 0.22m, max length 1.m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1237	Fill	Friable mid grey orange clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones. Thickness: 0.1m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1238	Fill	Friable dark brown grey clay silt moderate flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones. Thickness: 0.12m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1239	Ditch	Curving linear NNW-SSE sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 2.9m, max depth 1.5m, max length 2.m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1240	Fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay occasional small-medium stones. Thickness: 0.35m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1241	Fill	Friable mid orange brown clay silt occasional small stones. Thickness: 0.16m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1242	Fill	Friable mid brown grey silty clay occasional small-medium stones. Thickness: 0.34m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1243	Fill	Friable mid brown grey clay silt occasional small-medium stones. Thickness: 0.12m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1244	Fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay moderate small-medium stones. Thickness: 0.87m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1245	Ditch	Curving linear NNW-SSE sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.88m, max depth 0.39m, max length 1.m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1246	Fill	Friable mid brown grey clay silt moderate small-medium stones. Thickness: 0.39m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1247	Ditch	Curving linear NW-SE sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.5m, max depth 0.1m, max length 1.m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1248	Fill	Friable mid brown grey silty clay occasional small-medium stones. Thickness: 0.1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1249	Ditch	Curving linear NE-SW sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.41m, max depth 0.13m, max length 0.95m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1250	Fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones. Thickness: 0.13m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1251	Ditch	Linear NW-SE sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.45m, max depth 0.08m, max length 0.6m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1252	Fill	Firm dark brown grey silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones. Thickness: 0.08m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



Area: 1

Extent (ha): 0.0832

OS Co-ordinates: TL1619235466

Description: Area excavation to define and characterise features associated with Iron Age pottery

1253	Ditch	Linear NW-SE sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.41m, max depth 0.09m, max length 0.7m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1254	Fill	Firm dark brown grey silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones. Thickness: 0.09m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1255	Posthole	Oval sides: steep base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.15m, max diameter 0.45m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1256	Fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones. Thickness: 0.15m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1257	Posthole	Oval sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.1m, max diameter 0.55m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1258	Fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones. Thickness: 0.1m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1259	Posthole	Oval sides: steep base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.21m, max diameter 0.7m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1260	Fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones. Thickness: 0.21m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1261	Gulley	Linear NW-SE sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.25m, max depth 0.08m, max length 0.7m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1262	Fill	Friable mid brown grey silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones. Thickness: 0.08m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1263	Ditch	Curving linear E-W. Partially excavated as part of relationship section.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1264	Fill	Friable mid brown grey silty clay occasional small-medium stones. Partially excavated as part of relationship section.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1265	Gulley	Linear NW-SE sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.18m, max length 0.41m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1266	Fill	Friable mid brown grey silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones. Thickness: 0.18m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1267	Ditch	Curving linear N-S sides: 45 degrees base: concave dimensions: max breadth 4m, max depth 1.57m, max length 2m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1268	Fill	Firm dark brown grey clay silt occasional small-medium stones. Thickness: 0.27m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1269	Fill	Firm mid brown grey clay silt occasional small-medium stones. Thickness: 0.5m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1270	Fill	Firm mid brown grey clay silt moderate small stones. Thickness: 0.1m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1271	Fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay occasional medium-large burnt stones, occasional small-medium stones. Thickness: 0.57m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1272	Fill	Friable dark grey brown clay silt occasional medium burnt stones, occasional small stones. Thickness: 0.41m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1273	Pit	Circular sides: near vertical base: flat dimensions: max depth 0.1m, max diameter 0.83m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1274	Lining	Plastic light grey blue clay. Thickness: 0.01 - 0.05m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1275	Fill	Firm dark brown grey silty clay occasional medium burnt stones, frequent small stones. Thickness: 0.08m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1276	Ditch	Linear N-S. Partially excavated as part of relationship section.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1277	Fill	Firm mid grey silty clay. Partially excavated as part of relationship section.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Area: 1
Extent (ha): 0.0832
OS Co-ordinates: TL1619235466
Description: Area excavation to define and characterise features associated with Iron Age pottery

1278	Ditch	Curving linear N-S sides: steep base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.62m, max depth 0.41m, max length 0.55m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1279	Fill	Firm mid grey orange silty clay occasional small stones. Thickness: 0.21m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1280	Fill	Firm dark grey clay silt occasional small-medium burnt stones, occasional small-medium stones. Thickness: 0.3m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1281	Ditch	Linear NE-SW sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.82m, max depth 0.27m, max length 1.m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1282	Fill	Firm mid orange brown silty clay . Thickness: 0.07m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1283	Fill	Firm light grey brown silty clay . Thickness: 0.2m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1284	Ditch	Sub-rectangular	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1285	Fill		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



11. APPENDIX 3: OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: albionar1-135687	
Project details	
Project name	Land at Lower Stondon
Short description of the project	An evaluation demonstrated that most of the proposed development area is devoid of archaeological features or contains relatively recent features of negligible heritage value. Only Trenches 1 and 3, at the south-west of the development area, revealed anything of note; each contained one feature that produced Iron Age pottery. Subsequently, two stages of stripping were undertaken to map and record the extent of the Iron Age features. This has demonstrated that they comprise a small group of enclosure ditches and other features. These are considered to date from the early to middle Iron Age, on the grounds that the only datable artefacts (pottery) were all of that period. Within this timeframe, stratigraphic relationships suggested that many of the features could not have been contemporary, giving the impression of a site that was used repeatedly, possibly for relatively short periods separated by long periods of abandonment.
Project dates	Start: 23-10-2012 End: 16-11-2012
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	LS2043 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	LUTNM:2012/39 - Museum accession ID
Any associated project reference codes	CB/12/02929/FULL - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Recording project
Monument type	DITCHES Iron Age
Monument type	FURROWS Medieval
Monument type	FURROWS Post Medieval
Monument type	BOUNDARY DITCHES Iron Age
Monument type	FOUR POSTER Iron Age
Monument type	PIT Uncertain
Significant Finds	POTTERY Iron Age
Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Iron Age
Investigation type	"Open-area excavation", "Part Excavation", "Recorded Observation"
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	BEDFORDSHIRE MID BEDFORDSHIRE STONDON Land at Lower Stondon
Study area	3.50 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 164 353 52 0 52 00 12 N 000 18 14 W Point



Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Albion Archaeology
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Consultant - CGMS Consulting
Project director/manager	Jeremy Oetgen
Project director/manager	CGMS
Project supervisor	Ben Barker
Project archives	
Physical Archive recipient	Luton Museum
Physical Archive ID	LUTNM:2012/39
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Industrial"
Physical Archive notes	To be stored at Albion until deposition
Digital Archive recipient	Luton Museum
Digital Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Industrial","other"
Digital Media available	"Database","GIS","Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Luton Museum
Paper Archive ID	LUTNM:2012/39
Paper Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Industrial","other"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Correspondence","Drawing","Microfilm","Miscellaneous Material","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section"
Paper Archive notes	To be stored at Albion until deposition
Project bibliography 1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Land to the rear of Station Road, Lower Stondon, Bedfordshire: Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation and Open Area Excavation
Author(s)/Editor(s)	'Pilkinton, K'
Author(s)/Editor(s)	'Barker, B'
Author(s)/Editor(s)	'Oetgen, J'
Other bibliographic details	2013-87
Date	2013
Issuer or publisher	Albion Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Bedford
Entered by	Helen Parslow (hl.parslow@albion-arch.com)
Entered on	15 May 2013

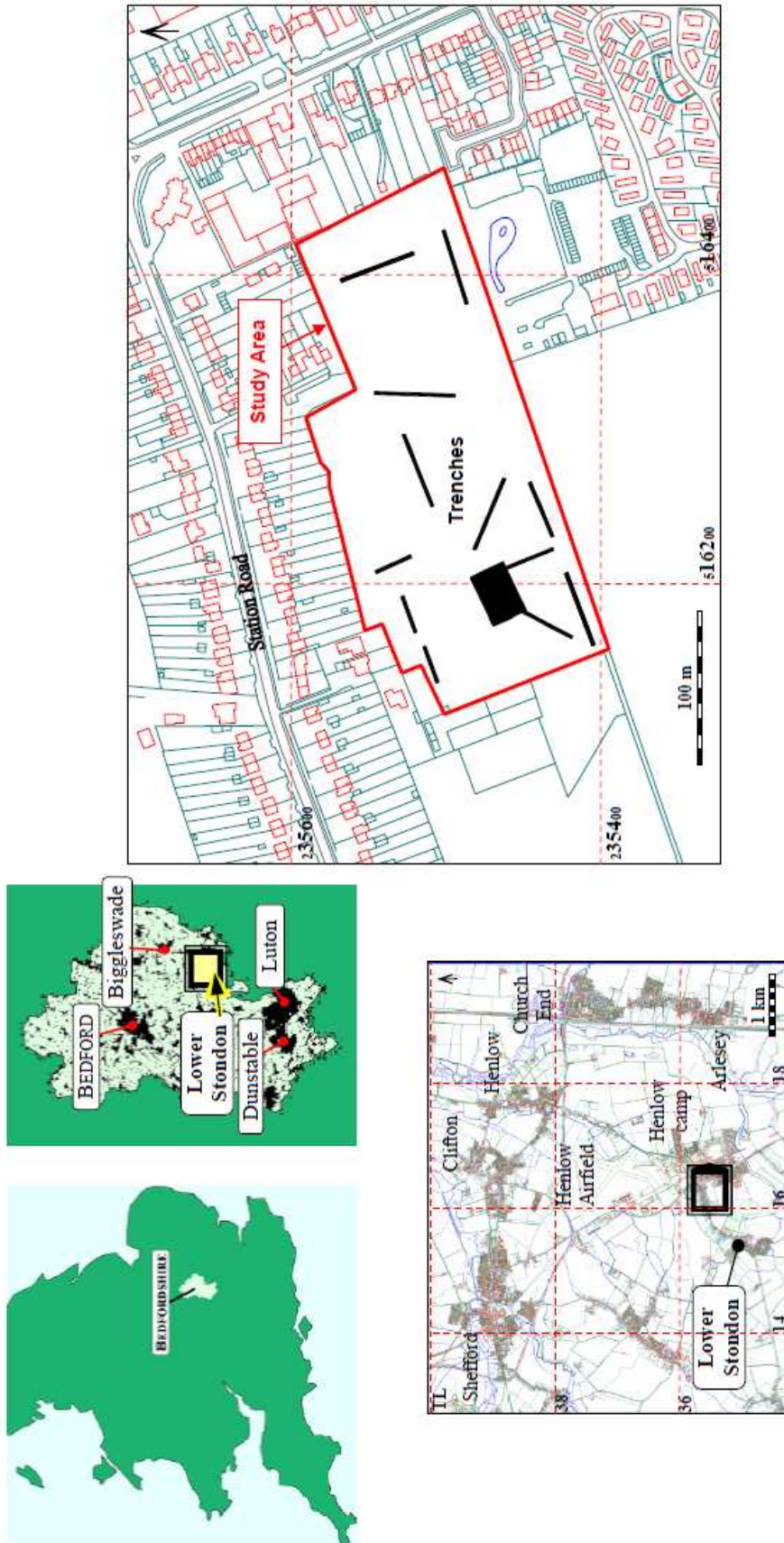


Figure 1: Site location plan
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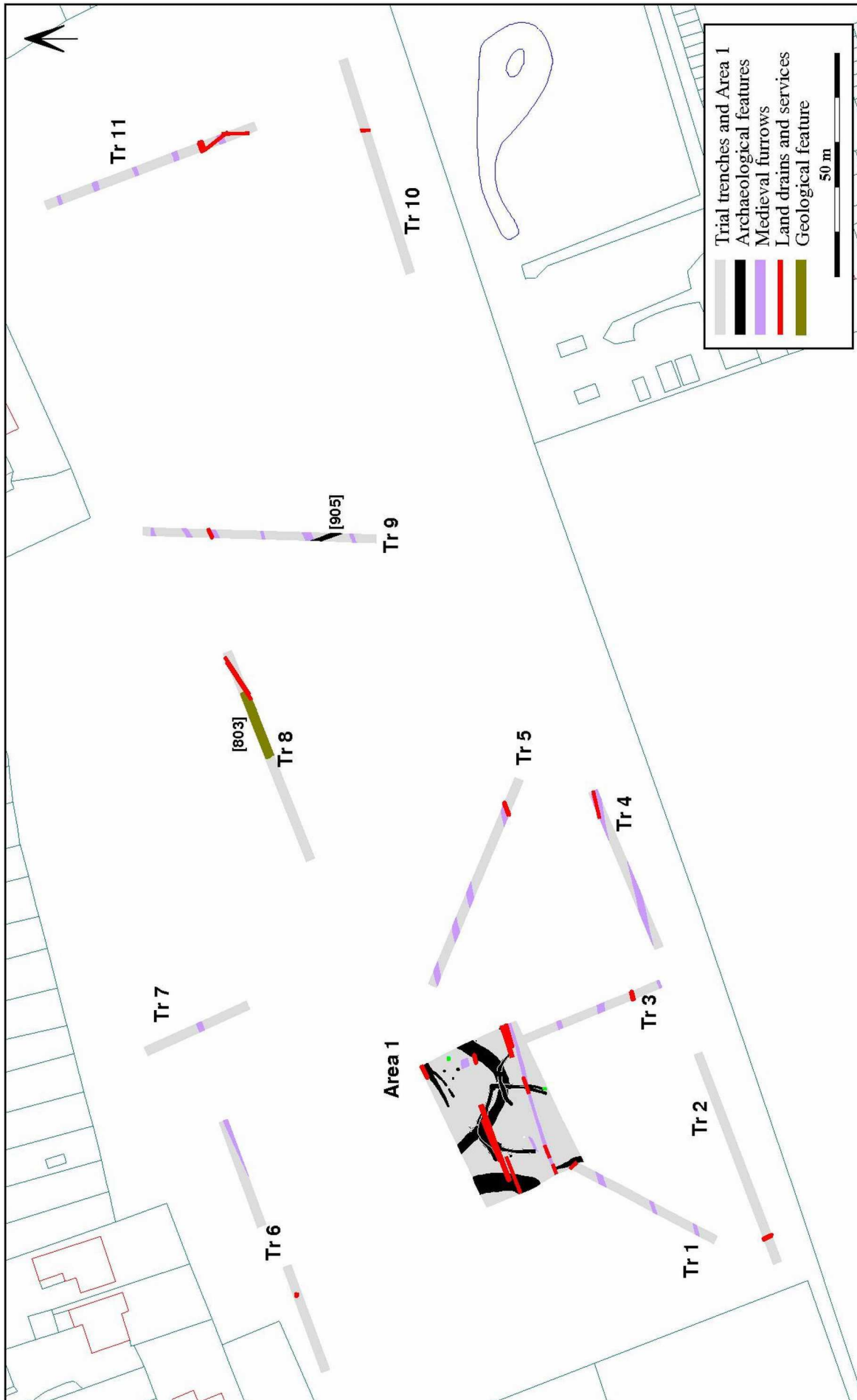


Figure 2: All features plan

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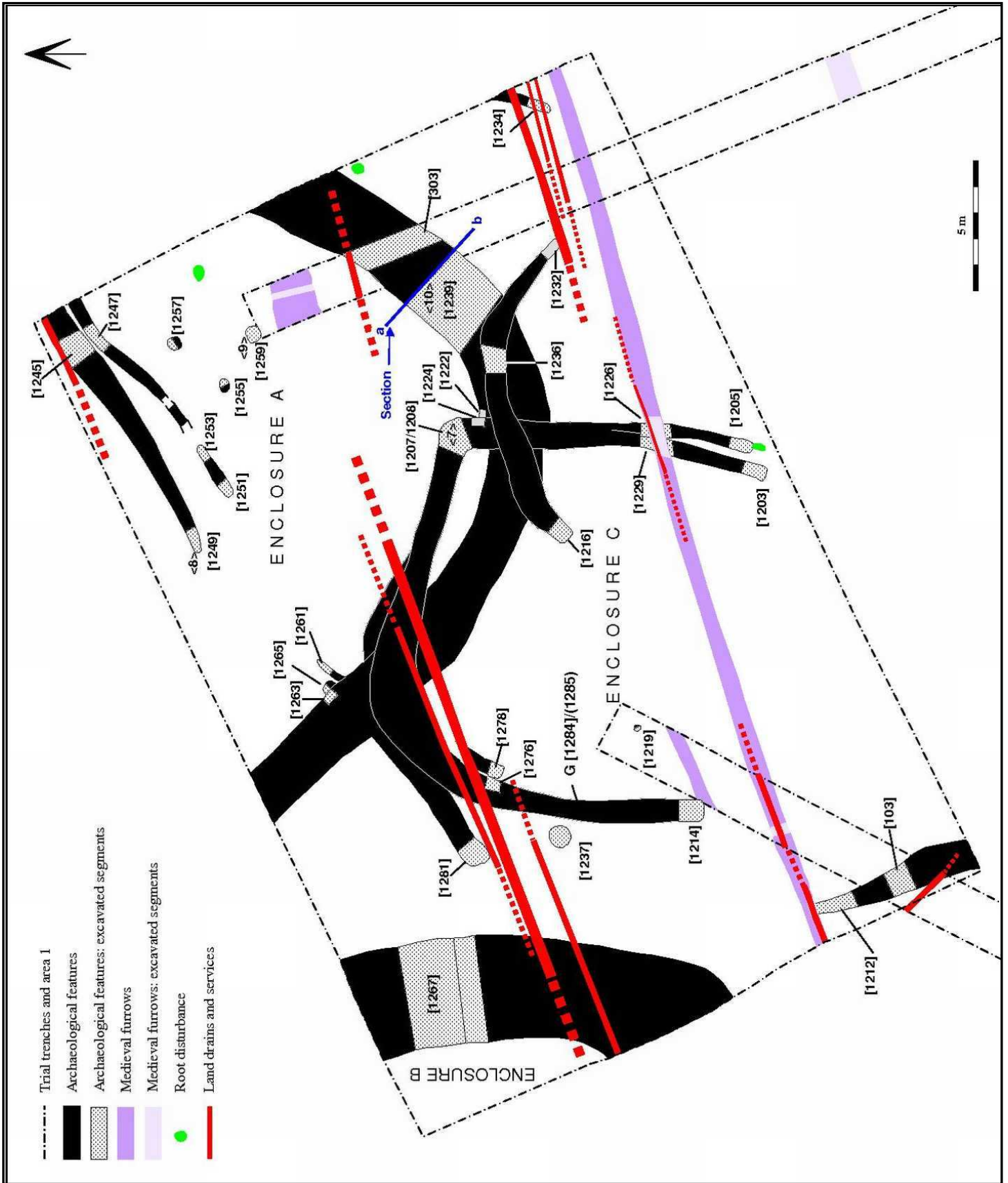


Figure 3: Features in Area 1



Figure 4: Photograph of machine-excavated ditch segment [1239] with original segment [303] in background

Scale bar = 1m



Figure 5: Photograph of hand-cleaned section a–b of ditch segment [1239] with sequence of four soil monolith sample tins in place

Scale bar = 1m

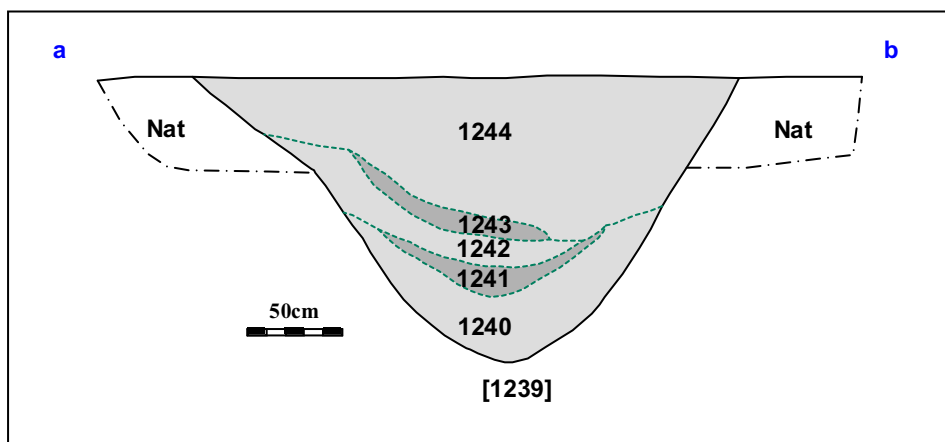


Figure 6: Drawing of section a-b of ditch [1239]
(see Figure 3 for location of section)



Figure7: Monolith sequence from ditch [1239]

By Leslie Bode and D. James Rackham



04

14-31cm yellowish brown (10YR 4/6) very sandy clay with large pebbles to 50mm, flint (10-20mm) and charcoal flecks

7-14 dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) sandy clay with pebbles (10-20mm), flint flecks to 1mm and charcoal

0-7 yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) sandy clay with flint (2-10mm), iron rich flecks, charcoal and frequent pebbles (10-20mm)



03

8-31 yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) sandy clay, with iron rich patches (2.5YR 3/4) and flecks, pebbles to 10mm and charcoal flecks

0-8 yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) sandy clay with iron rich concretions (2.5YR 3/4), pebbles to 10mm and charcoal flecks



30-50 dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) sandy clay with pebbles to 10mm and charcoal flecks

02

10-30 dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) sandy clay, with pebbles (2-10mm), flint (5mm) and charcoal flecks, slightly greyer than below

0-10 dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) very slightly orange sandy clay, with flecks of flint (3-10mm) and charcoal, and occasional pebbles



01

40-49 dark greyish brown (10YR 4/2) sandy clay with charcoal flecks and paler patches

37-40 yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) sandy clay – transition zone with chunk of flint -35mm

30-37 dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/6) sandy clay with flint to 35mm and charcoal flecks

24-30 possible rodent intrusion – slightly darker band with less sand, flint flakes 1-5mm

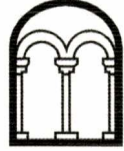
7-24 dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/6) sandy clay with flint to 35mm and charcoal flecks

0-7cm yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) smooth clay with a little sand, charcoal flecks and flint chips to 12mm



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