AMPTHILL ROAD FOOTBALL PITCHES FLITWICK BEDFORDSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION

Albion archaeology





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ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION

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Contents

1. INT	RODUCTION	5
1.1	Project Background	5
1.2	Site Location, Topography and Geology	5
1.3	Archaeological and Historical Background)	5
1.4	Project Objectives	8
2. ME	THODOLOGY	9
2.1	Standards	9
2.2	Archive	9
2.3	Geophysical Survey	9
2.4	Trial Trenching	9
3. TRI	AL TRENCHING RESULTS	11
3.1	Introduction	11
3.2	Overburden and Geological Deposits	11
3.3	Archaeological Remains	11
4. CO	NCLUSIONS AND HERITAGE ASSET ASSESSMENT	14
4.1	Summary and Significance of the Evaluation Results	14
4.2	Heritage Asset Assessment	14
5. BIB	LIOGRAPHY	15
6. API	PENDIX 1: TRENCH SUMMARIES	22



LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1: Site and trench location plan

Figure 2: All features plan

Figure 3: Selected plans 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 B3 Architects Loughborough and monitored on behalf of the Local Planning Authority by Martin Oake, the Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeologist. The fieldwork was undertaken by Wiebke Starke (Archaeological Supervisor) Adam Williams and Adrian Woolmer (Archaeological Assistant Supervisors). This report has been prepared by Wiebke Starke with contributions from Jackie Wells (Finds Officer) and Joan Lightning (CAD Technician). All Albion projects are under the overall management of Drew Shotliff (Operations Manager).

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Key Terms

The following terms or abbreviations are used throughout this report:

CBC Central Bedfordshire Council

CBCA Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeologist

Client B3 Architects Loughborough
DBD Designations BeDfordshire

DCLG Department for Communities and Local Government

HER Central Bedfordshire and Luton Historic Environment Record

If A Institute for Archaeologists

NHLE National Heritage List for England

PDA Proposed Development Area



Non-Technical Summary

A planning application is to be submitted to Central Bedfordshire Council for the change of use of land adjacent to Ampthill Road, Flitwick, to football pitches and associated changing rooms and other facilities.

Because the site lies in an area of archaeological sensitivity the Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeologist advised the local planning authority that an archaeological field evaluation should be undertaken in order to obtain information required to compile a heritage asset assessment to accompany any future planning application.

The field evaluation comprising the excavation of 32 trial trenches measuring 2m in width and 40m in length took place between 10th and 18th June 2013.

The archaeological evaluation uncovered a number of moderately well preserved features beneath the topsoil throughout the site with a higher density in the southeastern part if the site. The absence of subsoil over the better part of the site suggests that the area might have been disturbed in the recant past in association with construction works for the A507 and the sewer and water pipes.

The features included ten small to medium-sized ditches. No artefacts were recovered from any of the ditches, so that they are not datable. The layout of the ditches in the evaluation trenches suggests that they are more likely to be drainage features than boundary ditches. They are not aligned on the current field boundaries. The fills mainly comprise fine silt and clay sediments, which further suggests that the ditches are related to land drainage.

In summary, although a number of heritage assets (in the form of sub-surface features) were found at the site, the recovered evidence suggests they are of limited archaeological interest and of no more than local significance only. They have no potential to contribute to archaeological regional research priorities.

Development of the site for football pitches is likely to have a negative impact on the identified heritage assets. The significance of this impact is considered to be negligible, given the low significance of the affected assets.



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

A planning application is to be submitted to Central Bedfordshire Council for the change of use of land adjacent to Ampthill Road, Flitwick, to football pitches, associated changing rooms and other facilities.

The proposed development area (PDA) lies to the north of Flitwick in a landscape with a high density of heritage assets, characterised by dispersed Iron Age and Roman settlement evidence, including a high status Roman settlement and medieval moated site (see Section 1.4). The Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeologist (CBCA) advised that an archaeological field evaluation must be undertaken in order to obtain information required to compile a heritage asset assessment to accompany any future planning application.

This is in accordance with the Central Bedfordshire Local Validation Checklist and national planning guidelines in the form of the National Planning Policy Framework – Section 12: Conserving and enhancing the historic environment, which was published on 27 March 20121 and replaces the previous Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment.

The CBCA issued a brief for the works (CBC 2013) which stipulated that the programme of archaeological works would comprise:

Stage I – geophysical survey;

Stage II – trial trench evaluation.

1.2 Site Location, Topography and Geology

The PDA lies to the north of Flitwick and south of the A507 within arable land. It is *c*. 6.5ha in extent and is bounded to the west by Ampthill Road and residential development at The Birches and Baker Terrace and to the south and east by agricultural fields. A sewage farm also borders the site in the east (Figure 1). At the time of the fieldwork the site was fallow land.

The site lies within the valley of the River Flit. The underlying geology is of the Flitwick Association — gleyed brown earth and Lower Greensand over Jurassic clays. The site lies at an average height of c. 80m OD and is centred on grid reference TL 03290 36287.

1.3 Archaeological and Historical Background

1.3.1 Prehistoric (before AD43)

Part of a Bronze Age biconical urn (HER 15848), dated to c. 1500 BC, was recovered from the line of the A507 Ampthill bypass. A double ring ditch (HER 15311) lies to the south-west of the PDA. A geophysical survey was undertaken on land to the north of the ring ditch and revealed several further anomalies which may be archaeological features (Stratascan 2009). However, no follow-up trial trenching was undertaken to verify the nature and date of the anomalies.

The site lies in a landscape of dispersed prehistoric settlement and other activity.

1

¹ National Planning Policy Framework, published by the Department for Communities and Local Government (2012). Available at: www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/nppf.



The eastern part of the site itself is occupied by a series of cropmarks (HER 9087). These are in the form or irregular features with some possible subcircular enclosures and linear features to their south. The cropmarks are undated but sites of this type typically represent late prehistoric or Roman settlement. The cropmarks lie to the north of a medieval routeway (see Section 1.3.4 below), so there is also a possibility that they may represent medieval features.

An excavation at Hinksley Road, Flitwick (HER 573; Luke 1999, 43-87), 300m to the south of the PDA, uncovered Iron Age and later settlement evidence. The site began in the middle Iron Age as an unenclosed settlement which was succeeded by an enclosed farmstead in the later pre-Belgic Iron Age. The site also produced evidence of a Roman field system and early/middle Saxon occupation.

1.3.2 Roman (AD43 – c. 450)

Extensive evidence of Roman settlement has been found in the area (HER 918). Excavations were carried out over a wide area around Ruxox Farm, c. 1.5km to the east of the PDA, in the 1950s and 1960s (HER event 814) by the Ruxox Research Group and the Ampthill Archaeological Society. The results of the investigations were interpreted as an extensive rural settlement consisting of small domestic buildings.

A concentration of artefacts found in a location to the west of the PDA included wall plaster and tesserae (mosaic pieces), indicative of a higher status building (Faddon 1972, 20). Fragments of clay figurines, which were part of the artefact assemblage, could suggest the presence of a temple. A number of cropmarks varying from linears to enclosures are also recorded within an area of c. 170ha around Ruxox Farm.

Evidence for Roman cultivation trenches representing a possible vineyard (HER 18271) were excavated c. 800m to the north-west of the PDA. The site also contained some evidence for late Iron Age activity.

The courses of two Roman roads suggested by the Viatores pass through the area (HER 5020-Viatores 170b and HER 5342-Viatores 176). These, however, have not been confirmed on the ground (Simco 1984).

Approximately 800m to the east of the PDA a number of Roman artefacts have been recorded through the Portable Antiquities Scheme (HER 18614, 18617, 18635, 18745 and 18935). However, in general, the PDA lies some distance away from the overall area of Roman activity around Ruxox Farm noted above.

In 1991, an excavation was carried out to the north and south sides of New Road, 400m east of the PDA. This uncovered late Iron Age and Roman settlement and a Roman cemetery (Dawson 2004, 17-34). Roman burials were also found to the north of the A507 during investigations prior to the construction of an Anglian Water pipeline. Burials ranged in date from the 2nd to the 4th century. Accompanying late Iron Age to Roman settlement evidence was also found.



1.3.3 Saxon (c. 450 – 1066)

Unenclosed Saxon occupation was found to the south of the site in the excavation at Hinksley Road, Flitwick (HER 573 and Luke 1999, 43-87). Typically, settlement in the earlier part of the Saxon period tends to take the form of small scale, dispersed occupation.

1.3.4 Medieval (1066 – 1550)

The most significant remains from this period within the area is a moated site situated approximately 1km to the east of the PDA at Ruxox Farm. This is a scheduled monument (HER 919, DBD 20405, NHLE 1007780). It consists of a large D-shaped earthwork, which measures at least 250m by 160m and encloses the eastern end of a natural promontory. The northern part of the moat has been backfilled but is clearly shown on the first edition OS 25-inch map and shows up clearly as cropmarks on aerial photographs.

The site was granted to Dunstable Priory before 1189. The Priory used it as a residence for priors who had retired from the main order. The last documentary reference to it as a monastic foundation dates from 1291 (Page 1912).

Large fragments of stone found near the edge of the moat suggest that buildings once occupied the area close to the inner edge of the moat. Archaeological excavations carried out in the north-west corner of the enclosure in 1959 uncovered medieval stone walls, pottery, building materials and window glass as well as Roman pottery and tile fragments.

A medieval pottery scatter has been identified to the north of the A507 (HER 2763). Finds of possible medieval date have been recorded from the area by the Portable Antiquities Scheme. These comprise a medieval or post-medieval metal mount (HER 18616) and Roman and medieval finds (HER 18617).

Place-name evidence from fields and tracks in historic maps and documents indicate possible medieval origins for some of these fields and tracks. Possible early tracks are represented by "Ridgeway" and "Greenway" which are named on a pre-enclosure map dating from the late 18th century (HER 2859 and 6054 respectively). The PDA lies immediately north of the "Greenway".

1.3.5 Post-medieval (1550 – 1900)

The HER includes a small number of entries dating from the post-medieval period. The site of a corn mill (HER 2618) was recorded prior to the construction of the A507 bypass at the north-eastern edge of the site. This functioned as a watermill and most likely built after 1793, as it is not shown on the pre-enclosure map of that date, and demolished sometime after 1886.

To the north of the proposed development area archaeological investigations by Northamptonshire Archaeology revealed evidence for a post-medieval field system (HER 19565), a pond (HER 19566) and a possible kiln (HER 19568).

Extant post-medieval buildings include the farmhouse and outbuildings at Ruxox Farm (HER 7771) which date from the 19th century. A sizable number of finds recorded by the Portable Antiquities Scheme include a silver penny of



Charles I found to the west of Ruxox House (HER 18615) and three post-medieval lead seals (HER 18618) as well as a silver long-cross penny of Edward I, II or III (HER 19391), but these lie largely more than 1km to the east and north-east of the proposed development site.

1.3.6 Modern (1900 - present)

The location of WW2 Nissen huts, formerly used for the storage of ammunition, is recorded next to the Maulden Road (HER 17896).

1.4 Project Objectives

The relevant research frameworks for the area are: *Bedfordshire Archaeology*. *Research and Archaeology: Resource Assessment, Research Agenda and Strategy* (Oake *et al.* 2007) and *A Revised Framework for the East of England* (Medlycott 2011).

The PDA lies in the Flit river valley in an area of potential high status Roman settlement and a scheduled medieval moated enclosure. The research agenda for Bedfordshire states that little detailed work has been carried out on the characterisation of rural settlement in the Iron Age or Roman period and that there is also a need to understand more about the range of variation of settlements in the river valleys and how they differ from settlements on the heavier clay soils (Oake 2007, 11).

With regards to the medieval period, the research agenda states that elements of the medieval settlement pattern, other than settlements, like moated sites, "Ends", magnate enclosures and manorial complexes merit further study (Oake 2007, 14).

The specific research objectives of the evaluation were:

- To assess the date, form and nature of the cropmark complex HER 9078 in the eastern part of the site;
- To assess if any heritage assets relating to the Iron Age and Roman settlements in the area were present on the PDA;
- To assess how the site fitted into the medieval landscape of the area, in particular with regards to the scheduled moated site to the east and known trackway to the south of the site.

The general purpose of the archaeological field evaluation was to recover information on the:

- location, extent, nature, and date of any archaeological features or deposits that might be present within the application site;
- integrity and state of preservation of any archaeological features or deposits that might be present within the application site.
- nature of palaeo-environmental remains to determine local environmental conditions.



2. METHODOLOGY

The methodological approach to the project is summarised below. A full methodology is provided in the WSI (Albion Archaeology 2013) which was approved by the CBCA prior to commencement of fieldwork.

2.1 Standards

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

• (CBCA	Brief for a programme of archaeological field evaluation of Land adjacent to 94 Ampthill Road, Flitwick, Bedfordshire. V1 4th February 2013.
•]	I <i>f</i> A	By-Laws and Code of Conduct
	,	Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation (2008) and finds (2008)
•]	English Heritage	Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment PPN3: Archaeological Excavation (2008)
		Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation. 2nd ed. (2011)
• 1	Albion Archaeology	Procedures Manual: Volume 1 Fieldwork (2nd edn, 2001).
•]	EAA	Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England (2003)
•]	Luton Museum	Preparing Archaeological Archives for Deposition in Registered Museums in Bedfordshire (2010)

2.2 Archive

The project archive will be deposited with Luton Museum (Accession No. LUTNM 2013/5). Details of the project and its findings will be submitted to the OASIS database (ref: albionar1-153533) in accordance with the guidelines issued by English Heritage and the Archaeology Data Service.

2.3 Geophysical Survey

The planned geophysical survey which comprised Stage I of the archaeological works could not be executed due to the heavily overgrown condition of the site. Instead, as revised trenching strategy was agreed with the CBCA.

2.4 Trial Trenching

Trial trenching took place between 10th and 18th June 2013. The layout of 32 trenches measuring 2m in width and 40m in length was agreed by the CBCA. The trenches were opened by a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, under close archaeological supervision.

Overburden was removed down to the top of the archaeological deposits or undisturbed geological deposits, whichever was encountered first. The spoil heaps were also scanned for artefact recovery.

Any potential archaeological features were investigated by hand and recorded



using Albion Archaeology's pro forma sheets. Each trench was subsequently drawn and photographed as appropriate. All deposits were recorded using a unique number sequence, commencing at 100 for Trench 1, 200 for Trench 2 etc. Context numbers in square brackets refer to the cuts [***] and round brackets to fills or layers (***). The trenches were inspected by the CBCA prior to their backfilling.



3. TRIAL TRENCHING RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

All deposits and features found within the trial trenches are described chronologically below and shown on Figures 2 and 3. Detailed information on deposits and features can be found in Appendix 1.

3.2 Overburden and Geological Deposits

The topsoil comprised 0.14–0.6m of dark brown grey silty clay and sandy silt, with an average thickness of 0.33m. Subsoil was only encountered in three trenches (7, 25 and 29) where it was 0.1–0.28m thick. In all other trenches subsoil was largely absent. The undisturbed geological deposit varied from mid brown orange sandy silt to mid orange yellow sandy clay with variations of light to mid blue grey clay and patches of silty mid orange brown silty gravel.

3.3 Archaeological Remains

Archaeological features were identified in Trenches 5, 8, 16, 18, 19, 24-28. These comprised ten undated ditches. Modern features and deposits were identified in Trenches 2, 3, 24, 30 and 31. A large number of land drains was encountered in all the trenches.

3.3.1 Undated ditches

North-south aligned ditch [502] was recorded in Trench 5. It was 0.73m wide, 0.36m deep and had a U-shaped profile. The fill (503) comprised firm mid blue brown silty clay. No datable artefacts were recovered from it and there were no other archaeological features in its vicinity that might have been associated with it. It was sealed by topsoil (500); subsoil was not present in this trench.

An NW-SE aligned shallow ditch [802] was located near the centre of Trench 8. It was truncated by E-W running land drains. Ditch [802] was 0.41m wide and 0.08m deep. The fill comprised light blue brown silty clay with occasional small stones. No datable finds were recovered from this feature. It was overlaid by topsoil (800). No subsoil was present in this trench.

An E-W aligned ditch [1602] was recorded in Trench 16. It measured 0.29m in width and 0.15m in depth with a U-shaped profile. The fill (1603) comprised friable mid blue grey silty clay with occasional stones. The west side of the ditch was truncated by land drains. No datable finds were recovered. The ditch was overlain by topsoil (1600); no subsoil was present in this trench.

In Trench 18 NNW-SSE aligned ditch [1802] was recorded. It had a U-shaped profile and measured 0.77m in width and 0.28m in depth. The sole fill (1803) comprised friable light brown grey silty clay with occasional stones. The feature was overlain by topsoil (1800) and no datable finds were recovered.

Ditch [1902] which was recorded in Trench 19 was N-S aligned. It measured 0.66m in width and 0.47m in depth with a U-shaped profile. The 0.29m thick lower fill (1903) comprised friable mid blue grey silty clay, likely to originate from initial silting. The upper fill (1904) was 0.17m thick and comprised mid grey brown silty clay; it originates from continuous silting up. No datable



artefacts were recovered from either fill. The feature was beneath topsoil (1900). Subsoil was not present within the trench.

Ditch [1802] and ditch [1902] are on a similar alignment. Although slightly different in profile and depth, they might represent parts of the same drainage ditch.

Trench 24 revealed a large modern trench which is likely to correlate with the water pipe suspected in this area. This modern feature truncated ditch [2404] at the north end of the trench. Ditch [2404] is on an N-S alignment measuring 0.99m in width and 0.28m in depth with a U-shaped profile. The mid grey brown silty clay fill (2405) had a firm compaction and originated from surrounding deposits through natural erosion and silting.

A second ditch [2402] in this trench was on an ESE-WNW alignment; it measured 0.36m in width and 0.06m in depth with a U-shaped profile. The sole fill (2403) of mid blue brown silty clay is likely to originate form natural silting processes. No datable finds were recovered from either of these ditches. Both were sealed by topsoil (2400), as subsoil was not present within the trench.

NW-SE aligned ditch [2503] was recorded at the northern end of Trench 25. It was 0.75m wide and 0.33m deep with a U-shaped profile. The sole fill (2504) comprised friable light brown grey sandy silt with occasional stones. No finds were retrieved from this feature. Although subsoil (2501) was recorded at the southern end of the trench, no subsoil was encountered at the northern end where the ditch was directly overlaid by topsoil (2500).

A NW-SE aligned ditch [2602] was recorded in Trench 26. It measured 1.1m in width and 0.48m in depth with a U-shaped profile. The sole fill (2603) comprised firm mid blue grey silty clay with frequent dark red mottling and occasional stones. No datable finds were recovered from the ditch and a land drain truncated the north-east side. No subsoil was present within the trench so the ditch was overlaid by topsoil (2600).

Trench 27 revealed ditch [2702] on N-S alignment. It was c. 1.7m wide and 0.37m deep with concave sides and a flat base. The base fill (2703) comprised light grey blue silty clay mottled with light orange brown sandy silt probably originating from initial period of silting and periods of water logging; it was 0.2m thick. The upper fill (2704) comprised mid red brown clay silt with occasional stones and was 0.32m thick. It contained 22 highly abraded animal bone fragments (8g) of indeterminate form.

Ditch [2602] and ditch [2702] are on a similar alignment. Size and shape differ and the fills are slightly different, although their mid-dark red brown colouring would suggest the deposit originated from a similar source. Both ditches may be part of the same drainage feature.

In Trench 28 NE-SW aligned ditch [2802] was recorded. It was truncated on both sides by N-S aligned land drains. The ditch measured 1m in width and 0.42m in depth. The sides were steep and the base slightly concave. The sole



fill (2803) comprised light brown grey clay silt. The feature did not produce any datable finds. As no subsoil was present within the trench the ditch was directly overlaid by topsoil (2800).

3.3.2 Modern features

The sewer pipe trench cutting through the NW corner of the PDA could be identified in Trench 2. The water pipe cutting through the NE corner of the PDA could be identified in Trench 24. A large land drain was observed on an N-S alignment running from Trench 8 through to Trench 12.

A layer of modern building debris (302) was encountered in the south-west half of Trench 3 beneath topsoil (300). It measured up to 0.16m in thickness and covered an area of *c*. 3sqm. No subsoil was recorded within the trench.

Trenches 30 and 31 revealed remnants of construction works associated with the sewer pipes located in this area of the PDA in form of possible wheel ruts.

Linear feature [3002] was on E-W alignment, measured 0.75m in width and 0.23m in depth. The profile varied from U-shaped to irregular. The fill (3003) stood out from the other archaeological deposits seen on site. It comprised friable dark brown black clay silt with a moderate amount of small-medium stones. It probably represents backfill material originating from reworked soil.

Trench 31 revealed irregular linear disturbances on a similar alignment to the feature recorded in Trench 30. These features proved on investigation to be of recent origin and are likely to represent remains of wheel ruts originating from the construction works for the sewer pipelines.

Land drains were abundant throughout the PDA and were only recorded where they were in direct vicinity or stratigraphic relationship to archaeological features.

3.3.3 Natural features

Trench 29 revealed a possible palaeochannel at the NE end. It ran on a NE-SW alignment for a distance of 3.1m. A 1m sondage revealed a minimum depth of 0.4m. The extent and true nature of this feature remains unknown due to the limited size of the excavated area. Its location in close vicinity to the regulated stream/ditch and its location near the bottom of the shallow valley support an interpretation as palaeochannel.

The topsoil (3200) build-up in Trench 32, measuring 0.5–0.6m, was much deeper than in any other location on site. A distinctive subsoil layer could not be identified. However, the topsoil overlaid a 0.16–0.2m thick zone of heavy root activity corresponding to a number of medium- and large-sized trees growing alongside the ditch, parallel to Trench 32. This zone overlaid and cut into the mid orange red sandy silt geological deposits at the base of the trench.

A number of other natural features were investigated throughout the site and confirmed as rooting or animal activity; they were deemed not to be of any archaeological value.



4. CONCLUSIONS AND HERITAGE ASSET ASSESSMENT

4.1 Summary and Significance of the Evaluation Results

The archaeological field evaluation uncovered 10 moderately well preserved small to medium-sized ditches throughout the site with a higher feature concentration in the smaller south-eastern part of the PDA.

The fact that subsoil was only present in three trenches, two of which were in the smaller section of the PDA, suggests that some areas of the site might have been stripped in the past, possibly in association with construction works for the A507 and the water and sewage pipes. Evidence for possible wheel ruts in Trenches 31 and 30 could support this.

No datable finds were recovered from the excavated ditches. As they are all beneath topsoil with the subsoil potentially removed at some point in the past, these features have to remain as undated, probable drainage ditches. They are not aligned on the current field boundaries. Their fills mainly comprise fine silt and clay sediments. Both these facts support their interpretation as drainage ditches.

The lack of artefacts from the features suggests that the PDA is located some distance from any prehistoric, Roman or medieval settlement focus within the vicinity. It appears likely that the PDA has been in agricultural use since at least the medieval period.

4.2 Heritage Asset Assessment

The trial trenching undertaken on the site has revealed a small number of heritage assets in the form of sub-surface archaeological remains. They are undated but are likely to represent post-medieval or later drainage ditches.

Although a number of features were found at the site, the recovered evidence suggests they are of limited archaeological interest and of no more than local significance only. They have no potential to address published research frameworks for the area.

Development of the site for football pitches is likely to have a negative impact on the identified heritage assets. The significance of this impact is considered to be negligible, given the low significance of the affected assets.



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6. APPENDIX 1: TRENCH SUMMARIES



Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.34 m. Max: 0.42 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 2985: Northing: 36348)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 2971: Northing: 36310)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds Present	:
100	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey silty clay occasional small stones 0.34-0.42m thic	k 🗆 🗆	
101	Natural	Friable light orange brown clay silt Occasional patches of gravel and light blue grey clay;	t]



Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.32 m. Max: 0.34 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3009: Northing: 36384)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 50297: Northing: 36377)

Context:	Type:	Description: Ex	cavated: Finds P	resent:
200	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey silty clay occasional small stones 0.32-0.34m thick	✓	
201	Natural	Friable mid brown orange sandy silt Occasional light blue grey clay patches		



Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.02 m. Max: 0.38 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 2991: Northing: 36309)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3026: Northing: 36289)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds Pre	esent:
300	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey clay silt occasional small stones 0.24-0.38m thick	✓	
301	Natural	Friable mid yellow brown sandy silt Occasional patches of compact grave	ı	
302	Dump material	Firm mid blue grey silty clay occasional large stones, occasional small- medium stones Up to 0.16m thick, only in SW-end of trench, seals land drai	✓	



Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.36 m. Max: 0.38 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3021: Northing: 36326)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3046: Northing: 36295)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds Pres	sent:
400	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey silty clay occasional small stones 0.36-0.38m thic	.	
401	Natural	Friable mid yellow brown sandy silt occasional small sand		



Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.34 m. Max: 0.38 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3027: Northing: 36380)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3009: Northing: 36344)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds Present	:
500	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey silty clay occasional small stones 0.38m thick	✓	
501	Natural	Friable mid brown orange sandy silt occasional small-medium stones Occasional light blue grey clay patches]
502	Ditch	Linear N-S sides: U-shaped base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.73m max depth 0.36m, min length 3.m	, 🗸	
503	Fill	Firm mid blue brown silty clay moderate small-medium stones 0.36m thick		



Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 34. m. Max: 0.38 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3046: Northing: 36325)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3083: Northing: 36310)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds Pre	sent:
600	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey silty clay occasional small stones 0.34-0.38m thic	k 🗸	
601	Natural	Friable mid brown orange silty sand Patches of compacted gravel and lig blue grey clay	ht \square	



Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.42 m. Max: 0.46 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3047: Northing: 36383)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3058: Northing: 36345)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Fine	ds Present:
700	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey silty clay occasional small stones 0.38m thick	✓	
701	Subsoil	Friable mid orange brown sandy silt occasional small stones C. 0.1m thick, diffuse boundaries	~	
702	Natural	Friable mid yellow brown clay silt Occasional patches of compact silty gravel and light blue grey clay		



Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.32 m. Max: 0.38 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3121: Northing: 36294)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3081: Northing: 36291)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds Present:
800	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey silty clay occasional small stones C. 0.38m thick	
801	Natural	Friable mid orange brown sandy clay Occasional gravel and clay patches	
802	Ditch	Linear NW-SE sides: U-shaped base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.41m, max depth 0.08m, min length 2.1m	V
803	Fill	Friable light blue brown silty clay occasional small-medium stones 0.08m thick	



Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.34 m. Max: 0.36 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3124: Northing: 36339)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3085: Northing: 36330)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds Presen	t:
900	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey silty clay occasional small stones 0.34-0.36m thic	√	
901	Natural	Friable mid orange brown silty clay Gravel and clay patches		



Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.34 m. Max: 0.36 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3120: Northing: 36363)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3080: Northing: 36360)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds Present	t:
1000	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey silty clay occasional small stones 0.34-0.36m thic	k 🗸	
1001	Natural	Friable mid yellow brown silty clay Moderate gravel and clay patches		



Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.32 m. Max: 0.34 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3136: Northing: 36398)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3100: Northing: 36380)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds Preser	nt:
1100	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey silty clay occasional small stones 0.32-0.34m thic	k 🗸	
1101	Natural	Friable mid yellow brown sandy clay Occasional silty gravel patches and clay patches		



Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.24 m. Max: 0.3 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3101: Northing: 36398)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3061: Northing: 36394)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds Present:
1200	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey silty clay occasional small-medium stones 0.24-0.3m thick	V
1201	Natural	Firm mid brown orange sandy silt With occasional light blue grey silty clapatches	ау 🗆 🗆



Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.34 m. Max: 0.36 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3124: Northing: 36318)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3155: Northing: 36292)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds Present:
1300	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey silty clay occasional small stones 0.34-0.36m thic	√
1301	Natural	Firm mid brown orange silty clay Occasional patches of silty gravel	



Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.32 m. Max: 0.38 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3166: Northing: 36320)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3191: Northing: 36289)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds	Present:
1400	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey silty clay occasional small stones 0.32-0.38m thick	✓	
1401	Natural	Friable mid orange brown sandy silt Variations of dark blue grey silty cla and silty gravel	у 🗆	



Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.28 m. Max: 0.34 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3186: Northing: 36354)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3149: Northing: 36338)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds Present:
1500	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey silty clay occasional small stones 0.28-0.34m thic	√
1501	Natural	Firm mid orange yellow sandy silt With variations of yellow grey silty cla and silty gravel	у



Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.32 m. Max: 0.38 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3168: Northing: 36402)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3156: Northing: 36364)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1600	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey silty clay occasional small stones 0.32-0.38m thick	✓	
1601	Natural	Firm mid orange brown sandy silt moderate small-medium stones Gravel and light orange yellow clay patches		
1602	Ditch	Linear E-W sides: U-shaped base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.29n max depth 0.15m, min length 2.m Drainage gully, truncated by land drains	*	
1603	Fill	Friable mid blue grey silty clay occasional small-medium stones 0.15m thick	✓	



Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.34 m. Max: 0.36 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3200: Northing: 36316)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3229: Northing: 36288)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds Preser	nt:
1700	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey silty clay occasional small stones 0.34-0.38m thic	k 🗸	
1701	Natural	Friable mid orange brown sandy silt Variations of blue grey and brown yellow silty clay and gravel patches		



Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.32 m. Max: 0.38 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3235: Northing: 36311)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3268: Northing: 36290)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1800	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey silty clay occasional small stones 0.32-0.38m thick	✓	
1801	Natural	Friable mid brown yellow sandy silt With clay and gravel variations		
1802	Ditch	Linear NNE-SSW sides: U-shaped base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.77m, max depth 0.28m, min length 2.m	V	
1803	Fill	Friable light brown grey silty clay occasional small-medium stones 0.28m thick	✓	



Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.36 m. Max: 0.36 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3267: Northing: 36330)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3227: Northing: 36334)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds Presen	t:
1900	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey silty clay occasional small stones 0.36m thick	V	
1901	Natural	Friable mid orange brown sandy clay moderate small-medium stones Variations of gravel patches		
1902	Ditch	Linear N-S sides: U-shaped base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.66m max depth 0.47m, min length 2.m	, v	
1903	Lower fill	Friable mid blue grey silty clay occasional small-medium stones 0.29m thick	✓	
1904	Upper fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay occasional small-medium stones 0.17m thick		



Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.34 m. Max: 0.34 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3236: Northing: 36366)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3203: Northing: 36344)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds Present:
2000	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey silty clay occasional small stones 0.34m thick	V
2001	Natural	Friable mid orange brown sandy silt Variations of clay and gravel patche	es \Box



Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.32 m. Max: 0.38 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3262: Northing: 36383)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3271: Northing: 36345)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds Present:
2100	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey silty clay occasional small stones 0.32-0.38m thic	√
2101	Natural	Firm mid orange brown silty clay Variations of clay and gravel	



Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.32 m. Max: 0.34 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3242: Northing: 36389)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3203: Northing: 36386)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds Pre	esent:
2200	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey silty clay occasional small stones 0.32-0.34m thic	k 🗸	
2201	Natural	Firm mid orange brown silty clay Variations of light blue grey clay and clayey gravel		



Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.14 m. Max: 0.28 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3230: Northing: 36409)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3190: Northing: 36410)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds Present:
2300	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey silty clay occasional small stones 0.14-0.28m thick	V
2301	Natural	Firm mid orange brown silty clay Variations of clayey gravel patches	



Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.3 m. Max: 0.34 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3259: Northing: 36434)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3292: Northing: 36412)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
2400	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey silty clay occasional small stones 0.3-0.34m thick	✓	
2401	Natural	Friable mid orange brown silty clay Variations of sandy gravel patches		
2402	Ditch	Linear ESE-WNW sides: U-shaped base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.36m, max depth 0.06m, min length 2.m	h 🗸	
2403	Fill	Firm mid blue brown silty clay occasional small-medium stones 0.06m thick	✓	
2404	Ditch	Linear NE-SW sides: U-shaped base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.99m, max depth 0.28m, min length 1.5m	✓	
2405	Fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay occasional small-medium stones 0.28m thick	✓	



Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.33 m. Max: 0.4 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3307: Northing: 36233)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3303: Northing: 36193)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
2500	Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown sandy silt occasional small-medium stones 0.23m-0.33m thick		
2501	Subsoil	Friable mid red brown sandy silt occasional small-medium stones Not present at north-end of trench; at south end of trench c. 0.17m thick	✓	
2502	Natural	Plastic light yellow orange clay silt		
2503	Ditch	Linear NW-SE sides: U-shaped base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.75m, max depth 0.33m, min length 2.m	V	
2504	Fill	Friable light brown grey sandy silt occasional small-medium stones 0.33m thick	✓	



Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.36 m. Max: 0.38 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3373: Northing: 36204)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3335: Northing: 36192)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
2600	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey silty clay occasional small stones 0.36-0.38m thick	· ·	
2601	Natural	Friable mid brown yellow silty clay Variations of light blue grey sandy cla and gravel patches	у 🗆	
2602	Ditch	Linear NW-SE sides: U-shaped base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.1m, max depth 0.48m, min length 2.m Base diffuse due to variations in natural	✓	
2603	Fill	Firm mid blue grey silty clay occasional small-medium stones Frequent dark red brown motteling	✓	



Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.31 m. Max: 0.33 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3370: Northing: 36222)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3331: Northing: 36217)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
2700	Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown clay silt occasional small stones 0.31-0.33m thick	✓	
2701	Natural	Friable mid orange brown silty clay Variations of light grey white silty cla and silty sand and gravel patches	у	
2702	Ditch	Linear N-S sides: concave base: flat dimensions: max breadth 1.7m, max depth 0.37m, min length 2.m	✓	
2703	Lower fill	Friable light grey blue silty clay occasional small stones Base fill mottled with light orange brown sandy silt; 0.2m thick	✓	
2704	Upper fill	Friable mid red brown clay silt occasional small stones 0.32m thick	✓	✓



Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.27 m. Max: 0.3 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3317: Northing: 36251)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3355: Northing: 36239)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
2800	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey clay silt occasional small-medium stones 0.27-0.31 thick	m 🗸	
2801	Natural	Friable mid orange red clay silt occasional large stones		
2802	Ditch	Linear NE-SW sides: steep base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.m, m depth 0.42m, min length 2.m	ax 🗸	
2803	Fill	Friable light brown grey clay silt occasional small stones 0.42m thick	✓	



Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.48 m. Max: 0.54 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3432: Northing: 36249)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3400: Northing: 36225)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Fin	nds Present:
2900	Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown clay silt occasional small stones 0.26-0.28m thick	V	
2901	Subsoil	Friable mid blue grey clay silt Mottled with dark red brown; 0.2-0.28m thick	✓	
2902	Natural	Friable mid orange red sandy silt Variations of mid blue grey silty clay an moderate gravel patches	d \square	



Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.24 m. Max: 0.4 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3412: Northing: 36251)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3373: Northing: 36241)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
3000	Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown clay silt occasional small-medium stones 0.24-0.4r thick	n 🗸	
3001	Natural	Friable mid orange red sandy clay occasional large stones, occasional medium stones		
3002	Wheel ruts	Linear NW-SE sides: U-shaped base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.75m, max depth 0.23m, min length 5.m Posible machine wheel rut, partly un even	✓	
3003	Fill	Friable dark brown black clay silt moderate small-medium stones Reworked soil or redeposited re-worked topsoil, 0.23m thick	ı 🗸	



Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.35 m. Max: 0.48 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3454: Northing: 36279)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3414: Northing: 36274)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds Pr	esent:
3100	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey sandy silt occasional small stones 0.25-0.42m thic	k 🗸	
3101	Natural	Friable light orange brown silty sand With variations, clay and gravel patches		



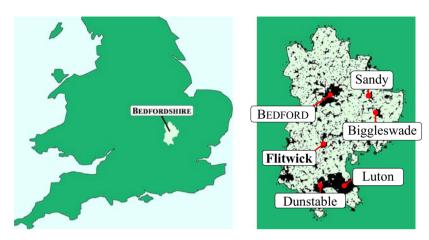
Max Dimensions: Length: 40.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.5 m. Max: 0.6 m.

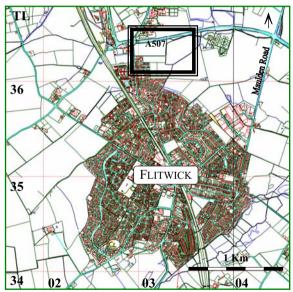
Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3520: Northing: 36284)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 3486: Northing: 36262)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds Preser	ıt:
3200	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey sandy silt occasional small stones 0.5-0.6m thick	V	
3201	Natural	Friable mid orange red sandy silt occasional small stones Heavy root disturbances by large trees (oaks) growing alongside the trench location		







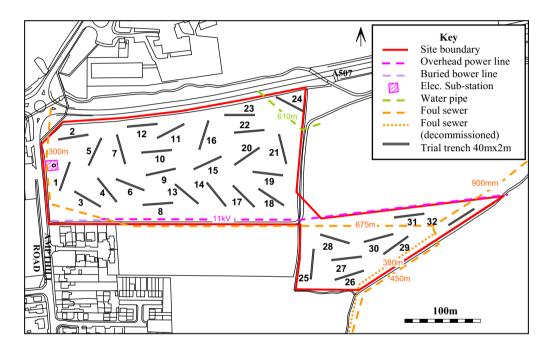


Figure 1: Site and trench location plan

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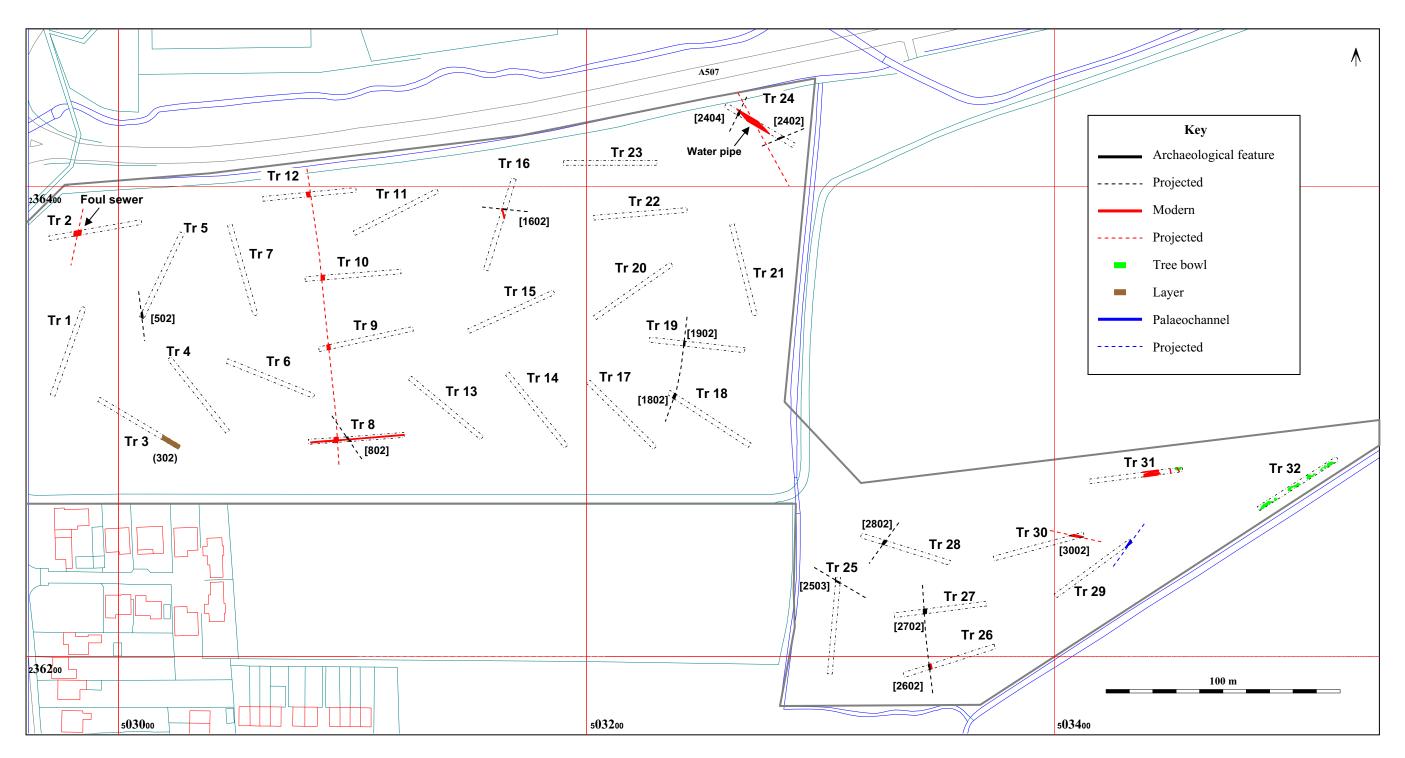
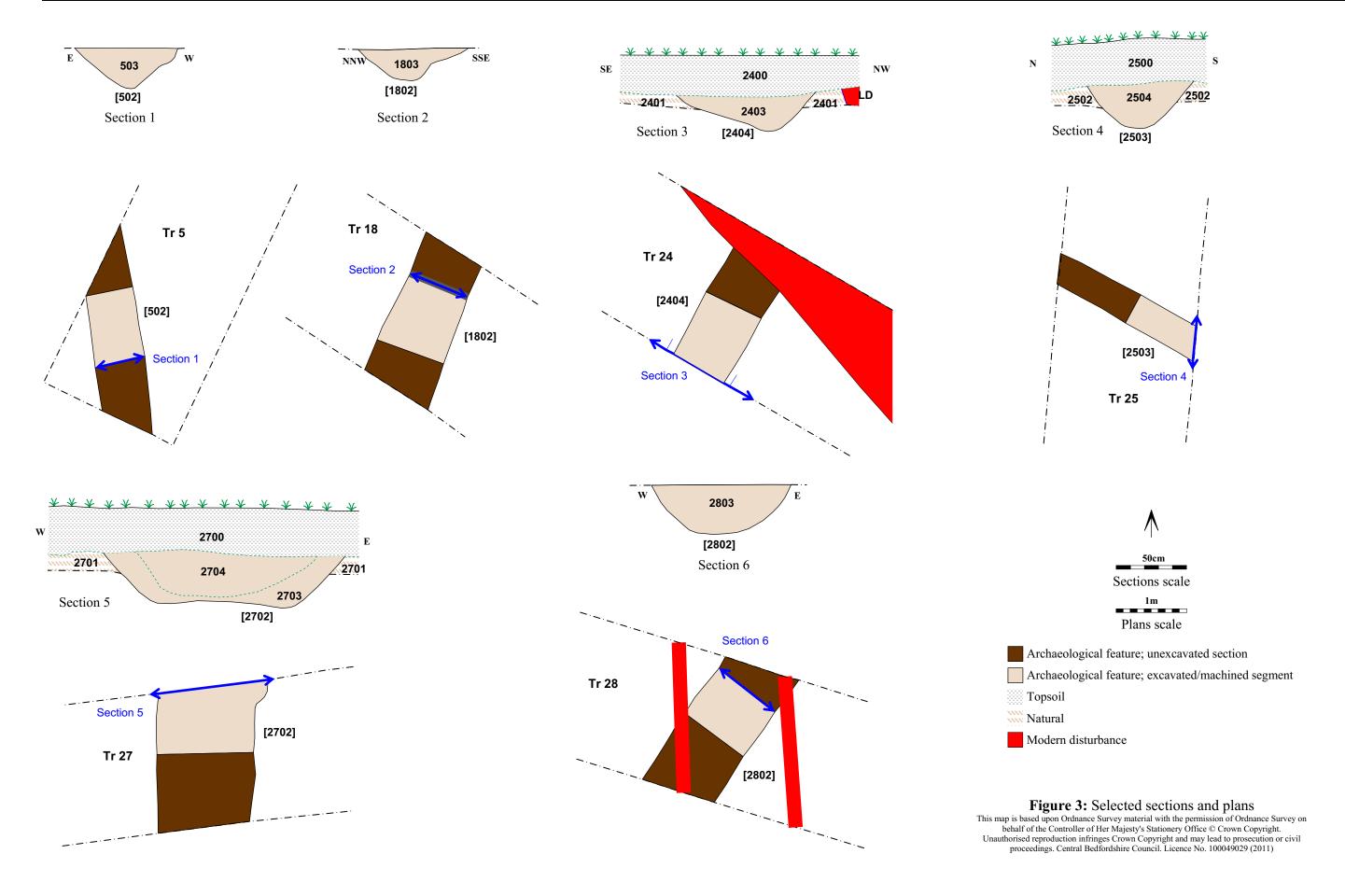


Figure 2: All features plan

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