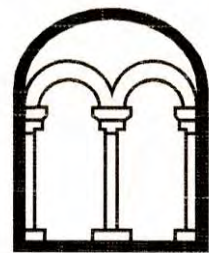


**3 GREENWAY
CAMPTON
BEDFORDSHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBSERVATION
INVESTIGATION, RECORDING, ANALYSIS
AND PUBLICATION**

Albion
archaeology



**3 GREENWAY
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AND PUBLICATION**

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Kathy Pilkinton Richard Gregson	Christiane Meckseper	Drew Shotliff

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Produced for:
Robert Robertson and Associates
On behalf of Mr W Greenwood



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Preface

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

Acknowledgements

Albion Archaeology was commissioned to carry out the archaeological works by Robert Robertson and Associates on Behalf of Mr W. Greenwood. The project was monitored on behalf of the Local Planning Authority by Martin Oake, the Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeologist.

Fieldwork was carried out by Kathy Pilkinton (Archaeological Supervisor) who also prepared this report with contributions from Richard Gregson (Archaeological Supervisor), Joan Lightning (CAD Technician) and Jackie Wells (Finds Officer). All Albion projects are under the overall management of Drew Shotliff (Operations Manager).

Albion Archaeology
 St Mary's Church
 St Mary's Street
 Bedford, MK42 0AS
 ☎: 0300 300 4937
 Fax: 0300 300 8209
 E-mail: office@albion-arch.com
 Website: www.albion-arch.com

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Key Terms

Throughout this project design the following terms or abbreviations are used:

CBC	Central Bedfordshire Council
CBCA	Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeologist
HER	Central Bedfordshire Council's Historic Environment Record
IfA	Institute for Archaeologists
LPA	Local Planning Authority
PDA	Proposed development area
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation



Non-Technical Summary

Planning permission (CB/12/00472/FULL) was granted by Central Bedfordshire Council for the demolition of an existing garage and construction of a new dwelling within the north-eastern half of the property at 3 Greenway, Campton, Bedfordshire.

As the development site lies in an area of archaeological sensitivity, a condition was placed on the planning permission requiring the implementation of a scheme of archaeological investigation during the groundworks.

Albion Archaeology was commissioned to carry out the archaeological works in accordance with the methodologies described in a Written Scheme of Investigation (Albion Archaeology 2013), produced in response to a brief prepared by the Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeologist (CBC 2013)

Four modern pits, probably for refuse, and two structural features associated with 19th- and 20th-century garden activity were revealed by the observation and investigation of the construction groundworks. These are of low archaeological significance and the absence of remains from the Saxon or medieval periods suggests that there was little or no occupation of the site during these periods.



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 *Project Background*

Planning permission (CB/12/00472/FULL) was granted by Central Bedfordshire Council for the demolition of an existing garage and construction of a new dwelling within the north-eastern half of the property at 3 Greenway, Campton, Bedfordshire.

As the development site lies within an area of archaeological sensitivity, a condition (no. 6) was attached to the planning permission requiring a programme of archaeological investigation as a consequence of the development.

This recommendation was in accordance with national planning guidelines in the form of Policy 141 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) which states that Local Planning Authorities should require developers to record and advance understanding of the significance of heritage assets before they are lost, which can be achieved by imposing planning conditions or obligations as appropriate (CLG 2012). It is also in line with Policy 45 of the Development Strategy for Central Bedfordshire (Pre-submission version January 2013). In this instance, the heritage assets referred to represented those with archaeological interest.

A brief detailing the requirements for the programme of archaeological observation, investigation and recording was issued by the Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeologist (CBCA 2013) and addressed in the WSI (Albion Archaeology 2013).

1.2 *Site Location and Description*

Campton is a village in the north-eastern part of Central Bedfordshire close to the River Hit (Figure 1). It lies to the south-west of the village of Shefford.

The development area (DA) lies on the north side of the village close to its historic centre. The DA is centred on NGR TL 1305 3813. It comprises an area of c. 450 square metres that encompasses the north-eastern half of the current property at 3 Greenway as well as a small part of another garden to the rear of the property. On either side of it are other residential properties.

The DA is on fairly level ground at c. 43m OD. The underlying geology consists of a head deposit of clay, silt, sand and gravel overlying sandstone of the Woburn Sands formation.

1.3 *Archaeological Background*

Campton is a small village that, for the most part, lies within the designated extent of the medieval village (HER 17107). However, it is less heavily populated now than it was in the medieval period.

Within the village are several prominent listed buildings including the 13th-century Parish Church of All Saint's (HER 8869), the 18th-century Rectory



(HER 5624), the 16th-century Campton Manor (HER 377) and the 18th-century White Hart Public House (HER 13066). All of the above buildings, with the exception of Campton Manor, are within 100m of the DA. In addition to these buildings, the formerly Grade III listed Campton Mill (HER 5629), a water-driven corn mill on the River Hit, is located c. 250m to the south of the DA.

The DA lies close to the village centre and is within the extent of the medieval village. The neighbouring property at 5 Greenway is an 18th-century listed house that may originally have been two cottages. Opposite the DA is the location where the line of the medieval road between Shefford and Campton (HER 18312), as identified from aerial photographs, meets Greenway, the existing road between the two villages.

Campton is listed in the Domesday Survey of 1086 as 'Chabeltone', a manor of 6½ hides. It is, therefore, at least late Saxon in origin; however, the location of the settlement at that time is unclear.

Although no known archaeological investigations have been undertaken within a study area of 500m radius centred on the DA, artefacts from several periods have been found at various locations around the village:

- Medieval (AD 1069–1539) pottery (HER 2570, 4328) was found at two locations within the bounds of the medieval village to the west and south-west of the DA.
- Saxo-Norman (AD 850–1150) pottery (HER 2566) was found c. 230m to the south of the DA.
- Roman (AD 43–409) pottery (HER 2568) was found c. 430m to the south-west of the DA and a Roman coin (HER 15962) dating to the reign of Constantine I, issued around AD 332–333, was found c. 270m to the west of the DA.
- Iron Age (800 BC–AD 42) pottery (HER 2567) was found c. 230m to the south-west of the DA.
- A Bronze Age (2350–701 BC) long-necked beaker (HER 380) was found somewhere within a general area close to the northern end of a large field c. 400m to the north-west of the DA.
- Prehistoric (500,000 BC–AD42) flints (HER 2566, 2568, 2569 & 2571) were found at several locations to the south and west of the DA.

1.4 Project Objectives

The site had the potential to reveal information on a number of research objectives identified in the research framework for Bedfordshire (Oake *et al* 2007). The DA lies close the core of the identified medieval settlement at Campton and therefore the focus of research objectives for the site lay in the Saxon and medieval periods. It also had the potential to contain post-medieval remains providing significant information relating to rural settlement, as highlighted by Edgeworth (*ibid*, 121-123).



The research framework for Bedfordshire states that, in general, few medieval rural settlements, particularly with Saxon origins, have been investigated in the county (Oake in Oake *et al* 2007). Oake states a need for research into rural settlement on a micro-scale of investigation, in order to establish the chronology, structure and function of individual settlements as well as classes of settlement, ranging from the prehistoric to the medieval period. The need for investigation into the origins, development and dynamics of medieval rural settlement are also emphasised by Medlycott (2011) in the East of England Research Framework.

The general objectives of the investigation were to determine:

- the date, nature and extent of activity or occupation within the development area;
- the relationships of any remains found to the surrounding contemporary landscapes.

In addition, the investigation sought to recover contemporary palaeo-environmental remains to determine local environmental conditions.

The specific objectives of the investigation were to determine:

- whether any Saxon activity was present in this part of Campton;
- whether any below-ground evidence for medieval or post-medieval activity survived on the DA, and to identify its nature.

The project also resulted in an archive report that fully describes the archaeological works (this document).



2. METHODOLOGY

Archaeological observation of the groundworks was undertaken on 22nd and 23rd April 2013. All groundworks that had the potential to impact upon archaeological remains were archaeologically monitored. These comprised the excavation of a foundation trench measuring c. 0.6m wide and 1–1.3m deep for a two-storey house that covered an area c. 12m x 6.2m (Figure 2).

The excavations were carried out using a mechanical excavator fitted with a flat-edged ditching bucket, except where digging by hand was required. The works were undertaken under close archaeological supervision. Deposits encountered were investigated and recorded in accordance with Albion's *Procedures Manual*. Spoil heaps were checked on a regular basis for the recovery of artefacts.

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

• Albion Archaeology	<i>Procedures Manual: Volume 1 Fieldwork</i> (2 nd edn, 2001).
• Bedford Borough Council	<i>Preparing Archaeological Archives for Deposition in Registered Museums in Bedford</i> (1998)
• EAA	<i>Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England</i> (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 edition (2011)
• IfA	<i>By-Laws and Code of Conduct</i>
	<i>Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs and Field Excavations</i> (updated 2008) and <i>finds</i> (updated 2008)

A detailed methodology is provided in the WSI (Albion Archaeology 2013).



3. RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

Other than geological deposits, the groundworks revealed a series of pits containing modern artefacts and two structural features probably associated with the past land-use of the area as a garden. These are summarised below and detailed in the Appendix. Numbers in brackets refer to the contexts recorded in the Appendix.

3.2 Overburden and Undisturbed Geological Deposits

The topsoil (100) comprised dark blackish grey clayey silt with occasional fragments of modern building material. In places it was overlain by a layer of soil and rubble (116) associated with current building activity.

Undisturbed geological deposits comprised brownish orange sand and were present at depths of 0.2–0.4m.

3.3 Pits

Four pits [104], [106], [112] and [114] were visible within the sides of the foundation trenches (Figure 2). They varied from 0.4–1m or more in depth and were filled with grey brown sandy silt. Since they were not visible in plan, their exact dimensions were unknown. However, they appeared to be oval or sub-circular in shape; they were at least 1–1.6m long and over 0.5m wide. They all contained fragments of post-medieval and modern building or household material (Table 1).

Feature	Context	Date Range	Finds Summary
104	105	18th-19th century	Ceramic flat roof tile (58g)
106	107	18th century	Cylindrical medicine or chemist's bottle – colourless glass with a pale blue tinge (6g)
112	113	18th century +	Pottery (61g); mass produced ware, including pearlware and a transfer-printed saucer
114	115	19th-20th century	Pottery (288g); brown salt-glazed stoneware handle and base; stoneware conserve pot

Table 1: Finds from pits

3.4 Structural Features

The remains of two former structures were revealed within the foundation trench (Figure 2).

The foundations of a NW-SE aligned wall [102], containing modern building material, were located at the north-west end of site. Their presence only in the southern side of the trench suggests that they did not continue northwards.

A large stone (110) located at the base of a foundation cut [108] and set into the undisturbed geological deposit (101) was visible in the side of the central foundation trench. The absence of similar remains in the surrounding trenches suggests that it was an isolated pad-stone rather than part of a wall. Three pieces of 18th–19th-century glass derived from an embossed lemonade or mineral water bottle (67g) were found in association with the pad-stone. This suggests



that it was more likely to be related to relatively recent garden features than to a significantly earlier building.



4. CONCLUSIONS

No remains of archaeological significance were revealed during the observation and investigation of the construction groundworks. The features that were revealed, probable rubbish pits and garden features, appear to have been associated with 19th- and 20th-century occupation of the adjacent building.

Although it is possible that earlier features associated with medieval or Saxon occupation were truncated by the modern pits, the absence of material of this date in the artefact assemblage as a whole suggests that there was little or no occupation on the site during these periods.



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6. APPENDIX: DETAILED CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

**Trench: 1**

Max Dimensions: Length: 12.00 m. Width: 6.20 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.2 m. Max: 0.4 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 13030: Northing: 38135)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 13040: Northing: 38128)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 13043: Northing: 38134)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 13036: Northing: 38139)

Reason: Foundation trench for new dwelling.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
100	Topsoil	Friable dark grey black sandy silt occasional large CBM 0.4m deep	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
101	Natural	Mid brown orange sand	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
102	Foundation trench	Linear NW-SE sides: vertical base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.25m, max depth 0.65m Only visible in section.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
103	Fill	Friable mid grey brown sandy silt frequent large CBM 0.65m deep	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
104	Pit	Sub-circular sides: steep dimensions: min breadth 0.45m, min depth 1.m, min length 1.6m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
105	Fill	Friable mid orange brown silty sand CBM recovered from top, probably modern. 1m deep	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
106	Pit	Sub-circular sides: steep base: flat dimensions: max depth 0.55m, max diameter 1.5m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
107	Fill	Friable mid grey brown sandy silt occasional large CBM 0.55m deep	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
108	Foundation trench	sides: near vertical base: uneven dimensions: max breadth 0.9m, max depth 0.32m Not visible in surrounding trenches. Only visible in section.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
109	Packing	Friable mid grey brown silty sand occasional flecks mortar 0.32m deep	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
110	Stone setting	0.22m deep, 0.5m wide	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
111	Upper fill	Friable dark grey brown silty sand 0.1m deep	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
112	Pit	Sub-circular sides: U-shaped base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.6m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
113	Fill	Friable mid orange brown sand Frequent china/metal rubbish	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
114	Pit	Sub-circular sides: U-shaped base: concave dimensions: min breadth 0.5m, max depth 0.4m, min length 1.m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
115	Fill	Friable mid orange brown sand	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
116	Modern overburden	Friable mid orange brown sandy silt moderate small CBM 0.1-0.2m thick. Associated with recent demolition activity.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

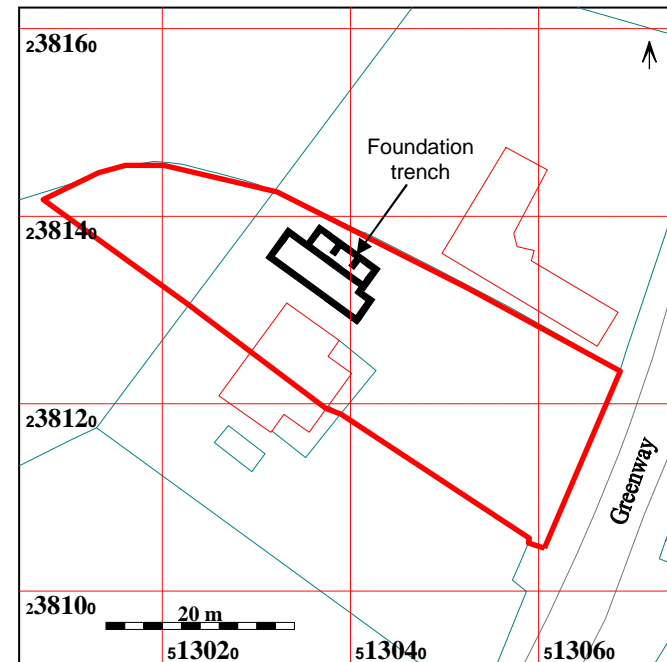
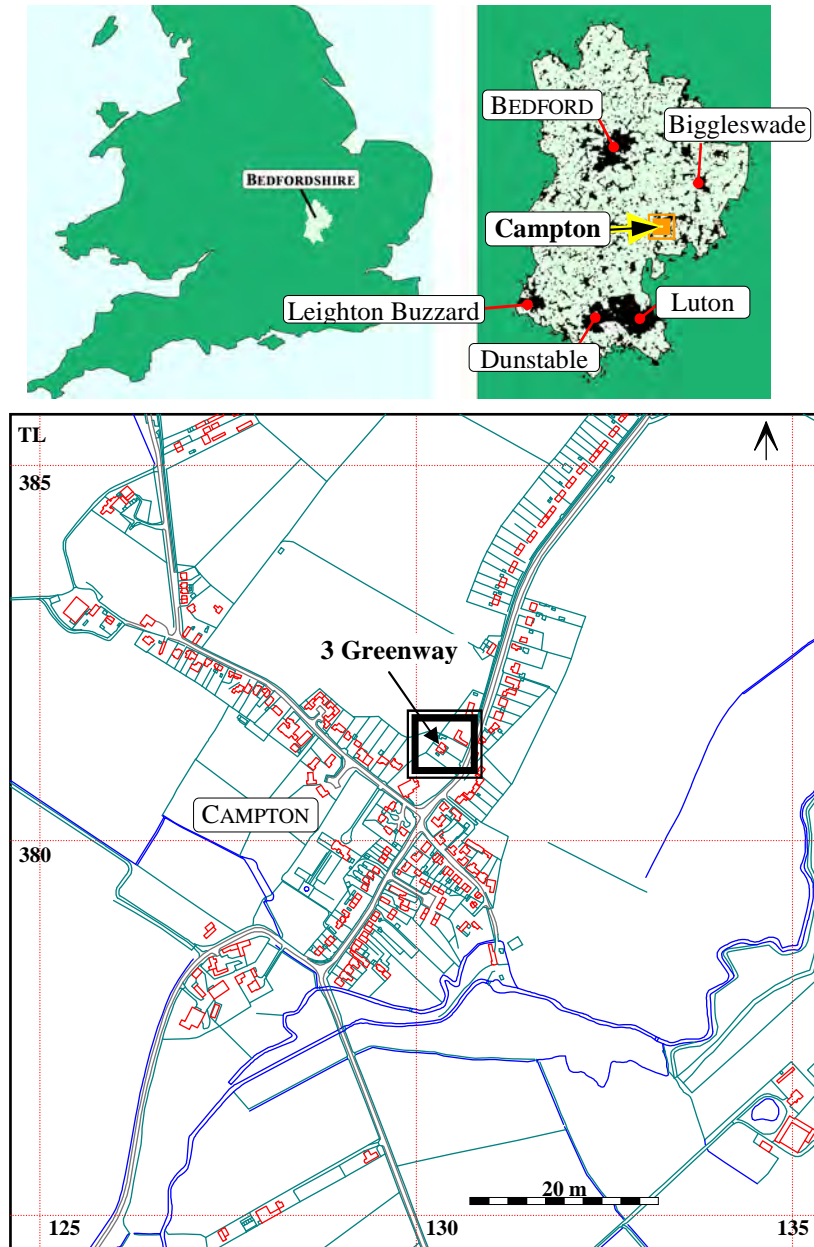
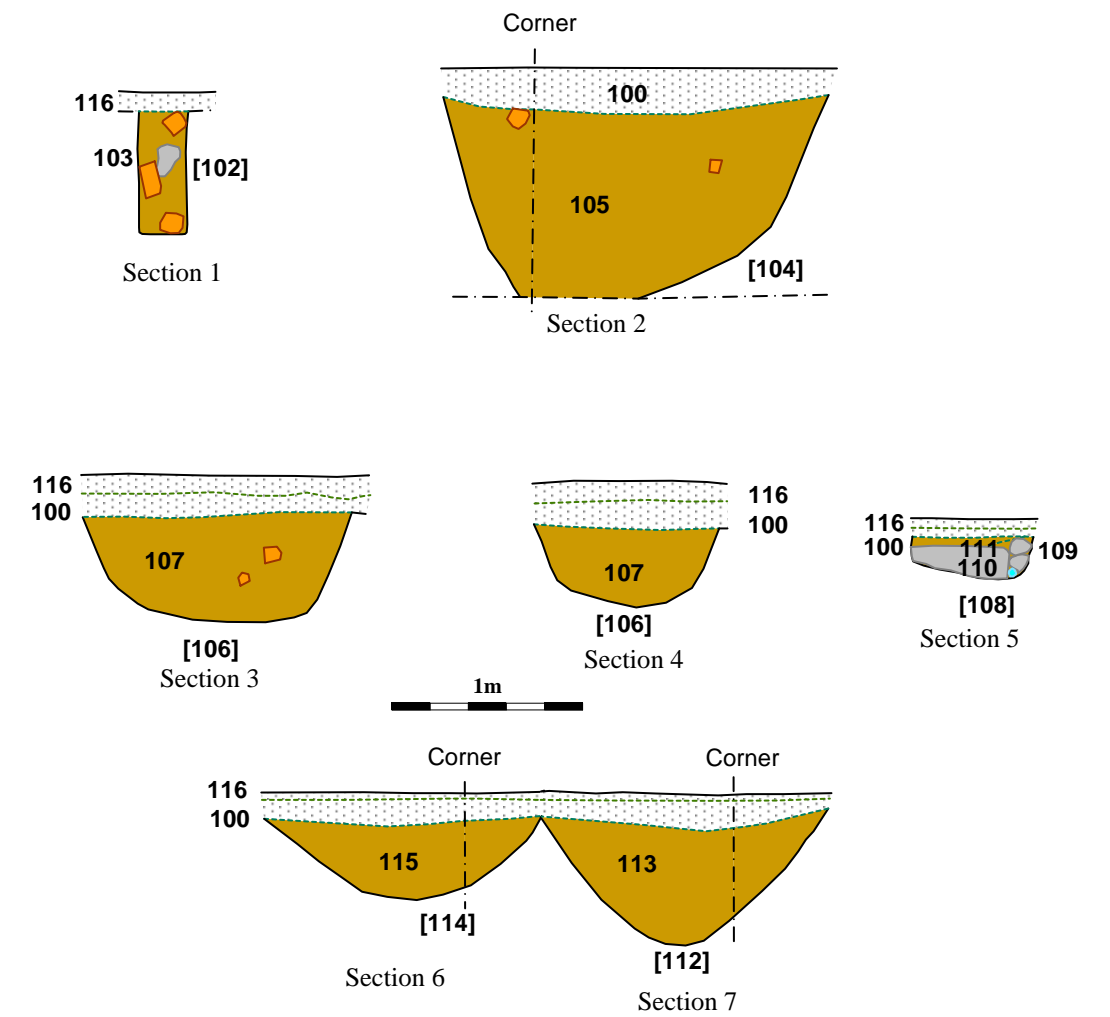
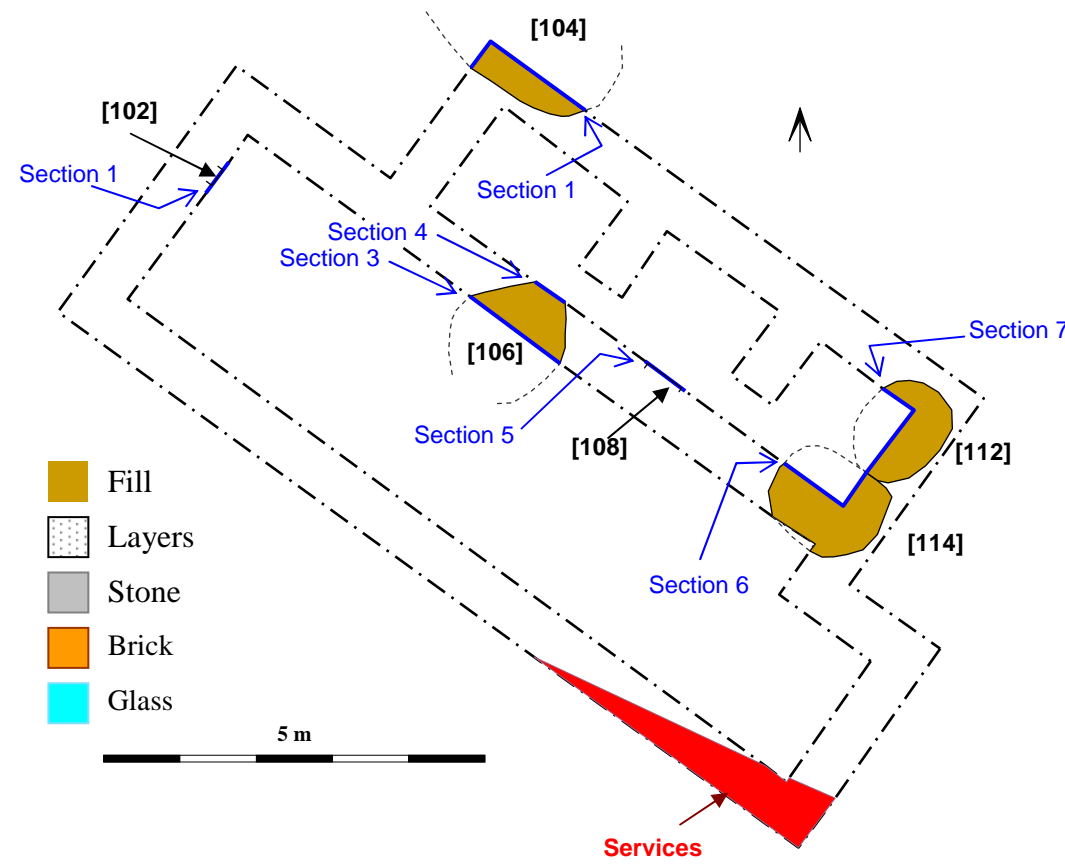


Figure 1: Site location plan

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General views before and after machining



[102] Looking SE. Scale 40cm



[104] Looking N. Scale 40cm



[108] Looking NE. Scale 40cm

Figure 2: All features plan

Central
Bedfordshire

Albion
archaeology



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

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

