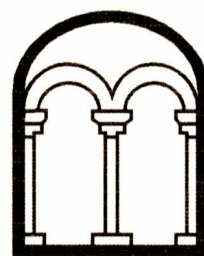


**ELSTOW LOWER SCHOOL
ABBAYFIELDS ROAD
ELSTOW
BEDFORD**

**ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL AND UPDATED
PROJECT DESIGN**

Albion
archaeology



**ELSTOW LOWER SCHOOL
ABBEYFIELDS ROAD
ELSTOW
BEDFORD**

**ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL AND UPDATED
PROJECT DESIGN**

Project: ELS2085
Bedford Museum Accession no. BEDFM:2012.80
Document: 2013/50
Version 1.0

Compiled by	Checked by	Approved by
Kathy Pilkinton	Ben Barker	Drew Shotliff

20th March 2013

Produced for:
Willmott Dixon Construction Ltd
On behalf of
Bedford Borough Council



Contents

1. INTRODUCTION	4
1.1 Project Background	4
1.2 Status and Purpose of this Document	4
1.3 Site Location and Description	4
1.4 Archaeological Background	4
2. FIELDWORK RESULTS	6
2.1 Introduction	6
2.2 Phase 1 – Late Neolithic/early Bronze Age (c. 2,700–1,400BC)	6
2.3 Phase 2 – Iron Age (c. 650–50BC)	6
2.4 Phase 3 – Late Medieval (c. 1400–1500)	7
2.5 Phase 4 – Post-medieval (c. 1500–1750)	7
2.6 Phase 5 – Modern Activity (c. 1750 onwards)	7
3. FINDS ASSEMBLAGES	8
3.1 Pottery	8
3.2 Ceramic Building Material	9
3.3 Other Artefacts	9
3.4 Animal Bone	11
4. ANALYTICAL POTENTIAL OF THE DATA	12
4.1 Original Research Objectives	12
4.2 Contextual Data	13
4.3 Artefactual and Ecofactual Data	13
4.4 Summary Analytical Potential	13
5. UPDATED PROJECT DESIGN	15
5.1 Introduction	15
5.2 Publication	15
5.3 Archiving	15



6. BIBLIOGRAPHY	16
7. APPENDIX 1 – TABLE OF GROUPS AND CONTEXTS	17
8. APPENDIX 2 – LIST OF CONTEXTS	18

List of Figures

Figure 1: Site location

Figure 2: All features plan in relation to the adjacent excavation by Northamptonshire
Archaeology

Figure 3: All features plan and sections

The figures are bound at the back of the report.



Preface

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

Acknowledgements

The project was commissioned by Mr Dale McDermott of Willmott Dixon Construction Ltd and monitored on behalf of the Local Planning Authority by Vanessa Clarke of Bedford Borough Council's Historic Environment Team.

The fieldwork was undertaken by Kathy Pilkinton and Wiebke Stark (Archaeological Supervisors), Gary Manning and Gareth Shane (Assistant Archaeological Supervisors) and Alan King (Archaeological Technician). Kathy Pilkinton also prepared this report with contributions from Joan Lightning (illustrations), Jackie Wells (ceramic finds), Holly Duncan (non-ceramic artefacts). The report was edited by Ben Barker (Project officer) and approved by Drew Shotliff (Operations Manager).

*Albion Archaeology
St Mary's Church
St Mary's Street
Bedford, MK42 OAS
☎: 0300 300 8141
Fax: 0300 300 8209
e-mail: office@albion-arch.com*

Version History

<i>Version</i>	<i>Issue date</i>	<i>Reason for re-issue</i>
<i>1.0</i>	<i>20/03/2013</i>	<i>n/a</i>

Key Terms

The following abbreviations are used throughout this report:

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



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 *Project Background*

Planning permission (12/01719/DC3) for the construction of new classroom and hall blocks, along with associated car parking, adjacent to the existing Elstow Lower School has been granted by Bedford Borough Council.

As the proposed development lies within an area of significant archaeological sensitivity, the local planning authority placed a condition (2) on the permission requiring an approved archaeological mitigation strategy to be carried out in advance of construction.

The attachment of the condition followed a recommendation by the Borough Council Historic Environment Team (HET) which was in accordance with Saved Policies BE24 and BE25 of the Bedford Borough Local Plan 2002, Policy 23 of the Bedford Borough Core Strategy and Rural Issues Plan 2008, and national policies contained in the National Planning Policy Framework.

A brief was issued by the HET outlining the requirements for the archaeological mitigation strategy (HET 2012). A WSI was prepared by Abion Archaeology (2012) and approved by the HET.

The archaeological work was carried out in accordance with the WSI between 4th and 22nd February 2013.

1.2 *Status and Purpose of this Document*

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

1.3 *Site Location and Description*

Elstow lies on southern fringes of Bedford town, on the banks of the Elstow Brook which is a tributary of the River Great Ouse. The Lower School is located approximately 0.5km south-east of the historic village core, and serves the recently developed Abbeyfields housing estate.

The site of the two new school buildings is located within a triangular plot to the south of the existing school and is centred on national grid reference TL0528/4708 (Figure 1). It measures around 885m² in area and at the time of the fieldwork was open land, partly level at a height of *c.* 30m OD and partly covered by a 1.5m-high mound of soil left over from the construction of the original school.

The underlying geology of the area comprises river sands and gravels.

1.4 *Archaeological Background*

The valley of the River Great Ouse has been a focus of settlement from the Neolithic period through to modern times and numerous archaeological sites have been identified in the area.



Of direct relevance to the current site are the results of excavations at Village Farm and the Elstow Borrow Pit, both carried in advance of the construction of the A421 Bedford Southern Bypass which lay approximately 140m to the south (Shepherd 1995). A sequence of occupation was identified at the former site that comprised two ring ditches representing the remains of burial mounds dating to the late Neolithic or early Bronze Age, a pit alignment and structural remains dating to the Iron Age, two Saxon sunken-floored buildings and the remains of a Saxo-Norman hall and associated structures (HER 2421, 16082). Settlement focus during the later medieval period appears to have shifted to the west and is represented by enclosure ditches, pits and earthworks identified on aerial photographs (HER3383). At the Elstow Borrow Pit site the findings included three Bronze Age cremations, two phases of later prehistoric field enclosures, and evidence for early-mid Saxon settlement and a medieval farmstead.

A programme of archaeological investigation was carried out prior to the construction of the existing Lower School buildings and car park. This comprised evaluation by geophysical survey, aerial photograph assessment and trial trenching (NA 2002), followed by an open area excavation (Carlyle forthcoming). The results of these works identified a similar sequence of occupation to that found at the Village Farm site and included the remains of a Bronze Age round barrow, early Iron Age pits and postholes, an early/middle Saxon pit and a late Saxon/Saxo-Norman ditch system and pits (Figure 2). Notable finds included the remains of six dogs deposited in one of the Iron Age pits and an assemblage of artefacts, including a prick spur, a knife and a key, found in a Saxo-Norman pit that indicate the presence of a possible high status settlement nearby.

The site of the proposed new classroom and hall blocks was included in the evaluation but not the open area excavation, as it was not scheduled for development at that time. A trial trench (Figure 1) excavated at the site of the new buildings identified two wide ditches of probable post-medieval date, and two pits containing 14th-century pottery.



2. FIELDWORK RESULTS

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 Methodological approach to assessing contextual data

The contextual data was assessed in order to establish whether it could provide a coherent spatial and chronological framework. A total of 55 contexts were assigned to Groups, e.g. pit groups, post-hole alignments, boundary ditches etc. The decision as to which Groups contexts were assigned to, was made based on the following criteria:

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

Groups were then assigned to a number of episodes (Phases) of human activity corresponding to broad, chronological divisions (periods), e.g. medieval and post-medieval, on the basis of their artefactual assemblage.

The text which follows is structured by chronological period and discussed by Group (G). A detailed list of contexts and a table showing which contexts make up each Group are presented in Appendices 1 and 2.

2.2 Phase 1 – Late Neolithic/early Bronze Age (c. 2,700–1,400BC)

The earliest evidence of activity within the excavation area dates to the late Neolithic/early Bronze Age.

A flint arrowhead dating to the earlier Bronze Age was recovered from posthole [109] within the main cluster of the Phase 2 G1 postholes. The arrowhead is likely to be residual and is unlikely to relate to the creation of the posthole.

2.3 Phase 2 – Iron Age (c. 650–50BC)

This first firm evidence for occupation activity within the site dates to the Iron Age. It comprised a scatter of postholes (G1) and a solitary pit (G2) (Figure 3). Both pit and postholes have been dated to the Iron Age due to the proximity of similarly dated features in the previous excavation (Carlyle, forthcoming) and the recovery of a small quantity of undiagnostic pottery from the pit.

Group 1 comprised a group of eight postholes. No finds were present other than the residual flint arrowhead. Seven of the postholes were clustered towards the southern limit of the investigation area within a 1.3m by 1.8m area. They were *c.* 0.3–0.4m in diameter and up to 0.3m deep and were filled with a red-brown sandy silt, with no obvious signs of packing. The layout of the postholes appeared to be relatively random, although pairing and re-cutting of postholes (see Figure 3, section 5) is indicative of replacement over time.



The eighth posthole within G1 was identified 10.5m to the north-east of the main group, separated by post-medieval quarry pitting (G3). It had similar dimensions and infilling material. It is likely that G1 was originally more extensive and that associated features have been destroyed by the later activity.

G2 comprised a small oval pit that was 0.55m wide, 0.65m long and 0.3m deep. It was located to the north of the postholes within G1. The pit contained four abraded sherds of pottery which could date to the Iron Age (see Section 3.1.4). The pit is likely to be contemporary with the postholes on the basis of its proximity and similar form.

2.4 Phase 3 – Late Medieval (c. 1400–1500)

This period is represented by a scatter of residual pottery recovered from the Phase 4 quarry pits (G3) that dominate the southern half of the site. The pottery is indicative of activity in the area in the late medieval period which is conspicuously absent in the larger excavation to the north (Carlyle, forthcoming).

2.5 Phase 4 – Post-medieval (c. 1500–1750)

This phase of activity comprised the quarry pits (G3) that covered much of the southern end of site (figure 3).

G3 comprised three large areas of quarry pitting, the extent of which was approximately 30 by 12m. Largely irregular in plan, the sides varied between shallow sloping and vertical. The depth varied considerably within the excavated segments. The smaller southernmost area of pitting revealed a maximum depth of 0.35m. The larger pits to the north were not fully excavated as the development impact was likely to be less than 0.3m below the stripped surface; however tests with an auger suggest a maximum depth of 1.8m. The varying depths within the segments suggest uneven bases with significantly deeper excavations in certain areas.

The pits were generally backfilled with a brown sandy silt with frequent stones. The fills were largely sterile with occasional ceramic building material, pottery, glass and iron fragments recovered. A small amount of animal bone was also present.

2.6 Phase 5 – Modern Activity (c. 1750 onwards)

The northern end of site exhibited evidence of machine truncation over an area of roughly 100m². Traces of geopermeable textile, make-up layers and hardcore directly overlay the archaeological horizon. As no evidence of disturbance was recorded during the trial trenching, this suggests that the area had been recently stripped, possibly to create a compound during construction of the school. Although the truncation appears to be minimal, shallower features such as those found in the adjacent area may not have survived.



3. FINDS ASSEMBLAGES

3.1 Pottery

3.1.1 Methodology

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

3.1.2 Quantification

The assemblage comprises 21 sherds, weighing 202g. All but four derive from Phase 4 quarry pits located in the southern area of the site.

3.1.3 Pottery type series

Fabrics are listed below in chronological order (Table 1), using common names and type codes in accordance with the Bedfordshire Ceramic Type Series, currently maintained by Albion Archaeology. No new fabric types were identified.

Fabric Type	Common name	Sherd No.	Wt (g)
<i>Early and high medieval</i>			
B07	Shell	1	5
C09	Brill/Boarstall ware (fine)	1	2
C10	Potterspury ware	1	25
C11	Brill/Boarstall ware (gritty)	1	5
C16	Surrey white ware	1	4
<i>Post-medieval</i>			
P01	Fine glazed red earthenware	2	58
P03	Black-glazed earthenware	1	5
P06	Fine slip-decorated earthenware	2	34
P19	Mottle/speckle-glazed ware	1	8
<i>Modern</i>			
P38	Creamware	2	14
P45	Transfer-printed ware	2	6
P55	White earthenware	2	7
UNID	Indeterminate / undatable	4	29

Table 1: Pottery Type Series

3.1.4 Provenance, phasing and date range

The diagnostic assemblage ranges in date from the 12th–19th centuries. Four indeterminate, abraded and leached body sherds in a shell-tempered fabric (29g) derived from Phase 2 pit G2 (L2). Their poor condition precludes positive identification, although they may be Iron Age in date. Conversely, they may represent poorly preserved Saxo-Norman sherds. Pottery datable to both these periods has been recovered from excavations in the vicinity (Carlyle forthcoming).

Phase 4 quarry pits G3 yielded the remainder of the assemblage. Medieval pottery of 13th–14th-century (Phase 3) date (41g) comprises a sherd of shelly



ware (B07), a local type known to derive from production centres on the Beds./Bucks./Northants. borders. Glazed fine wares are two sherds of Brill/Boarstall ware (C09, C11) and a sherd of Potterspury ware (C10), respectively from Buckinghamshire and Northamptonshire. A white ware sherd (C16) deriving from kilns on the Surrey-Hampshire border completes the assemblage.

Post-medieval pottery comprises five undiagnostic sherds (105g) of 17th-century glazed and slip-decorated red earthenware (P01, P03, P06), and a sherd of mottle/speckle-glazed ware (P19), the latter of 17th–18th-century date. Six sherds of mass-produced tableware (27g) datable to the 18th–19th-centuries comprise creamware (P38), transfer-printed ware (P45), and white earthenware (P55).

Beyond the provision of a date range, the pottery has no potential for further analysis.

3.2 Ceramic Building Material

3.2.1 Methodology

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

3.2.2 Quantification, variety and provenance

Sand-tempered ceramic building material derives entirely from quarry pits G3. Bricks are represented by two amorphous fragments (67g) and a complete moulded example, (L225 x W110 x D70mm), with heavily mortared surfaces. Thirty-one flat roof tile fragments (1kg) range in thickness from 12–15mm. The building material is considered to be of 17th–18th-century date, and beyond the provision of a date range, has no potential for further analysis.

3.3 Other Artefacts

3.3.1 Methodology

Each object was assigned an identification and functional category, and was quantified by number and/or weight. A date range was assigned, where applicable, with reference to standard typological works.

All ironwork will be x-rayed by Lincolnshire Archives (Lincolnshire County Council) prior to deposition of the archive. The x-ray plates will form part of the site archive.

Other than providing a date range for some features, the assemblage has no potential for further analysis.



3.3.2 Quantification and variety

A total of 20 items was recovered. The assemblage is quantified by material in Table 2; all the assemblage came from phased deposits.

Material	Quantity	Phase 1	Phase 2
Flint	1	1	-
Iron	14	-	14
Glass	5	-	5
Total	20	1	19

Table 2: Other Artefacts by material and phase

As can be seen from Table 3 a small range of functional categories were represented. Fasteners were the most numerous accounting for 60% of the assemblage; household items, represented solely by glass vessels, accounted for 20%.

Functional category	Structural	Quarry pit	Category totals
Building Materials			1
Window glass	-	1	
Fasteners			12
Nail	-	11	
Door stud	-	1	
Household			4
Wine bottle	-	2	
Vessel	-	2	
Transportation			2
Horseshoe	-	1	
Shoeing nail	-	1	
Prehistoric flint			1
Arrowhead	1	-	
TOTAL	1	19	20

Table 3: Other Artefacts by functional category and feature type

3.3.3 Date range

A barbed and tanged arrowhead can be dated to the earlier Bronze Age.

There is a hiatus in activity until the medieval period. A shoeing nail of the 'eared' variety was in use in the 13th to mid-14th centuries (Clark 1995, 87 and 96).

One wine bottle kick dates to *c.* 1700–1750; a second wine bottle kick is probably from a Hume type 22 dating to *c.* 1790–1820 (Hume 1961, 104-5). A horseshoe branch, possessing side clips, dates to the 1840s (Sparkes 1998, 26), while a single sherd of clear, colourless window glass is of modern date.

Although the nail assemblage is not closely datable, two types, faceted rectangular heads and figure-of-eight heads, are generally found in medieval and post-medieval deposits.

3.3.4 Provenance

Phase 2 (Iron Age pits and postholes)

A Sutton type A barbed and tanged arrowhead was found in the fill of posthole [109] in G1. The arrowhead has a long tang, with rounded point at the end and



vestigial barbs. It was manufactured from previously struck patinated flint, patination surviving on mid-line on both surfaces. This is traditionally dated to the early Bronze Age, and hence is residual within these Iron Age deposits.

Phase 4 (post-medieval and modern)

The bulk of the other artefact assemblage derived from the fills of five quarry pits forming part of G3 in Phase 4 (see Table 4). Although the shoeing nail from pit [138] was of a type in use in the 13th to mid-14th centuries, it was found associated with two sherds of olive green glass, likely to have derived from wine bottles and hence not dating prior to *c.* 1640. The fills of pit [120] contained five nails, types which were in use in the high medieval and post-medieval periods, a domed rectangular door stud, which could date anywhere in the medieval to post-medieval periods, and a sherd of modern clear window glass. Pit [132] contained part of a base of a wine bottle with conical basal kick probably part of a Hume type 22 wine bottle, dating to 1791–1820, and three faceted rectangular headed nails. A second base fragment from a wine bottle was found in pit [150]; its high conical kick dates it to 1700–1750. Pit [118] contained part of the branch and heel of a horseshoe with three surviving rectangular nail holes and part of a side clip. Side clips were occasionally used on ‘toe-clip and rim’ type horseshoes; the side-clip was introduced in 1840s (Sparkes 1998, 26).

Other artefact type	Pit feature nos				
	118	120	132	138	150
Window glass	-	1	-	-	-
Faceted rectangular headed nail	-	1	2	3	-
Figure-of-eight headed nail	-	1	-	-	-
Flat headed nail	-	1	-	1	-
Nail shank	-	2	-	-	-
Door stud	-	1	-	-	-
Wine bottle	-	-	1	-	1
Vessel glass	-	-	-	2	-
Horseshoe	1	-	-	-	-
Shoeing nail	-	-	-	1	-
Total	1	7	3	7	1

Table 4: Phase 4 Other Artefacts from G3

3.4 Animal Bone

3.4.1 Quantification, methodology and variety

For each context, animal bone was recorded by minimum fragment count and weight. This information was entered onto an Access Table in the project database.

Fourteen animal bone fragments, weighing 300g derived from Phase 4 quarry pits G3. Pieces survive in moderate condition, with some surface erosion, and have an average fragment weight of 21g. Diagnostic bone elements are limb, vertebra, scapula, rib, and skull fragments, deriving from medium mammals. The small assemblage has no potential for further analysis.



4. ANALYTICAL POTENTIAL OF THE DATA

4.1 Original Research Objectives

The findings of the previous adjacent archaeological excavations highlighted a number of areas of research and investigation that it was hoped to further address during the recent works. These included:

- Characterise the nature of settlement/land use in the immediate locality and the wider Great Ouse Valley.
- Characterise the nature of the ceremonial/funerary use of the immediate locality and the wider Great Ouse Valley during the Bronze Age.
- Characterise the nature and relationship between the Bronze Age ceremonial/funerary use of the site and subsequent occupation during the Iron Age and later periods.
- Identify and characterise further evidence of high status Saxo-Norman settlement potentially located nearby.
- Collect palaeo-environmental evidence in order to characterise the landscape during the Bronze Age.
- In addition to the above, the investigations will also endeavour to recover artefacts to assist in the development and refinement of ceramic type series for the region.

The above site-specific investigation objectives could contribute to the research priorities of the region and county as highlighted in the various strategy documents (Glazebrook 1997, Brown and Glazebrook 2000, Oake et al 2007, Medlycott and Brown 2008, Medlycott 2011). These priorities are as follows:

Bronze Age

- Understanding settlement variation in the region
- Understanding individual and groups of burial monuments
- Understanding the relationship between monuments and settlement
- Understanding changes to landscape associated with adoption and development of farming

Iron Age

- Refinement of the County ceramic type series
- Characterisation of rural settlement
- Understanding settlement pattern and use of landscape
-

Anglo-Saxon

- Understanding the structure, function and distribution of early Saxon settlement
- Refinement of the County ceramic type series

Saxo-Norman

- Understanding the origin and development of field systems



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

4.2 Contextual Data

The contextual data have allowed reconstruction of a sequence of activity on the site from the late Neolithic / early Bronze Age onwards. Their analytical potential is limited. The small size of the excavation area reduces the legibility of the remains and hampers their interpretation. The contextual data have made a minor contribution to understanding of the sequence of activity on the site but have no potential for further analysis.

4.3 Artefactual and Ecofactual Data

4.3.1 Ceramics

Assessment of the ceramic assemblage has allowed the establishment of a date range for the site. Pottery possibly spans the Iron Age / early medieval period to the 19th century, and brick and tile dates from the 17th–18th centuries. However, the small and fragmented nature of these assemblages means they have no potential to contribute to the project research aims and objectives.

4.3.2 Other artefacts

Due to the post-medieval and modern date of the majority of the ‘other artefact’ assemblage, it has no potential to contribute to the original research aims and objectives, which span the Bronze Age, Iron Age, Anglo-Saxon and Saxo-Norman periods.

The main point of interest within the assemblage is the presence of the Sutton type A barbed and tanged arrowhead, particularly in light of the remnant of an early Bronze Age ploughed-out barrow and surrounding ring ditch found in the more extensive excavations carried out at the Lower School in 2003 (Carlyle forthcoming). Although no associated burials survived from the barrow, early Bronze Age pottery was recovered from the fills of the ring ditch (Carlyle forthcoming). It is possible that the Sutton type A arrowhead found during the more recent investigations originally derived from a burial associated with the barrow.

4.3.3 Animal bone

The small assemblage recovered from the investigation has no potential to address the original research objectives.

4.4 Summary Analytical Potential

The results of the investigations have made a modest contribution to understanding of the site as a whole. A relatively poor chronology has been established, including possible Iron Age features but largely dating to the post-medieval and modern periods. The pottery and flint indicate that there was activity on the site in the late Neolithic / early Bronze Age and medieval periods, even though this is not represented in the contextual sequence.

Interpretation of the remains has relied heavily on the adjacent excavation, largely due to the limited dating evidence from many of the features. It is also



possible that the post-medieval quarry pitting has truncated earlier remains in the area.

The presence of remains within this area indicates elements of the multi-period site uncovered in the adjacent excavation may well continue to the south and west of the areas investigated.



5. UPDATED PROJECT DESIGN

5.1 Introduction

Assessment of the data from the investigations has indicated that it has no potential for further analysis, principally because of the small size of the site and the limited number of features, particularly those providing substantial dating evidence. However, the results of the investigations are relevant to the interpretation of the previous excavation to the north and to any further work in the area. Accordingly, they will be disseminated further as set out below.

5.2 Publication

This report will be uploaded onto the ADS Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS ref: albionar1-143856). In addition, a summary report will be prepared for submission to *South Midlands Archaeology*. The summary will be cross-referenced to the online OASIS entry.

5.3 Archiving

Following approval of this document by the HET, the archive of materials (subject to the landowner's permission) and accompanying records will be deposited with Bedford Museum (accession no. 2012.80) in accordance with IFA (2001) and Museum (1998) guidelines.



6. BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Albion Archaeology 2013. *Elstow Lower School, Abbeyfields, Elstow, Bedford, Bedfordshire: Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Excavation, Recording, Analysis and Publication*. (Document 2012/180)
- Bedford Museum 1998, *Preparing Archaeological Archives for Deposition in Registered Museums in Bedfordshire*
- Brown, N. and Glazebrook, J, 2000. *Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties – 2 Research Agenda and Strategy*. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 8.
- Carlyle, S., forthcoming, 'A Bronze Age Ring Ditch, Iron Age Pits and Saxo-Norman Ditch System at Elstow Lower School, Bedfordshire', *Bedfordshire Archaeology* 27.
- Clark, J., 1995 *The Medieval Horse and its equipment c.1150-c.1450* Medieval Finds from Excavations in London:5
- Cooper, N J (ed), 2006. *The Archaeology of the East Midlands: an archaeological resource assessment and research agenda* (University of Leicester/English Heritage)
- Glazebrook, J. 1997. *Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties – 1 Resource Assessment*. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 3.
- Hume, I.N. 1961 'The Glass Wine Bottle in Colonial Virginia' in *Journal of Glass Studies* III 1961, 91-117
- IFA, 2001, *Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials*
- Medlycott, M. (ed) 2011. *Research and Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England*. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 24.
- Northamptonshire Archaeology, 2002. *Archaeological Evaluation on Land at Elstow, Bedford, Bedfordshire*. Unpublished archive report, October 2002.
- Oake, M. et al, 2007. *Bedfordshire Archaeology – Research and Archaeology: Resource Assessment, Research Agenda and Strategy*. Bedfordshire Archaeology Monograph 9.
- Shepherd, N. 1995. Major Fieldwork Projects: Bedford Southern Bypass, *South Midlands Archaeology*, 25, pp 3-4, 6.
- Sparkes, I.G., 1998 *Old Horseshoes* Shire Album 19 (reprint of 1976 original).



7. APPENDIX 1 – TABLE OF GROUPS AND CONTEXTS

Phase	Phase Description	Group	Feature	Context	Feature Type
2	Iron Age	1	103	103	Posthole
				104	Posthole
				105	Posthole
				106	Posthole
				107	Posthole
				108	Posthole
				109	Posthole
				110	Posthole
				114	Posthole
				115	Posthole
				122	Posthole
				123	Posthole
				124	Posthole
				125	Posthole
				126	Posthole
				127	Posthole
			2		2
	129	Pit			
3	Late Medieval	3	118	118	Quarry Pit
				119	Quarry Pit
				120	Quarry Pit
				121	Quarry Pit
				130	Quarry Pit
				131	Quarry Pit
				132	Quarry Pit
				133	Quarry Pit
				134	Quarry Pit
				135	Quarry Pit
				136	Quarry Pit
				137	Quarry Pit
				138	Quarry Pit
				139	Quarry Pit
				140	Quarry Pit
				141	Quarry Pit
				142	Quarry Pit
				143	Quarry Pit
				144	Quarry Pit
				145	Quarry Pit
				146	Quarry Pit
	147	Quarry Pit			
	148	Quarry Pit			
	149	Quarry Pit			
	150	Quarry Pit			
	151	Quarry Pit			
	152	Quarry Pit			
	153	Quarry Pit			
	154	Quarry Pit			



8. APPENDIX 2 – LIST OF CONTEXTS

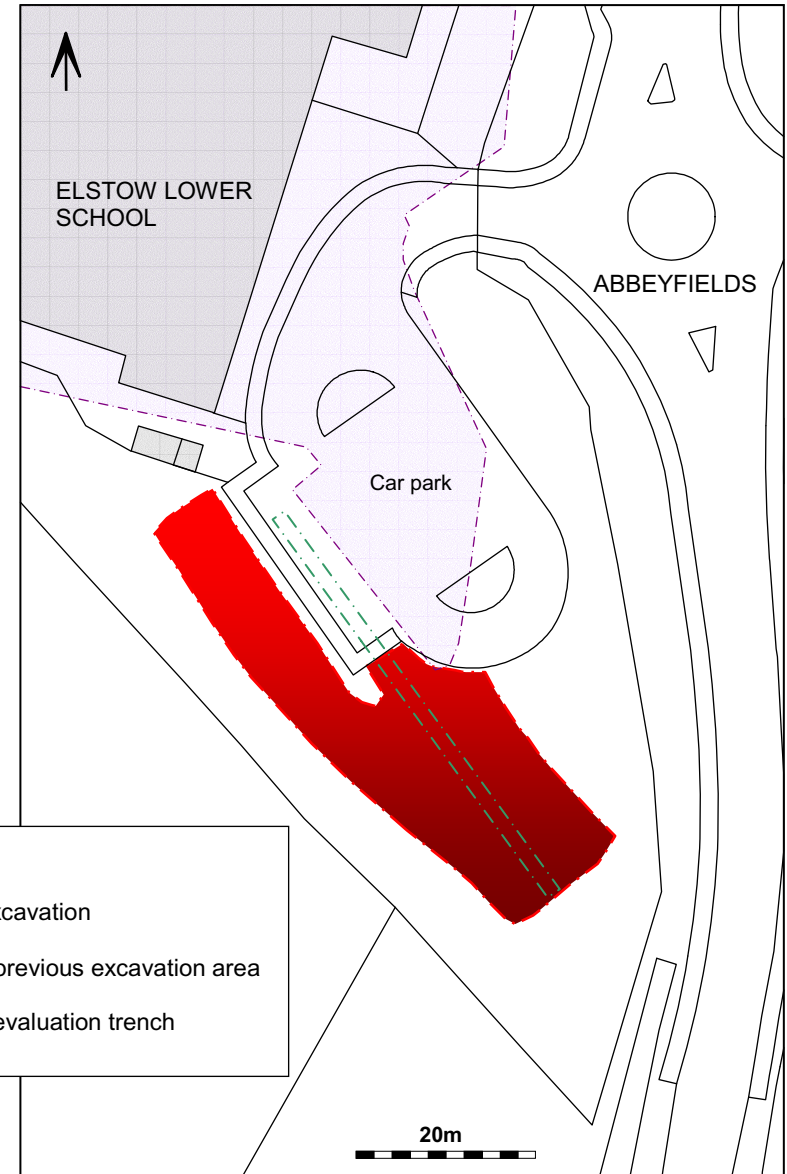
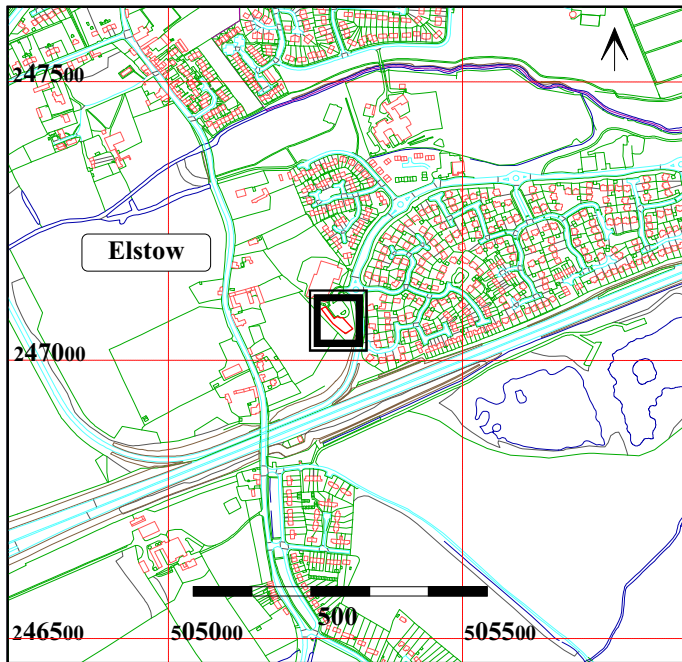
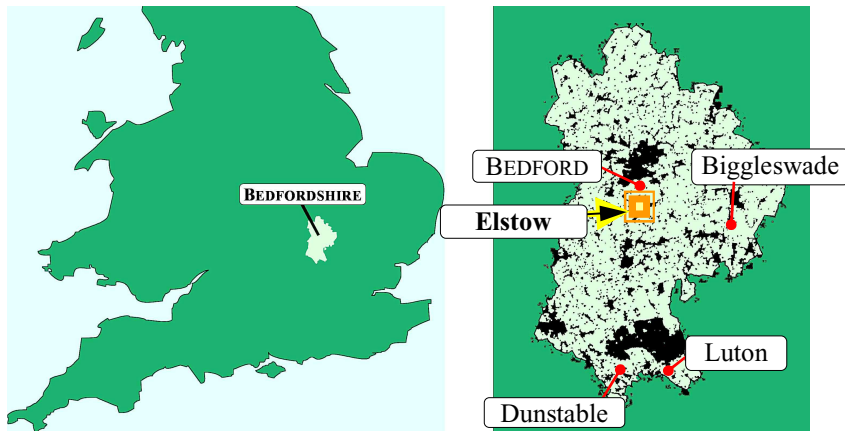
Area: 1
 Extent (ha): 0.74
 OS Co-ordinates: TL2947106518
 Description: Albion Excavation ELS2085

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
100	Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown silty loam occasional small-medium stones. Depth: <0.4m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
101	Subsoil	Friable mid orange brown silty sand frequent small-medium stones. Depth: 0.3m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
102	Natural	Compact light yellow orange sandy gravel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
103	Posthole	Circular sides: steep base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.13m, max diameter 0.42m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
104	Fill	Friable dark red brown . Gravelly silt, depth: 0.13m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
105	Posthole	Circular sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.1m, max diameter 0.25m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
106	Fill	Friable dark red brown . Gravelly silt, depth: 0.1m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
107	Posthole	Circular sides: vertical base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.27m, max diameter 0.31m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
108	Fill	Friable dark red brown . Gravelly silt, depth: 0.27m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
109	Posthole	Circular sides: steep base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.09m, max diameter 0.33m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
110	Fill	Friable dark red brown . Gravelly silt, depth: 0.09m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
111	Treethrow	Oval N-S sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.55m, max depth 0.28m, max length 0.7m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
112	Redeposited natural	Loose mid orange brown silty gravel frequent medium stones. Strong root disturbance, depth: 0.18m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
113	Upper fill	Friable dark grey brown sandy silt moderate small-medium stones. Depth: 0.27m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
114	Posthole	Sub-circular sides: steep base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.4m, max depth 0.3m, max length 0.45m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
115	Fill	Friable mid grey brown sandy silt frequent small-medium stones. Moderate root disturbance, depth: 0.3m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
116	Treethrow	Sub-oval sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.6m, max depth 0.13m, max length 2m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
117	Redeposited natural	Friable mid red brown silty sand frequent small-medium stones. Moderate root disturbance, depth: 0.13m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
118	Quarry	Irregular sides: irregular base: concave dimensions: min breadth 2.75m, min depth 0.35m, min length 2.2m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
119	Fill	Firm mid brown grey silt moderate small-medium stones. Occasional roots, oyster shell, pot sherds, animal bone and CBM. Depth: 0.35m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
120	Quarry	Sub-circular sides: steep dimensions: min breadth 1.8m, min depth 1.1m, min length 1.4m. Not bottomed.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
121	Backfill	Firm mid brown grey silt moderate small-medium stones. Depth: >0.95m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
122	Posthole	Sub-circular sides: near vertical base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.28m, max diameter 0.42m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
123	Fill	Friable mid grey brown sandy silt occasional small-medium stones. Depth: 0.28m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
124	Posthole	Circular sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.1m, max diameter 0.25m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
125	Fill	Friable mid grey brown sandy silt occasional small-medium stones. Depth: 0.1m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Area: 1
Extent (ha): 0.74
OS Co-ordinates: TL2947106518
Description: Albion Excavation ELS2085

126	Posthole	Sub-circular sides: near vertical base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.18m, max diameter 0.35m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
127	Fill	Friable mid grey brown sandy silt occasional small-medium stones. Depth: 0.18m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
128	Pit	Oval sides: U-shaped base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.65m, max depth 0.3m, max length 0.55m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
129	Fill	Firm mid brown grey silt moderate small-medium stones. Depth: 0.3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
130	Quarry	Sub-circular sides: steep dimensions: min breadth 2.35m, min depth 0.6m, min length 1.45m. Not bottomed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
131	Fill	Compact mid brown grey silt moderate small-medium stones. Occasional natural flint, gravel banding. Depth: <0.6m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
132	Quarry	Sub-circular sides: irregular dimensions: min breadth 1.25m, min depth 0.85m, min length 6.16m. Not bottomed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
133	Redeposited natural	Compact mid orange brown sandy gravel . Depth: >0.68m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
134	Fill	Compact mid grey brown silty gravel . Depth: 0.58m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
135	Fill	Compact mid grey brown silty gravel . Depth: 0.61m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
136	Redeposited natural	Loose mid orange brown sandy gravel . Depth: 0.5m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
137	Main fill	Friable mid grey brown silt moderate small-medium stones. Depth: >0.72m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
138	Quarry	Irregular sides: vertical dimensions: min breadth 1.1m, min depth 0.6m, min length 1.3m. Not bottomed.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
139	Fill	Friable dark grey brown sandy silt frequent medium stones. Lenses of orange brown silty sand. Depth: >0.6m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
140	Quarry	Irregular sides: irregular dimensions: min breadth 4.2m, min depth 0.66m, min length 1.25m. Not bottomed.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
141	Secondary fill	Friable dark brown grey sandy silt frequent small stones, occasional medium stones. Depth: 0.35m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
142	Upper fill	Friable dark brown grey sandy silt frequent small stones, occasional medium stones. With gravel lenses. Depth: >0.66m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
143	Quarry	Irregular sides: irregular dimensions: min breadth 4.5m, min depth 0.6m, min length 1.m. Not bottomed.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
144	Backfill	Compact mid brown grey silt moderate small-medium stones. Occasional natural flint. Depth: >0.45m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
145	Backfill	Firm mid brown grey silt occasional small stones. Depth: 0.3m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
146	Backfill	Compact light yellow brown silt occasional small stones. Depth: 0.15m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
147	Modern disturbance	Compact mid brown yellow gravel . Depth: 0.07m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
148	Quarry	Sub-circular sides: irregular dimensions: min breadth 1.27m, min depth 0.6m, min length 1.1m. Not bottomed.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
149	Backfill	Friable mid grey brown silt moderate small-medium stones. With gravel lenses. Depth: >0.6m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
150	Quarry	Irregular sides: stepped base: flat dimensions: min breadth 3.25m, max depth 0.85m, min length 1.m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
151	Fill	Friable dark brown grey sandy silt frequent small stones. With gravel lenses. Depth: 0.85m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
152	Quarry	Irregular sides: near vertical base: uneven dimensions: min breadth 5.1m, max depth 1.6m, max length 12.5m. General number assigned to quarry pit against eastern limit of excavation [120] [138] [150]	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
153	Quarry	Sub-oval sides: steep base: uneven dimensions: max breadth 6.6m, max depth 1.8m, max length 9.m. General number assigned to central quarry pit. [132] [148]	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
154	Quarry	Irregular sides: near vertical base: uneven dimensions: max breadth 11.m, max depth 1.6m, max length 13.m. General number assigned to northern most quarry pit. [130] [140] [143]	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



KEY




-  Limit of excavation
-  Extent of previous excavation area
-  Previous evaluation trench

Figure 1: Site location

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

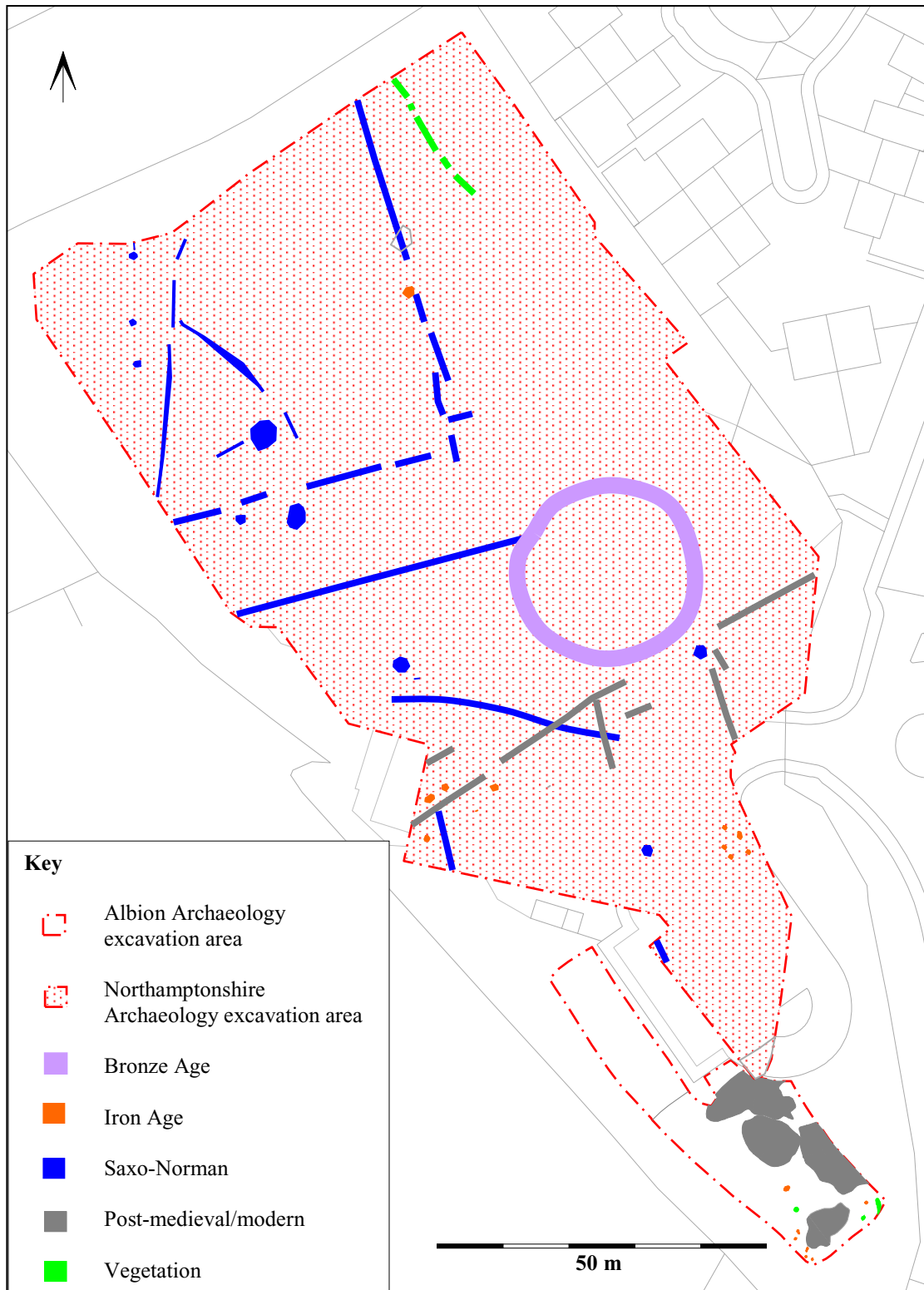


Figure 2: All features plan in relation to the adjacent excavation by Northamptonshire Archaeology (Carlyle forthcoming).

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

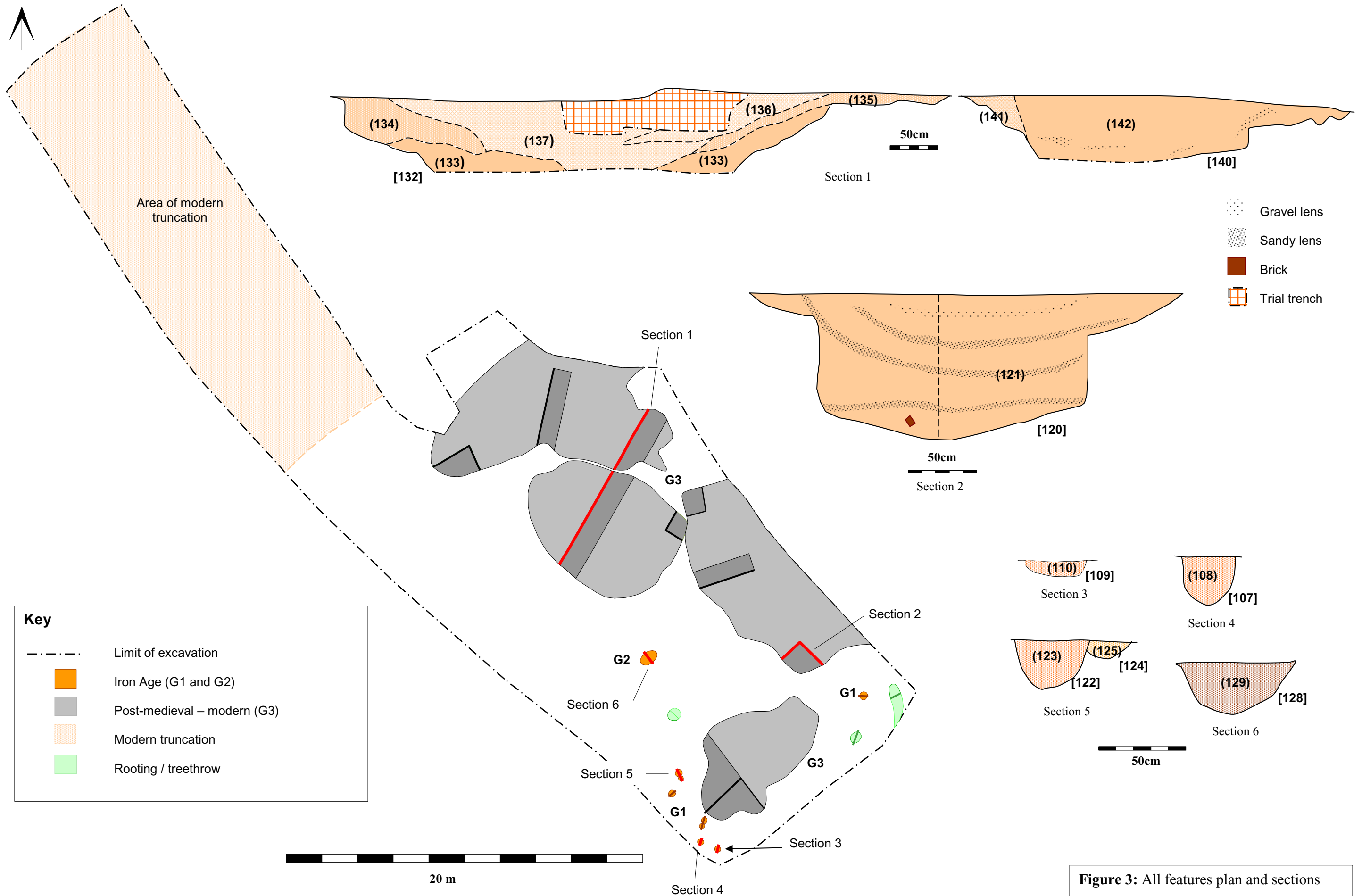


Figure 3: All features plan and sections



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

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

