

**THE SALT BOX
BEDFORD ROAD
LAVENDON
MILTON KEYNES**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION

Albion
archaeology



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LAVENDON
MILTON KEYNES**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION

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Preface

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.

This document has been prepared by Richard Gregson (Project Supervisor), Jackie Wells (Artefacts Officer) and Gary Edmondson (Project Manager) and approved by Drew Shottliff (Operations Manager). Albion would like to acknowledge the assistance of the tenant Mr M Breeds and Nick Crank the Senior Archaeological Officer who monitored the project on behalf of Milton Keynes Council.

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Structure of this Report

Section 1 serves as an introduction to the project, describing the site's location, its archaeological background and the aims of the archaeological work. Section 2 describes the trial trenching methodology and Section 3 summarises the results of the evaluation and the historical setting of the site. Section 4 is a bibliography.

Appendix 1 (Section 5) contains trench summary information and detailed contextual data.

Key Terms

Throughout this document the following terms or abbreviations are used:

Client	Mr N Arbuthnott of Great Gable Ltd
HER	Historic Environment Record
IfA	Institute for Archaeologists
LPA	Local Planning Authority
MKC	Milton Keynes Council
<i>Procedures Manual</i>	<i>Procedures Manual Volume 1 Fieldwork</i> , 2nd edn, 2001 Albion Archaeology
PDA	Proposed Development Area
SAO	Senior Archaeological Officer of MKC
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation



Non-Technical Summary

The client has commissioned Albion Archaeology to undertake a programme of archaeological evaluation associated with a pre-planning enquiry to the Local Planning Authority (LPA) for residential development on a plot of land known as The Salt Box, located off Bedford Road, on the eastern margin of the village of Lavendon. The LPA advised that field evaluation of the site should be undertaken prior to submission of a planning application.

The Proposed Development Area (PDA) is located towards the eastern margin of the village, on the south side of the A428 Trunk Road (Bedford Road), just to the east of the T-junction with Harrold Road. The roughly rectangular plot consists of two land parcels which extend approximately 110m along the street frontage, tapering to 85m at the SW limit, by up to 115m wide, to cover an area of c. 0.96 hectares, centred on grid ref SP (4)91980 (2)53400. The two land parcels are defined by mature trees and shrubs. The site contains a series of buildings and areas of concrete hard-standing, marking the locations of former structures, concentrated in the Western land parcel, with the Eastern land parcel being more open, though heavily overgrown at the time of the investigation.

The site is located towards the eastern margin of the village, with isolated limestone cottages and a paddock to the NW. Towards the centre of the village, brick cottages line the north side of the Bedford Road, with a mix of house types occupying the Harrold Road. Opposite the site are extended gardens and arable fields, with a burial ground immediately to the east.

The evaluation was undertaken in mid June 2013, with a total of six trenches being opened to investigate the areas of the main impact of the development proposal. The site is split into the two component land parcels, Eastern and Western, to discuss the results. In the Western land parcel, below a series of modern deposits, archaeological features were revealed towards the street frontage in Trenches 1-3. These ranged from a modern ditch and the cut for the construction cone of an adjacent brick-lined well, to a series of undated, intercutting features in Trench 2. The latter comprised a large rectangular pit, truncated by another pit, which contained wood, apparently forming a wattle lining. The margins of other another couple of features were also revealed. In Trench 3, a large pit was identified at the northern limit. A substantial ditch immediately to the south contained a small quantity of abraded Roman pottery.

Below a series of modern deposits in the Eastern land parcel was a buried soil profile, with a small number of features, associated with the former agricultural use of the area. These consisted of land drains, both ceramic and stone-lined types, as well as intermittent traces of cultivation furrows aligned NE-SW, perpendicular to the road. The furrows are characteristic of medieval arable cultivation.

In summary the evaluation has revealed a series of features in the vicinity of the street frontage in the Western land parcel, comprising a series of undated intercutting pits, as well as evidence of ditches containing Roman and modern pottery. These features have potential to shed light on the utilisation of the margins of the village, with wet conditions which have preserved wood and have the potential to preserve other organic materials. The deposits have at least local and potentially regional significance to address aspects of settlement development. In contrast, the remains in the area of the Eastern land



parcel which would be impacted by the proposed development are intermittent and less well preserved; they are of limited, local significance only.



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 *Planning Background*

A pre-planning enquiry was made to the Local Planning Authority (LPA) for residential development of a plot of land known as ‘The Salt Box’, located on the southern side of the Bedford Road (A428 Trunk Road) at the eastern margin of the village of Lavendon. The LPA advised that field evaluation of the site should be undertaken prior to submission of a planning application. This is in line with guidance contained in the *National Planning Policy Framework*, which advises that disturbance of heritage assets, such as archaeological deposits is a material consideration in the planning process. No brief for field evaluation was issued, but following discussions with the Senior Archaeological Officer (SAO) of Milton Keynes Council, a methodology was formulated, focusing on those areas directly affected by the development proposal. The objective of the investigation was to identify and assess the significance of any surviving archaeological deposits, features and structures within the Proposed Development Area (PDA). This will provide sufficient archaeological information to determine the planning application and, if planning permission is granted, to determine the need for and develop design solutions and / or mitigation schemes to deal with any archaeological impacts.

1.2 *Site Location and Description*

The village of Lavendon is situated near the northern edge of the Borough of Milton Keynes, with the PDA located at the eastern margin of the village, just beyond the T-junction with Harrold Road (Figure 1). The PDA is located on the south side of the A428 Trunk Road (Bedford Road), one of the roads along which the village has developed. The site comprises two land parcels (Eastern and Western) which extend for approximately 110m along the street frontage, though tapering to only 85m in the south, some 115m SW of the road.

The PDA is centred on grid reference SP (4)91980 (2)53400. It contains a series of buildings or concrete hard-standings, marking the locations of former structures (Figure 2), concentrated in the Western land parcel, with the Eastern land parcel being more open. Extensive bunds of material are present towards the NE corner of each land parcel. Clearance of the dense vegetation in the vicinity of Trench 2 revealed a large pit towards the road, which contained water at the start of the investigation.

The site occupies roughly level ground at *c.* 68m OD, though the investigation revealed a slight terrace, traceable on the ground in the vicinity of the northern end of Trench 3. This was aligned roughly ENE-WSW, though masked by an extensive bund of material a short distance to the east. This would appear to be a natural feature.

The PDA is at the edge of an outcrop of Cornbrash Formation, with Kellaway Sands Member of the Kellaway Formation outcropping around the margins. In the area immediately north of the Bedford Road, till of the Oadby Member of the Wolston Formation is present. To the south of the PDA, in the valley of the River



Great Ouse, underlying deposits of the Great Oolite Group are exposed (BGS 2010).

1.3 Archaeological Background

Lavendon is recorded in the Domesday survey of 1086, which indicates that it was heavily wooded, but not part of the royal forests in the area. The site is adjacent to an important junction linking the village to other medieval settlements in the area, whilst it is located a short distance south of Uphoe Manor, a significant medieval site.

The PDA contains no heritage assets recorded by the Milton Keynes Historic Environment Record (HER). However, part of the PDA is within an Archaeological Notification Area, indicating archaeological potential. Of the 45 sites recorded by the Milton Keynes Historic Environment Record (HER), within 500m of the site, the majority are post-medieval buildings or structures; however, there is evidence of medieval and earlier activity particularly, to the north around Uphoe Manor and westwards towards the core of the village. Aerial photographs show the paddock immediately to the west of the PDA to contain a series of earthworks, including enclosures along the street frontage with traces of ridge and furrow earthworks, characteristic of medieval arable cultivation, further to the SW. This land would have been one of the village's open fields, extending to the edge of the valley of the Lavendon Brook.

Images from 1946 indicate that the central and southern parts of both land parcels contained regularly planted lines of trees, suggesting an orchard. These were present until at least 1973. Whilst a series of buildings occupied the northern part of the Western land parcel, a series of regularly spaced small structures — possibly pig sheds — occupied the Eastern land parcel in 1946.

The first edition Ordnance Survey map of 1882 shows that a series of land parcels, extending from the street frontage, including the two which form the PDA, had been established prior to this date. These would appear to have been generally devoid of internal activity, the exception being the Western land parcel, which by 1900 contained a building in its NW corner, adjacent to the street frontage.

1.4 Project Objectives

The general aims of the trial trenching programme were:

- To establish the date, nature and extent of past activity within the PDA;
- To assess the artefactual and environmental potential of archaeological deposits encountered;
- To produce a site archive for future deposition with Buckinghamshire Museum, and to provide information for accession to the Milton Keynes HER.

The trial trenching also had potential to provide information on:

- The potential continuation of medieval or post-medieval features visible in the area to the west;
- The location, extent, nature, and date of any archaeological features or deposits that may be present within the PDA;



- The integrity and state of preservation of any archaeological features or deposits that may be present within the PDA.

The emerging regional research framework for the later medieval period (Munby 2010) has several themes relevant to the PDA, particularly relating to the village edge, which is often affected first by expansion up to the 14th century, followed by a period of decline or shrinkage. Evidence from the earthworks in the vicinity may suggest that this was a zone of expansion, though it is not clear if this was planned or piecemeal.



2. METHOD STATEMENT

The methodological approach to the project is summarised below and detailed in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Albion Archaeology 2013).

2.1 Standards

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

IfA	<i>By-Laws and Code of Conduct</i>
	<i>Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (updated 2008) and finds (updated 2008)</i>
Albion Archaeology	<i>Procedures Manual: Volume 1 Fieldwork (2nd edn, 2001).</i>
Archaeological Archive Forum	<i>Archaeological Archives: A Guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation (2007)</i>
Buckinghamshire County Museum Service	<i>Procedures for deposit of archaeological archives version 1.4 (2003)</i>
English Heritage	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (2009)</i>
	<i>Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post excavation (second edition) (2011)</i>

The trenching strategy was designed to minimise the impact on the use of the site by the tenant, whilst investigating the areas of the proposed houses, which constitute the main potential impact of the development. A contingency of 30 linear metres of trenching was available for further investigation, if required by the SAO.

The locations of the trenches were set out using GPS prior to the start of the investigation. The trenches were opened by a mechanical excavator fitted with a flat-edged ditching bucket and operated by an experienced driver under the supervision of an archaeologist.

The deposits and any potential archaeological remains were noted, cleaned, excavated by hand and recorded using Albion Archaeology's *pro forma* sheets. The trenches were subsequently photographed as appropriate. All archaeological excavation and recording was carried out by experienced Albion Archaeology staff.

On completion of the project, the archive will be deposited at Buckinghamshire Museum under accession number AYBCM: 2013.56.



3. RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

The results of the evaluation are summarised below, integrating the finds data. However, little datable material was recovered from the features. More detailed information on the deposits revealed in the trenches can be found in Appendix 1, with finds data contained in Table 1.

Contexts in brackets refer to deposits recorded on site. Cut features are in square brackets, for example ditch [107]; deposits or layers are in curved brackets, for example associated lower ditch fills (108) or undisturbed geological strata (104) in Trench 1.

It was necessary to restrict the length of Trench 2 as possible asbestos contamination was revealed towards its eastern end, whilst a series of land drains including a recent corrugated plastic type were revealed towards the western end. Trench 4 had to be relocated further to the north due to an asbestos panel roof associated with a partly collapsed building to the south. A dense cluster of tile stacks, shrouded in dense vegetation, prevented the trench from being extended further in this direction.

Where possible archaeological features are discussed from latest to earliest.

3.2 Western Land Parcel: Trenches 1-4

3.2.1 Overburden

Across this area the ground had been raised by a series of dumps of material (100), (200), (300) and (400) comprising small rounded gravel in sand, which generally ranged in thickness from 0.27–0.4m. The amount of large stone fragments increased in Trenches 2, 3 and 4. An additional sandy gravel make-up layer was identified in Trench 4 (401). These deposits appear to have been used to form a surface.

Below this was a deposit of dark grey to dark brown grey sandy silt (101), (201), (301) and (402), generally 0.3m thick. This may represent a very disturbed former topsoil horizon — if so, it had been heavily mixed and churned.

A buried subsoil comprising mid orange brown sandy silt to silty clay was identified across the area (102/103), (202), (302) and (403), generally 0.2–0.3m thick, although the combined thickness of the two subsoil deposits in Trench 1 was up to 0.45m. The upper boundary was well defined, suggesting that the original topsoil had been removed.

3.2.2 Geological deposits

Generally, the upper deposit consisted of mid orange brown silty clay, which contained pockets of blue grey clay. Excavation of the deeper archaeological features exposed an underlying grey clay-silt on the lower ground towards the street frontage.



Removal of the overburden revealed a marked terrace in northern part of Trench 3 with the ground dropping *c.* 1m compared to the southern end. The top of the geological strata in Trenches 1 and 2 was almost 0.5m lower at *c.* 65m OD. Whilst the change in level was visible in the area of the trackway to the west, an extensive bund of material to the east masked any continuation.

3.2.3 Archaeological features

Figure 2 shows an all-features plan of the PDA, whilst Figure 3 provides a detailed plan of the northern part of the Western land parcel. Figure 7 is an all-features plan of the Eastern land parcel.

Modern features in Trench 1

Ditch

Located roughly central in the trench (Figures 2 and 3), ditch [107] was aligned NW-SE, with a steep sided profile, 0.8m wide and up to 0.42m deep (Figure 3: sections 1 and 2, Figure 4: image 1). It had a well-defined terminal in the SE. The ditch contained two fills, from which a variety of finds were recovered (Table 1). These include a small quantity of modern pottery (2g) from the upper fill (109). This deposit was sealed by the lower subsoil (103).

The alignment of the ditch is unusual, being oblique both to the street-front building and the Bedford Road, some 19m to the north.

Well cone cut

Extending some 0.4m from the eastern edge of the trench, sub-circular cut [105] was well defined and filled with dark blue grey clay. This is the cut for the brick-lined well located a short distance beyond the trench.

Possible Roman ditch

Located towards the northern end of Trench 3, the ENE-WSW aligned ditch [304] was identified at the base of a natural terrace, below a series of deposits up to 0.68m thick (Figure 3: section 3, Figure 4: image 2 and Figure 5: image 3). In section, the substantial ditch was up to 2.84m wide and 0.65m deep, with a concave profile. The lower fill (305) comprised mid orange grey silty clay up to 0.4m thick, with the less substantial mid orange brown upper fill (306) being darker. The mineralised nature of this fill (Figure 4: image 2) would suggest a feature of some antiquity. Small quantities of pottery and animal bone were recovered from the ditch, with a leached and abraded rim sherd of Roman pottery being recovered from the upper fill (Table 1).

Undated features

A series of undated features were revealed in Trenches 2 and 3.

Wattle-lined pit in Trench 2

Located towards the centre of the trench, sub-rectangular pit [207] was at least 1.8m long and extended at least 0.7m from the edge of the trench. A series of deposits were revealed (Figure 5: image 4 and Figure 6: images 5 and 6), with a light orange grey silty clay deposit (212) being confined to the area near the section.



A small area of this deposit was removed at the request of the SAO during the site monitoring visit of 14th June, in order to determine if the wood visible at the surface formed part of a structure, rather than being the result of root penetration. This deposit was removed to reveal blue grey silty clay (211) which came away to reveal thin roundwood (209) (Figure 6: image 6). This wood was well preserved with several pieces showing cut-marks. As well as isolated pieces of wood, it would appear that woven roundwood was present, though the uprights were at an angle rather than vertical. Whilst only uprights were visible at the surface at *c.* 0.13m to the limit of investigation, at 0.18m down, rods (cross-pieces) were present. This may define the wattle lining of the pit. Beyond this and adjacent to the cut was another fill (208), which contained a number of pieces of roundwood, which may suggest the presence of another lining. Investigation of this feature was limited so as not to compromise the conditions which had preserved the wood. No datable finds were recovered from any of the deposits associated with this feature.

Immediately to the east of this pit, in section, was a mixed deposit (204), which may be associated with the cleaning of the pit.

Pitting in Trench 2

A large apparently sub-rectangular pit [205], 2.6m long by at least 1.48m wide, was revealed to the west of, and partly truncated by, wattle-lined pit [207] (Figure 3 and section 4, Figure 5: image 4 and Figure 6: image 5). Investigation focussed on the recovery of dating evidence and the investigation of the stratigraphic sequence.

Investigation revealed a near vertical-sided profile, 0.48m deep, breaking to a flat base. The pit cut through a thin band of orange clay, with the majority of the profile being dug into the lower grey clay silt geological strata (Figure 6: image 5). Soon after excavation of the feature, groundwater started to accumulate. A single fill was identified, comprising a mottled green grey clay silt, which was considerably darker than the adjacent geological strata. The purpose of the feature is uncertain, with the fill apparently accumulating in water. It may have been dug as a water collection pit rather than a quarry, given the nature of the material removed from the cavity. No finds were recovered from the fill of the feature.

Two more possible features were revealed at the northern and southern margins of the trench, east of pit [205]; [213] and [217] respectively.

Pit Trench 3

At the northern margin of Trench 3, a large pit [309] was separated from the adjacent Roman ditch by subsoil horizon (302) (Figure 3: section 3). In section, the pit was at least 1.86m long, continuing beyond the northern limit of the trench, by at least 1.55m wide. It had a vertical southern side, 0.55m deep in the west though only 0.4m in the east (Figure 3: section 3).

Tree-throw



Located on the higher ground towards the southern limit of Trench 3, roughly oval feature [307] extended 1.15m by 0.55m. The associated fill contained burnt wood, but no datable artefacts. This is interpreted as a tree-throw; the cavity created by the uprooting of a tree, either by natural agencies such as storm or man. The relatively small size of the root-bole defined by the cavity may suggest that it was associated with clearance of the post-war orchard.

3.3 Eastern Land Parcel: Trenches 5-6

3.3.1 Overburden

An extensive spread of rubble (500) and (600) varied from 0.25m thick in Trench 5 up to 0.7m thick in Trench 6. This was material brought into the site.

The rubble spread sealed a buried soil profile. It comprised dark brown grey topsoil (501) and (601), 0.25m thick, representing a former cultivation soil. Below this was an associated subsoil (502) and (602), which ranged from mid yellow to mid orange brown and was *c.* 0.25m thick. No finds were recovered from the buried soil profile.

3.3.2 Geological deposits

The geological strata varied across the site with blue grey to orange silty clay being present in Trench 6. However, a series of deposits were revealed further south in Trench 5, Cornbrash covered the majority of the trench, with a small exposure of bedded limestone (Figure 8: image 8). This appears to overly dark blue clay similar to Oxford Clay, which would suggest localised inversion of the geological strata.

3.3.3 Archaeological features

Modern features

Three features in the eastern part of Trench 6 [604], [606] and [608] were identified as modern (Figure 7). The largest was pit [604], which clearly truncated the buried soil profile. The other two smaller features are considered to be modern on the basis of the nature of their fills.

In Trench 5, a substantial posthole [511] truncated the southern furrow. The roughly rectangular feature was 0.59m by at least 0.49m wide; the base of the post was still *in situ*.

Land drains

Two types of land drain were identified in Trench 6 on contrasting alignment. Towards the eastern and western limits of the trench, two ceramic land drains [610] on converging alignments were identified (Figure 7). In the western half of the trench, the truncated remains of two stone-lined drains [612], with a similar NE-SW alignment, spaced 5.5m apart, were identified. In section, they had a similar V-shaped profile *c.* 0.15m wide, and *c.* 10cm deep, lined with irregular limestone fragments (Figure 8: image 7). Although badly disturbed, occasional traces of a capping stone survived. No finds were recovered from these features, although the labour-intensive construction method suggests these pre-date the ceramic drains.



Furrows

Located in the northern part of Trench 6, shallow traces of two linear features [513] and [505/507/509], with similar NE-SW alignment, were identified. They were spaced *c.* 4.3m apart, centre to centre. In the north, [513] was 1.77m wide, whilst in the south three elements of the same possible furrow, separated by the area of bedded limestone, were revealed (Figure 7: section 5 and Figure 8: image 8).

3.4 Artefacts

Three features yielded a small finds assemblage, comprising mainly pottery and animal bone (Table 1). Datable artefacts are four pottery sherds, weighing 21g. Two derived from ditch [107] — 17th-century black-glazed earthenware (fabric PM16, after Mynard 1992) and 18th-century creamware (PM23). The upper fill (306) of ditch [304] contained a leached and highly abraded shell-tempered Roman jar rim sherd (fabric 1a, after Marney 1989). A tiny, abraded sherd, possibly also of Roman date, derived from the lower fill (305).

	Tr.	Feature	Description	Context	Date range	Finds Summary
Western Land Parcel	1	107	Ditch	108	Undated	Fired clay (1g); animal bone (1g)
		107	Ditch	109	Modern	Pottery (2g); ferrous slag (33g); animal bone (60g)
	3	304	Ditch	305	Undated	Pottery (1g)
		304	Ditch	306	Roman	Pottery (18g); animal bone (1g)
Eastern Land Parcel	5	507	Furrow	508	Undated	Coal (4g); burnt stone (62g)

Table 1: Artefact Summary

Ten pieces of animal bone (62g) were collected from ditches [107] and [304]. All are battered and abraded, with an average fragment weight of 6g; none can be identified to species.

3.5 Summary

The investigation revealed marked contrasts between the two land parcels.

Despite extensive disturbance in the Western land parcel, a variety of features were revealed in the northern part of the area, towards the street frontage. A small quantity of Roman pottery may provide dating for a substantial ditch, which does not correspond to the alignment of boundaries in the vicinity or any land divisions shown on historical maps. The mineralised nature of the ditch fill would also suggest a feature of some antiquity.

A series of undated pits were revealed in Trench 2, with a similar pit in the northern part of Trench 3. These include an apparently wattle-lined pit. The clustering of pitting in Trench 2 would suggest zoning of activity, whilst the presence of wood indicates the potential for wet conditions to preserve other organic materials which normally decay.

Modern features revealed in the vicinity of the street-front building are probably associated with its use.



These features have potential to shed light on the utilisation of the margins of the village, with wet conditions having the potential to preserve organic materials, as well as the wood, already observed. The deposits have at least local and potentially regional significance to address aspects of settlement development.

In contrast, the remains in the Eastern land parcel which would be impacted by the proposed development are intermittent. They are less well preserved, comprising features such as land drains and cultivation furrows associated with the former arable use of the site; these are of limited local significance.



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5. APPENDIX 1: TRENCH SUMMARIES



Trench: 1

Max Dimensions: Length: 14.30 m. Width: 1.50 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.7 m. Max: 0.8 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP (Easting: 91955: Northing: 53449)

OS Grid Ref.: SP (Easting: 91958: Northing: 53443)

Reason: To investigate street-front area of Western land parcel

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
100	Dump material	Loose light yellow brown sandy gravel occasional large CBM, frequent small stones Up to 0.3m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
101	Make up layer	Compact dark grey sandy silt Up to 0.3m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
102	Buried subsoil	Firm mid orange brown silty clay Up to 0.2m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
103	Buried subsoil	Firm mid blue grey clay Up to 0.25m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
104	Natural	Firm mid orange silty clay Becoming grey clay silt with depth.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
105	Well	Sub-circular NNW-SSE sides: vertical dimensions: max breadth 0.36m, min depth 0.37m, max length 1.7m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
106	Backfill	Firm dark blue grey clay occasional medium-large stones At least 0.37m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
107	Ditch	Linear NW-SE sides: near vertical base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.8m, max depth 0.42m, min length 2.2m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
108	Lower fill	Firm mid green grey sandy silt Up to 0.06m thick. Contains small quantities fired clay and animal bone.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
109	Upper fill	Firm mid orange brown silty clay occasional small-medium stones Up to 0.42m thick. Contains a small assemblage of finds including animal bone, ferrous slag and pottery.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
110	Buried topsoil	Firm dark brown grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal Up to 0.12m thick. Only present at the SE end of the trench.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 2

Max Dimensions: Length: 14.40 m. Width: 1.50 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.8 m. Max: 0.8 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP (Easting: 91962: Northing: 53433)

OS Grid Ref.: SP (Easting: 91976: Northing: 53429)

Reason: To investigate street-front area of Western land parcel

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
200	Dump material	Loose light yellow brown sandy gravel moderate large CBM, moderate medium-large stones Up to 0.4m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
201	Make up layer	Compact dark brown grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, moderate small-medium stones Up to 0.3m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
202	Buried subsoil	Firm mid orange brown clay silt occasional small stones Up to 0.2m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
203	Natural	Firm mid orange silty clay	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
204	Layer	Firm dark brown grey clay silt Up to 0.17m thick. Only visible in section at least 0.37m long, located immediately east of the wattle-lined pit [207].	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
205	Pit	Sub-rectangular NW-SE sides: near vertical base: flat dimensions: min breadth 1.48m, max depth 0.48m, max length 2.6m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
206	Fill	Firm mid green grey clay silt occasional medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
207	Pit	Sub-rectangular E-W dimensions: min breadth 0.7m, min length 1.8m Contains a series of fills.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
208	Fill	Firm mid green grey clay silt Several pieces of roundwood visible in deposit, which is between the edge of the cut and the roundwood of (209).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
209	Lining	Series of fragments of roundwood which appear to be woven to form a wattle lining. Investigated to a depth of 0.18m.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
210	Fill	Firm dark blue grey silty clay This is the same as (211) to the east.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
211	Upper fill	Firm dark blue grey silty clay occasional small stones Exposed beneath (212). The sticky deposit was at least 0.18m thick, being removed to reveal, roundwood (209). Same as (210) to the west.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
212	Upper fill	Spongy light orange grey silty clay occasional small-medium stones Up to 0.3m thick in section. Removed to reveal (211).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
213	Pit	Sub-rectangular E-W dimensions: min breadth 0.2m, min length 1.m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
214	Fill	Mid green brown clay silt Very similar to (206), immediately to the west.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
217	Pit	Irregular N-S dimensions: min breadth 0.3m, min length 0.6m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
218	Fill	Firm mid green grey clay silt	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 3

Max Dimensions: Length: 21.40 m. Width: 1.50 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.45 m. Max: 0.5 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP (Easting: 91958: Northing: 53421)

OS Grid Ref.: SP (Easting: 91958: Northing: 53400)

Reason: To investigate the Western land parcel

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
300	Dump material	Loose light brown yellow sandy gravel frequent medium-large stones Up to 0.33m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
301	Buried topsoil	Compact dark brown grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones Confined to the southern end of the trench. Up to 0.2m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
302	Buried subsoil	Firm mid orange brown clay silt Up to 0.25m thick. Truncated by pit [309] and seals fills of ditch [304].	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
303	Natural	Firm mid brown orange sandy silt	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
304	Ditch	Linear ENE-WSW sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 2.84m, max depth 0.65m, min length 1.6m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
305	Lower fill	Firm mid orange grey clay silt Up to 0.4m thick, with a roughly horizontal upper boundary. A very small fragment of pottery was recovered from this deposit.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
306	Upper fill	Firm mid orange brown clay silt Up to 0.24m thick. The deposit contained a sherd of pottery and animal bone.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
307	Treethrow	Sub-oval NW-SE sides: Assymetrical base: uneven dimensions: max breadth 0.56m, max depth 0.18m, max length 1.15m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
308	Fill	Firm light orange grey clay silt frequent flecks charcoal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
309	Pit	Straight linear E-W sides: near vertical base: uneven dimensions: min breadth 1.55m, max depth 0.55m, min length 1.86m Marginally truncates fill of ditch [304]	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
310	Lower fill	Firm mid brown grey clay silt Up to 0.3m thick. This deposit was only seen in the western section.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
311	Upper fill	Firm mid green grey silty clay Up to 0.4m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 4

Max Dimensions: Length: 10.20 m. Width: 1.50 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.65 m. Max: 0.75 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP (Easting: 91954: Northing: 53381)

OS Grid Ref.: SP (Easting: 91945: Northing: 53385)

Reason: To investigate the Western land parcel

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
400	Dump material	Loose light brown yellow sandy gravel frequent small-large stones Up to 0.27m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
401	Make up layer	Compact mid grey red sandy gravel Up to 0.18m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
402	Make up layer	Compact dark grey clay silt Up to 0.35m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
403	Buried subsoil	Firm mid orange brown clay silt Up to 0.3m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
404	Natural	Firm mid orange silty clay	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 5

Max Dimensions: Length: 20.50 m. Width: 1.50 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.7 m. Max: 0.75 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP (Easting: 91964: Northing: 53356)

OS Grid Ref.: SP (Easting: 91958: Northing: 53336)

Reason: To investigate southern part of the Eastern land parcel

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
500	Dump material	Loose mid yellow grey sandy gravel frequent medium-large stones Up to 0.25m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
501	Buried topsoil	Firm dark brown grey clay silt occasional small CBM Up to 0.35m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
502	Buried subsoil	Firm mid yellow brown clay sand moderate small-medium stones Up to 0.25m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
503	Natural	Compact mid brown yellow sandy gravel frequent medium-large stones Cornbrash comprising limestone including area of large bedded slab.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
504	Natural	Firm dark blue grey clay	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
505	Furrow	Linear NE-SW sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.63m, max depth 0.11m, min length 2.46m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
506	Fill	Compact mid brown clay silt moderate small-large stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
507	Furrow	Linear NE-SW sides: concave base: flat dimensions: max breadth 1.34m, max depth 0.16m, min length 3.95m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
508	Fill	Compact mid brown clay silt moderate small-large stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
509	Furrow	Linear NE-SW sides: concave base: concave dimensions: min breadth 0.43m, max depth 0.18m, min length 2.43m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
510	Fill	Mid brown silty clay moderate small-large sand	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
511	Posthole	Sub-circular ESE-WNW dimensions: min breadth 0.49m, max length 0.59m Modern feature.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
512	Fill	Firm dark brown grey clay silt occasional flecks CBM, occasional small-medium stones Traces of timber post still in situ.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
513	Furrow	Linear NE-SW sides: concave base: flat dimensions: max breadth 1.7m, max depth 0.25m, min length 2.59m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
514	Fill	Compact mid brown clay silt moderate small-large stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 6

Max Dimensions: Length: 19.80 m. Width: 1.50 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.5 m. Max: 0.7 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP (Easting: 92013: Northing: 53390)

OS Grid Ref.: SP (Easting: 91993: Northing: 53390)

Reason: To investigate the Eastern land parcel

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
600	Dump material	Loose light yellow grey sandy gravel frequent small-large stones Up to 0.7m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
601	Buried topsoil	Compact dark brown grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones Up to 0.25m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
602	Buried subsoil	Firm mid orange brown silty clay Up top 0.25m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
603	Natural	Firm mid blue orange clay	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
604	Pit	Sub-oval E-W sides: near vertical dimensions: min breadth 0.38m, min depth 0.35m, min length 0.89m Modern pit.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
605	Fill	Loose light orange brown sandy gravel frequent small-large stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
606	Modern disturbance	Sub-oval E-W dimensions: max breadth 0.14m, max length 0.2m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
607	Fill	Firm dark grey silty clay moderate flecks charcoal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
608	Modern disturbance	Sub-oval E-W dimensions: max breadth 0.28m, max length 0.4m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
609	Fill	Friable dark grey silty clay moderate flecks charcoal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
610	Land drain	Linear dimensions: max breadth 0.15m, min length 1.85m Cut containing ceramic land drain.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
611	Fill	Mid orange brown clay silt	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
612	Land drain	Linear NE-SW sides: V-Shaped base: v-shaped dimensions: max breadth 0.15m, min length 1.93m Cut for stone-lined land drain.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
613	Fill	Mid orange brown clay silt frequent medium-large stones Contains slabs of limestone, set on edge to line the sloping sides of the cut. Occasional traces of an associated capstone survive.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

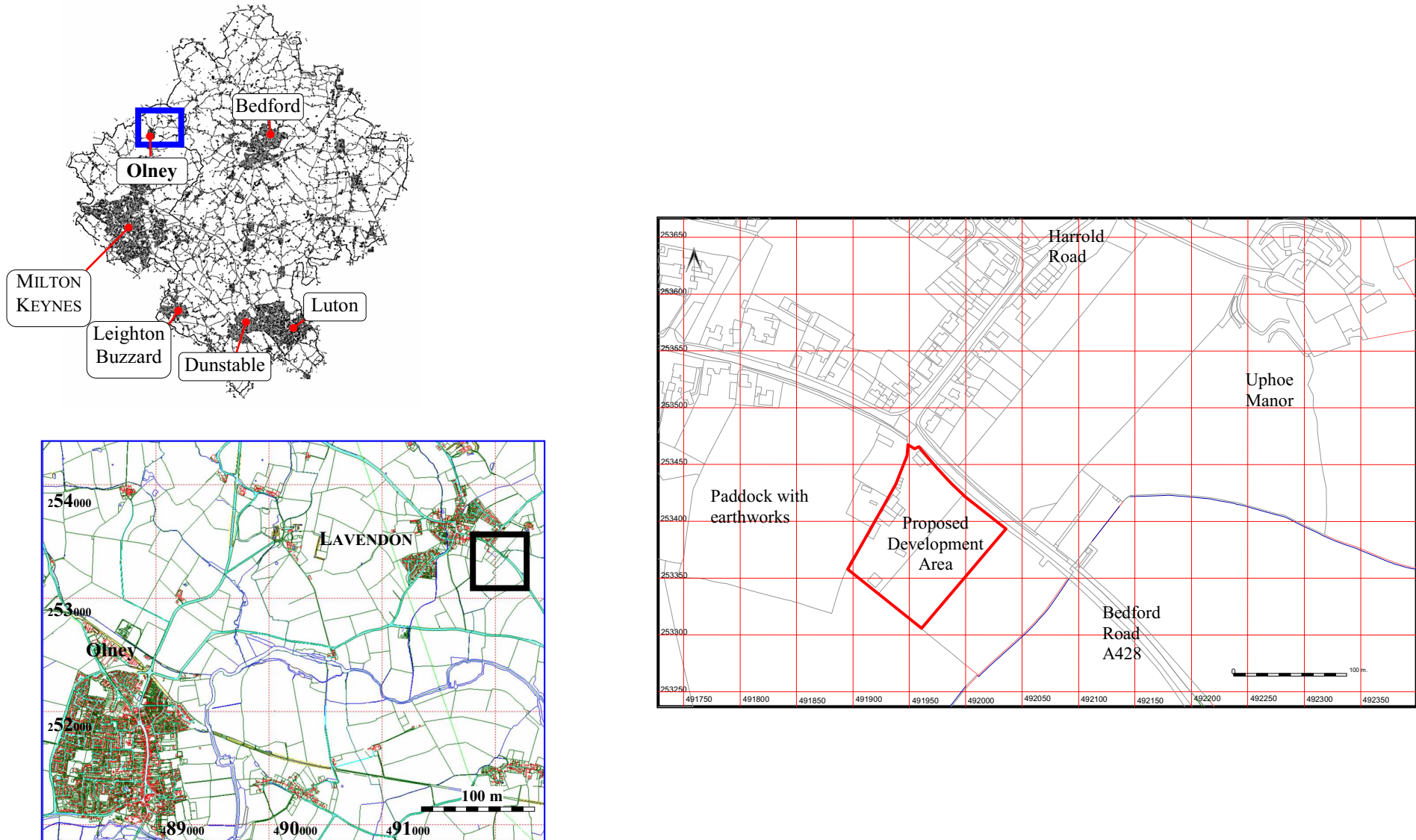


Figure 1: Site location map

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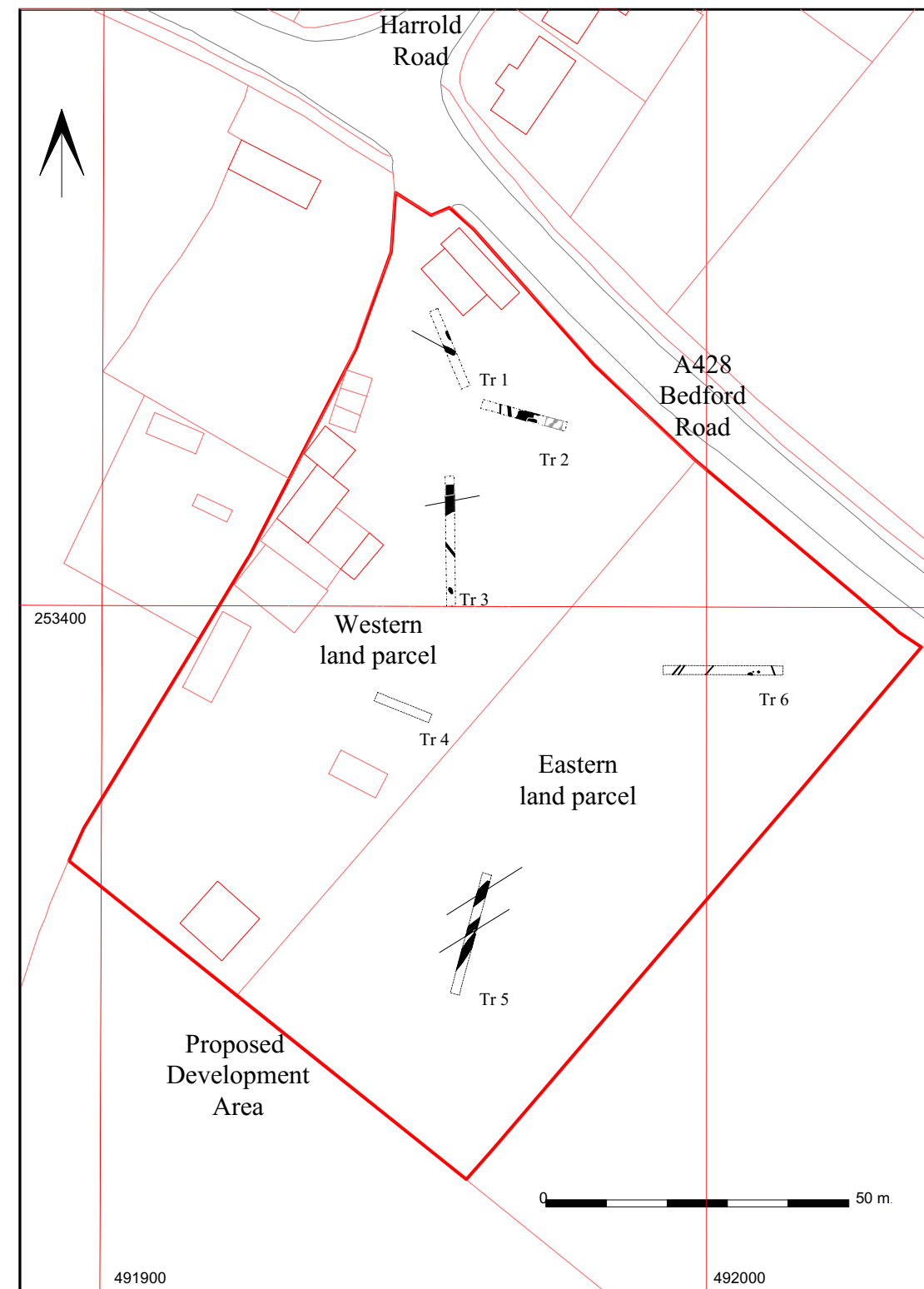
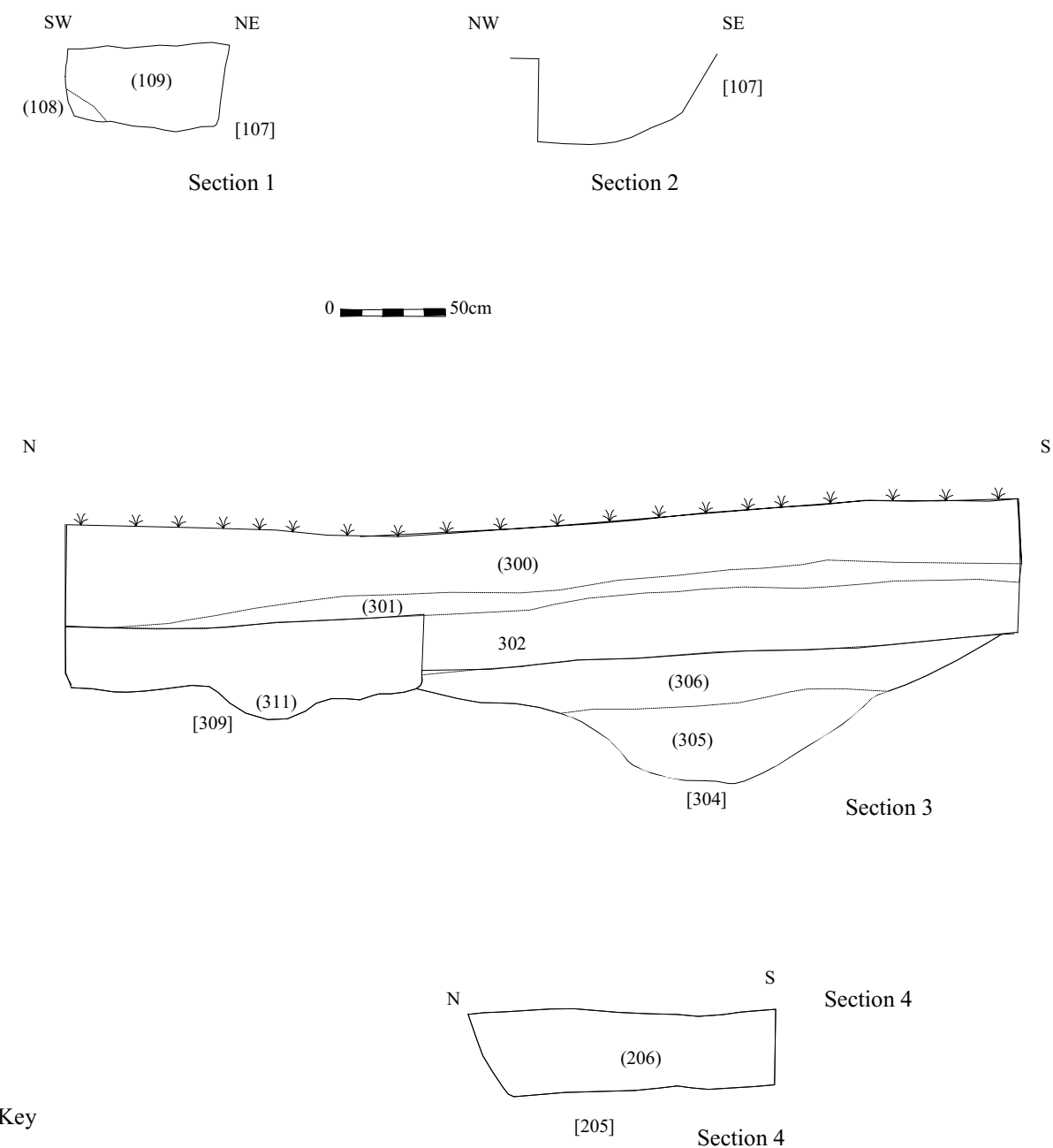
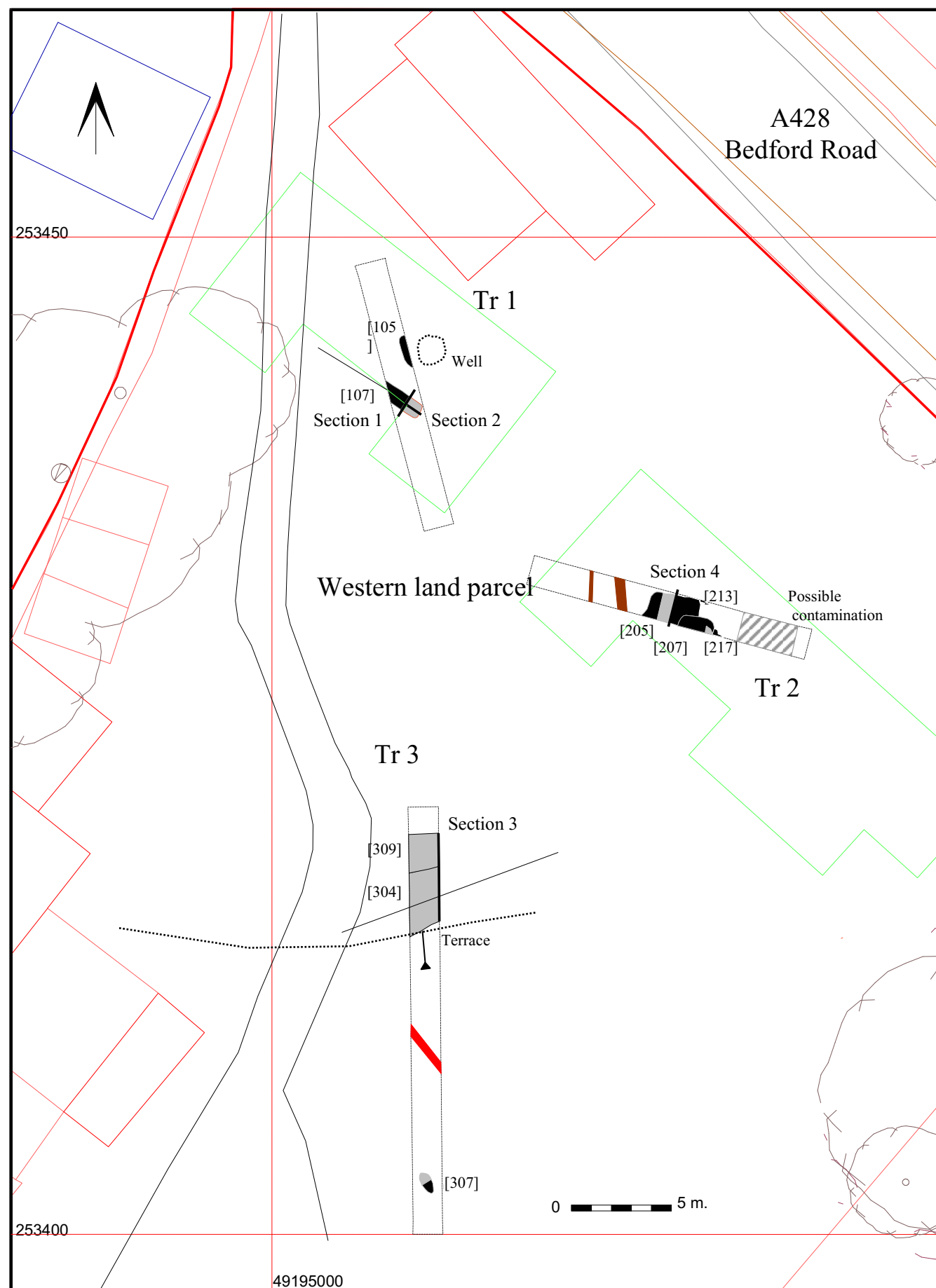


Figure 2: Topographic survey of site and all-features plan
Topographic survey provided by client

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- Key**
- Existing building
 - Proposed building
 - Service trench
 - Land drain
 - Feature – excavated segment
 - unexcavated segment

Figure 3: Western land parcel – all-features plan and sections 1-4



Image 1: Section through ditch [107] in Trench 1. Scale 1m in 50cm divisions.



Image 2: Plan view of possible Roman ditch [304] located towards the northern end of Trench 3. Scale 1m in 50cm divisions.

Figure 4: Western land parcel: Selected images 1 and 2



Image 3: Profile of possible Roman ditch [304] in centre of image, with later pit [309] to left. Scale 1m in 50cm divisions.



Image 4: General view of Trench 2, with NW end to right. The remains of the wattle lining of pit [207] are visible as a dark curving band, with large pit [205] immediately to the right. Scale 1m in 50cm divisions.

Figure 5: Western land parcel: Selected images 3 and 4



Image 5: Section through large pit [205] in Trench 2. Section to investigate possible wattle lining of pit [207] is just visible in the top right of the image. Scale 1m in 50cm divisions.



Image 6: Small section excavated to test survival of wood in pit [207], with part of the light coloured upper fill (212) removed, revealing dark fill (210/211) and well preserved wood (209), including woven wood indicating a wattle lining. Scale 30cm in 10cm divisions.

Figure 6: Western land parcel: Selected images 5 and 6

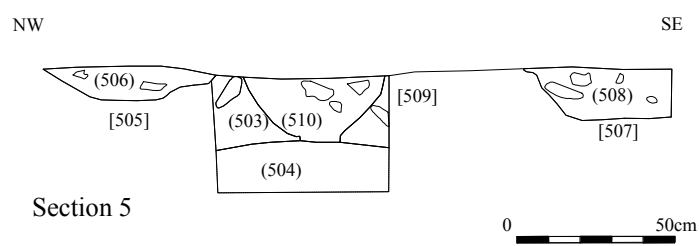
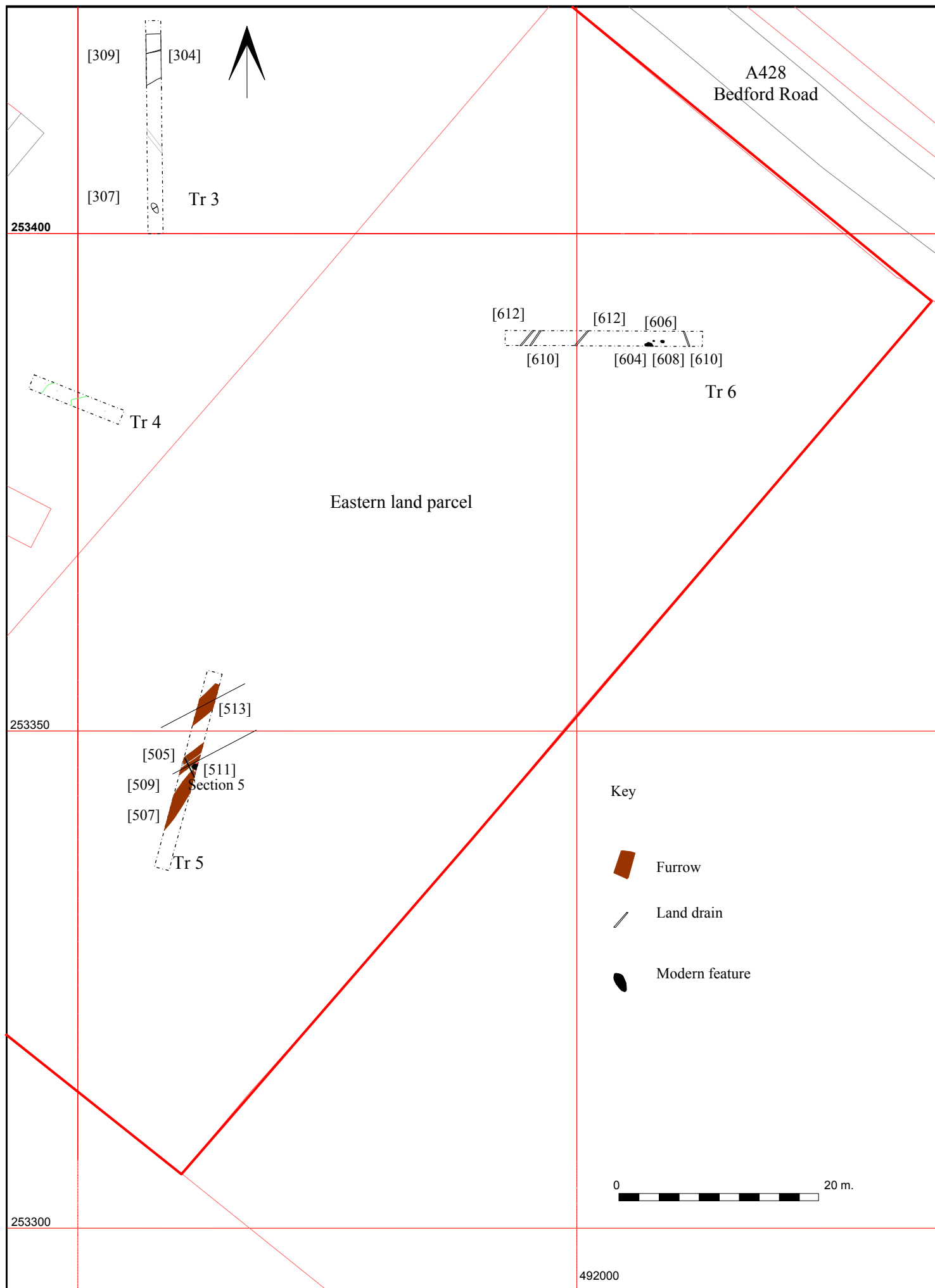


Figure 7: Eastern Land Parcel – all-features plan and section 5



Image 7: Heavily disturbed stone-lined land drain [612] in Trench 6.



Image 8: Furrows [505], [507] and [509] in Trench 5, cutting through a series of geological deposits. Scales 1m in 50cm divisions and 30cm in 10cm divisions.

Figure 8: Eastern land parcel: Selected images 7 and 8

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