

**SKYLARK MEADOW SOLAR PARK — PHASE 2
BOURN
CAMBRIDGESHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH
EVALUATION**

Albion
archaeology



**SKYLARK MEADOW SOLAR PARK — PHASE 2
BOURN
CAMBRIDGESHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH
EVALUATION**

Project: SM2204
CHER Event No. ECB4005
Oasis ref. no: albionar1-157390

Document: 2013/152
Version 1.0

Compiled by	Checked by	Approved by
Kathy Pilkinton	Robert Wardill	Drew Shotliff

25th September 2013

Produced for:
Oakes Environmental



Contents

Non-Technical Summary	3
1. INTRODUCTION	4
1.1 Planning Background	4
1.2 Site Location	4
1.3 Archaeological Background	4
1.4 Project Objectives	5
2. METHODOLOGY	6
3. RESULTS	7
3.1 Introduction	7
3.2 Overburden and Undisturbed Geological Deposits	7
3.3 Archaeological Deposits	7
4. CONCLUSIONS	9
5. BIBLIOGRAPHY	10
6. APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT DETAILS	11
7. APPENDIX 2: OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM	24

List of Figures

Figure 1: Site and trench location

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 Oakes Environmental and monitored on behalf of the Local Planning Authority by Dan McConnell of the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team.

The fieldwork was undertaken by Kathy Pilkinton (Archaeological Supervisor) and Slawek Utrata (Assistant Archaeological Supervisor) under the management of Rob Wardill (Project Manager). This report was prepared by Kathy Pilkinton with contributions from Joan Lightning (CAD Technician).

Albion Archaeology
 St Mary's Church
 St Mary's Street
 Bedford, MK42 0AS
 ☎: 0300 300 8141
 Fax: 0300 300 8209
 e-mail: office@albion-arch.com

Version History

<i>Version</i>	<i>Issue date</i>	<i>Reason for re-issue</i>
1.0	25/09/2013	n/a

Key Terms

The following abbreviations are used throughout this report:

CHER	Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record
HET	Historic Environment Team of Cambridgeshire County Council
IfA	Institute for Archaeologists
LPA	Local Planning Authority
PD	Project Design
SCDC	South Cambridgeshire District Council



Non-Technical Summary

A planning application for the expansion of an existing solar park at Skylark Meadow, Bourn, is in preparation for submission to South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC).

To ascertain the impact of the proposed development on potential archaeological remains, the Cambridgeshire County Council's Historic Environment Team (HET) advised SCDC that an archaeological evaluation of the site would be required.

The trial trenching took place between 27th August and 4th September 2013. Twelve trenches, each 30m in length, were opened along the line of the proposed cable trench.

Trenches 5, 8 and 10 produced remains of archaeological interest.

An isolated ditch in Trench 5, which produced a very small amount of pottery, may represent the remains of a Roman boundary feature. It does not appear to be part of a wider field system, although an undated ditch in Trench 8, c. 140m to the south, does run on a superficially similar alignment.

Two further intercutting ditches were revealed in Trench 5. They produced no dating evidence, although their form, the presence of burnt stone and absence of later artefacts could suggest that they are pre-medieval in date.

The shallow remains of furrows in Trenches 7-11 suggest that the majority of the medieval ridge and furrow has been removed by later ploughing. The absence of subsoil would also support this and would suggest possible plough truncation of any shallower archaeological remains that might exist in the immediate area.

The limited archaeological remains in the trenches and the paucity of artefacts are indicative of low level, past human activity within the study area. This is likely to have been agricultural in nature rather than settlement-related.



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 *Planning Background*

A planning application for the expansion of an existing solar park at Skylark Meadow, Bourn, is in preparation for submission to South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC).

To ascertain the impact of the proposed development on potential archaeological remains, the Cambridgeshire County Council's Historic Environment Team (HET) advised SCDC that an archaeological evaluation of the site would be required.

The results of the evaluation, detailed below, will characterise the archaeological potential of the site and help the HET to determine whether there is any need for further investigation in the event that planning permission is granted.

1.2 *Site Location*

The proposed Phase 2 solar park comprises two areas, 2A and 2B, totalling c.16.4ha (Figures 1 and 2). They are located on open arable land, approximately 11km to the west of Cambridge, midway between Cambourne and the village of Bourn. Area 2A is centred on grid reference TL3249 5800, and Area 2B on TL3199 5776.

The ground lies at a height of c. 50–55m OD. The geology of the area comprises Woburn Sands deposits.

The proposed solar park will comprise approximately 23,800 photovoltaic panels fixed in place by ground screws. The arrays will be connected to the national grid by cabling buried within trenches approximately 1m deep.

1.3 *Archaeological Background*

The site sits within an extensive landscape of medieval ridge and furrow, (CHER MCB11377), with further associated medieval features such as a droveway and field systems (CHER MCB4231).

During evaluation to the north of the site in 1999, a small mid-Iron Age to early Romano-British farmstead (CHER MCB 15432) was discovered. To the south-east, an enclosure of unknown date (CHER MCB15583) was identified during an aerial photographic survey.

The archaeological trial trench evaluation of three transformer sites for the first phase of the solar park revealed two cultivation furrows, associated with medieval or post-medieval agricultural activity, and a modern field drain (CHER ECB3524). Cultivation furrows are common in the region and are of only local archaeological significance. The modern field drain is of no archaeological interest. No other archaeological remains or deposits were encountered in the trenches (Albion Archaeology 2011).



1.4 Project Objectives

The principal objective of the evaluation was to determine whether archaeological remains were present at the proposed development site and, if so, to determine their location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality.

The broader objective of the project was to add to the knowledge and understanding of the origins and nature of past human activity in the area.



2. METHODOLOGY

The trial trenching took place between 27th August and 4th September 2013. Twelve trenches, each 30m long, were opened along the line of the proposed cable trench (Figures 1 and 2). Trenches 1 and 2 were moved north to avoid power lines and Trenches 3 and 4 were moved west to leave a trackway clear. Trench 5 was later extended to allow better interpretation of two large ditches at its west end.

The trenches were opened by a mechanical excavator fitted with a flat-edged bucket, operated by an experienced driver under close archaeological supervision. Overburden was removed down to the top of the archaeological deposits or undisturbed geological deposits, whichever were encountered first.

Any potential archaeological features were cleaned, excavated by hand and recorded using Albion Archaeology's pro forma sheets. All deposits were assigned a unique context number commencing at 100 for Trench 1, and 200 for Trench 2 etc. Each trench was subsequently drawn and photographed as appropriate.

A full methodology is provided in the PD (Albion Archaeology 2013). The project adhered throughout to the standards prescribed in the following documents:

• Albion Archaeology	<i>Procedures Manual: Volume 1 Fieldwork</i> (2nd edn, 2001).
• ALGAO (east)	<i>Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England</i>
• CCC	<i>Deposition of Archaeological Archives in the Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Store</i> (HER 2004/1).
• English Heritage	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i> (2009)
	<i>Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation</i> (2011)
• IfA	<i>By-Laws and Code of Conduct</i>
	<i>Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation</i>

The archive of finds and records generated during the project will be deposited with the Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Store under event number ECB4005.

Details of the project and its findings will be submitted to the Archaeology Data Service's OASIS database under reference number albionar1-157390.



3. RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

All deposits found during the investigations are described below and shown in Figures 2 and 3. Detailed information on all features and deposits can be found in Appendix 1.

3.2 Overburden and Undisturbed Geological Deposits

Ploughsoil comprising brown grey clayey silt and measuring 0.25–0.35m thick was present in all trenches.

Subsoil comprising mid grey brown, silty clay with occasional small stones and chalk fragments was present in all trenches and was a maximum of 0.15m thick. This probably represents disturbance of the underlying geological deposits through ploughing rather than a separate deposit.

The underlying geology consisted of light brown grey clay with chalk and flint fragments. The only significant variation was yellow grey sandy clay, present at the west end of Trench 5.

3.3 Archaeological Deposits

3.3.1 Roman

In Trench 10, a single, shallow, U-shaped ditch [1005], aligned broadly E-W, produced four small Roman pottery sherds, datable to the 2nd century. They comprise three coarse ware body sherds (4g), deriving from one vessel, and a crumb of samian ware (1g). The ditch measured 1.1m wide and 0.3m deep and was filled with a dark grey silty clay.

3.3.2 Medieval/post-medieval

Trenches 7-11 contained the remains of medieval ridge and furrow ploughing on a NW-SE alignment. The furrows were 0.9–1.5m wide and were typically *c.*6.5m apart. An excavated segment through furrow [1003] produced a highly abraded sherd of 17th-century glazed earthenware (3g), and two sand-tempered sherds (4g) of possible late medieval reduced ware.

A shallow ditch aligned NW-SE [403] featured two land drains in its base. This feature may represent a drainage ditch or the remains of a deeper furrow utilised for a later drainage system.

3.3.3 Undated

A small E-W aligned ditch [805] in Trench 8 was 0.6m wide and 0.35m deep; it produced no dating evidence.

Trench 5 revealed the intersection of two large ditches. Ditch [503] was V-shaped in profile with a flat base. It was 1m deep and 1.75m wide. However, it was heavily truncated by a large U shaped ditch [506], which was 3.6m wide and 1.1m deep. Both ditches were filled with sandy clays containing occasional burnt stones and flecks of charcoal. No datable artefacts were



recovered. The fills of [506] produced 18 abraded animal bone fragments (28g) of indeterminate species, and an amorphous piece of fired clay (6g).



4. CONCLUSIONS

Trenches 5, 8 and 10 produced remains of archaeological interest.

Although it produced only a very small amount of pottery, the isolated ditch [1005] in Trench 5 may represent the remains of a Roman boundary feature. No evidence was revealed to suggest that it was part of a wider field system. The undated ditch in Trench 8 runs on a superficially similar alignment, although it is *c.* 140m from the ditch in Trench 5.

Although the two ditches in Trench 5 produced no dating evidence, their form, the presence of burnt stone and absence of later artefacts could suggest that they are pre-medieval in date.

The shallow furrow remains in Trenches 7-11 suggest that the majority of the medieval ridge and furrow has been destroyed by later ploughing. The lack of subsoil would also support this and suggests the possible plough truncation of any shallower archaeological remains that might exist in the immediate area.

The limited archaeological remains in the trenches and the paucity of artefacts are indicative of low level, past human activity within the study area. This is likely to have been agricultural in nature rather than settlement-related.



5. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Albion Archaeology 2011, *Skylark Meadow Solar Park, Chapman's Farm, Bourn, Cambridgeshire: Archaeological Trial Trenching*. Document ref. 2011/15.

Albion Archaeology 2013, *Skylark Meadow Solar Park Phase 2, Bourn, Cambridgeshire: Project Design for Archaeological Evaluation*. Document ref. 2013/125.



6. APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT DETAILS



Trench: 1

Max Dimensions: Length: 30.00 m. Width: 1.80 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.35 m. Max: 0.4 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 31916: Northing: 57671)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 31887: Northing: 57668)

Reason: Investigate line of proposed service trench

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
100	Ploughsoil	Friable, dark brown grey, clayey silt. Occasional small - medium stones. Thickness: 0.3m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
101	Subsoil	Firm, mid grey brown, silty clay. Occasional small stones and chalk fragments. Disturbance of natural by ploughing / remains of ridge and furrow. Thickness: 0.1m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
102	Natural	Firm, light brown grey, clay. Moderate chalk and flint fragments.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 2

Max Dimensions: Length: 30.00 m. Width: 1.80 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.3 m. Max: 0.4 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 32015: Northing: 57678)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 31985: Northing: 57676)

Reason: Investigate line of proposed service trench

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
200	Ploughsoil	Friable, dark brown grey, clayey silt. Occasional small - medium stones. Thickness: 0.25-0.3m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
201	Subsoil	Firm, mid grey brown, silty clay. Occasional small stones and chalk fragments. Disturbance of natural by ploughing / remains of ridge and furrow. Thickness: 0.05-0.1m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
202	Natural	Firm, light brown grey, clay. Moderate chalk and flint fragments.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 3

Max Dimensions: Length: 30.00 m. Width: 1.80 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.35 m. Max: 0.5 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 32072: Northing: 57732)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 32062: Northing: 57704)

Reason: Investigate line of proposed service trench

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
300	Ploughsoil	Friable, dark brown grey, clayey silt. Occasional small - medium stones. Thickness: 0.25m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
301	Subsoil	Firm, mid grey brown, silty clay. Occasional small stones and chalk fragments. Disturbance of natural by ploughing / remains of ridge and furrow. Thickness: 0.1-0.2m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
302	Natural	Firm, light brown grey, clay. Moderate chalk and flint fragments.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 4

Max Dimensions: Length: 30.00 m. Width: 1.80 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.35 m. Max: 0.4 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 32092: Northing: 57818)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 32087: Northing: 25778)

Reason: Investigate line of proposed service trench

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
400	Ploughsoil	Friable, dark brown grey, clayey silt. Occasional small - medium stones. Thickness: 0.3m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
401	Subsoil	Firm, mid grey brown, silty clay. Occasional small stones and chalk fragments. Disturbance of natural by ploughing / remains of ridge and furrow. Thickness: 0.05m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
402	Natural	Firm, light brown grey, clay. Moderate chalk and flint fragments.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
403	Ditch	Linear E-W sides: steep base: uneven dimensions: max breadth 0.9m, min depth 0.4m, min length 1.8m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
404	Backfill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay occasional flecks chalk, occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 5

Max Dimensions: Length: 30.00 m. Width: 4.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.5 m. Max: 0.6 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 32030: Northing: 57861)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 32058: Northing: 57851)

Reason: Investigate line of proposed service trench

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
500	Ploughsoil	Friable, dark brown grey, clayey silt. Occasional small - medium stones. Thickness: 0.3m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
501	Subsoil	Firm mid grey orange clay sand Thickness: 0.3m Thicker subsoil, possibly due to position towards base of slope.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
502	Natural	Firm, light brown grey, clay. Moderate chalk and flint fragments. Greyish yellow silty sand patches, concentrated at west end.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
503	Ditch	Linear E-W sides: near vertical base: flat dimensions: max breadth 1.75m, max depth 1.m, min length 1.5m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
504	Fill	Friable mid orange brown sandy clay Thickness: 0.3m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
505	Fill	Friable mid brown grey sandy clay occasional flecks charcoal Thickness: 0.9m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
506	Ditch	Linear NE-SW sides: 45 degrees base: flat dimensions: max breadth 3.6m, max depth 1.1m, min length 0.8m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
507	Fill	Firm mid grey brown clay occasional medium-large burnt stones, frequent medium-large stones Thickness:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
508	Fill	Firm mid grey orange sandy clay Thickness: 0.3m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
509	Fill	Friable mid brown orange clay sand Thickness: 0.08m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
510	Fill	Firm mid grey orange sandy clay Thickness: 0.25m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
511	Fill	Plastic dark grey silty clay occasional flecks charcoal Thickness: 0.25m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
512	Fill	Firm mid orange grey sandy clay occasional medium burnt stones, occasional flecks charcoal Thickness: 0.55m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
513	Fill	Firm mid orange grey sandy clay occasional medium burnt stones, occasional flecks charcoal Thickness: 0.22m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
514	Fill	Firm dark brown grey sandy clay occasional medium burnt stones, occasional flecks charcoal Thickness: 0.43m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 6

Max Dimensions: Length: 30.00 m. Width: 1.80 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.4 m. Max: 0.4 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 32396: Northing: 57825)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 32366: Northing: 57825)

Reason: Investigate line of proposed service trench

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
600	Ploughsoil	Friable, dark brown grey, clayey silt. Occasional small - medium stones. Thickness: 0.25m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
601	Subsoil	Firm, mid grey brown, silty clay. Occasional small stones and chalk fragments. Disturbance of natural by ploughing / remains of ridge and furrow. Thickness: 0.15m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
602	Natural	Firm, light brown grey, clay. Moderate chalk and flint fragments.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 7

Max Dimensions: Length: 30.00 m. Width: 1.80 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.4 m. Max: 0.4 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 32457: Northing: 57884)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 32457: Northing: 57854)

Reason: Investigate line of proposed service trench

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
700	Ploughsoil	Friable, dark brown grey, clayey silt. Occasional small - medium stones. Thickness:0.3m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
701	Subsoil	Firm, mid grey brown, silty clay. Occasional small stones and chalk fragments. Disturbance of natural by ploughing / remains of ridge and furrow. Thickness: 0.1m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
702	Natural	Firm, light brown grey, clay. Moderate chalk and flint fragments.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
703	Furrow	Linear NW-SE dimensions: max breadth 1.5m, min length 1.8m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
704	Fill	Friable light grey brown clay silt occasional flecks chalk, occasional small stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 8

Max Dimensions: Length: 30.00 m. Width: 1.80 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.4 m. Max: 0.4 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 32494: Northing: 57971)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 32494: Northing: 57941)

Reason: Investigate line of proposed service trench

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
800	Ploughsoil	Friable, dark brown grey, clayey silt. Occasional small - medium stones. Thickness: 0.3m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
801	Subsoil	Firm, mid grey brown, silty clay. Occasional small stones and chalk fragments. Disturbance of natural by ploughing / remains of ridge and furrow. Thickness: 0.05m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
802	Natural	Firm, light brown grey, clay. Moderate chalk and flint fragments.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
803	Furrow	Linear NW-SE dimensions: max breadth 1.2m, min length 1.8m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
804	Fill	Friable light grey brown clay silt occasional small chalk, occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
805	Ditch	Linear E-W sides: V-Shaped base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.58m, max depth 0.35m, min length 1.8m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
806	Fill	Firm mid yellow brown silty clay occasional small chalk, occasional small stones Thickness: 0.12m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
807	Fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones Thickness: 0.23m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 9

Max Dimensions: Length: 30.00 m. Width: 1.80 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.35 m. Max: 0.4 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 32524: Northing: 58046)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 32494: Northing: 58046)

Reason: Investigate line of proposed service trench

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
900	Ploughsoil	Friable, dark brown grey, clayey silt. Occasional small - medium stones. Thickness: 0.35m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
901	Subsoil	Firm, mid grey brown, silty clay. Occasional small stones and chalk fragments. Disturbance of natural by ploughing / remains of ridge and furrow. Thickness: 0.05m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
902	Natural	Firm, light brown grey, clay. Moderate chalk and flint fragments.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
903	Furrow	Linear NW-SE sides: convex base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.m, min length 1.8m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
904	Fill	Friable mid brown grey clay silt occasional small stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 10

Max Dimensions: Length: 30.00 m. Width: 1.80 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.45 m. Max: 0.7 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 32544: Northing: 58116)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 32538: Northing: 58087)

Reason: Investigate line of proposed service trench

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1000	Ploughsoil	Friable, dark brown grey, clayey silt. Occasional small - medium stones. Thickness: 0.35 - 0.5m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1001	Subsoil	Firm, mid grey brown, silty clay. Occasional small stones and chalk fragments. Disturbance of natural by ploughing / remains of ridge and furrow. Thickness: 0.1-0.2m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1002	Natural	Firm, light brown grey, clay. Moderate chalk and flint fragments.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1003	Furrow	Linear NW-SE sides: concave base: flat dimensions: max breadth 2.7m, max depth 0.2m, max length 1.8m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1004	Fill	Friable light grey brown clay silt Thickness: 0.2m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1005	Ditch	Linear E-W sides: concave base: flat dimensions: max breadth 1.1m, max depth 0.32m, min length 1.8m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1006	Fill	Firm mid brown silty clay occasional flecks chalk Thickness: 0.1m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1007	Fill	Firm dark grey brown silty clay occasional flecks chalk, occasional small stones Thickness: 0.25m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 11

Max Dimensions: Length: 30.00 m. Width: 1.80 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.45 m. Max: 0.45 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 32524: Northing: 58179)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 32524: Northing: 58149)

Reason: Investigate line of proposed service trench

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1100	Ploughsoil	Friable, dark brown grey, clayey silt. Occasional small - medium stones. Thickness: 0.3m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1101	Subsoil	Firm, mid grey brown, silty clay. Occasional small stones and chalk fragments. Disturbance of natural by ploughing / remains of ridge and furrow. Thickness: 0.15m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1102	Natural	Firm, light brown grey, clay. Moderate chalk and flint fragments.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1103	Furrow	Linear NW-SE sides: convex base: flat dimensions: max breadth 1.3m, min length 1.8m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1107	Fill	Friable mid brown grey clay silt occasional flecks chalk, occasional small stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 12

Max Dimensions: Length: 30.00 m. Width: 1.80 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.35 m. Max: 0.4 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 32462: Northing: 58200)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 32433: Northing: 58206)

Reason: Investigate line of proposed service trench

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1200	Ploughsoil	Friable, dark brown grey, clayey silt. Occasional small - medium stones. Thickness: 0.3m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1201	Subsoil	Firm, mid grey brown, silty clay. Occasional small stones and chalk fragments. Disturbance of natural by ploughing / remains of ridge and furrow. Thickness: 0.1m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1202	Natural	Firm, light brown grey, clay. Moderate chalk and flint fragments.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



7. APPENDIX 2: OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM

OASIS ID: *albionar1-157390*

Project details

Project name	Skylark Meadow Solar Park — Phase 2
Short description of the project	A planning application for the expansion of an existing solar park at Skylark Meadow, Bourn, is in preparation for submission to South Cambridgeshire District Council. Twelve trenches were opened along the line of the proposed cable trench. Three trenches produced remains of archaeological interest. A ditch in Trench 10 may represent the remains of a Roman boundary feature. An undated ditch was found in Trench 8. Two ditches in Trench 5 produced no dating evidence, although their form, the presence of burnt stone and lack of later artefacts recovered could suggest that they are pre-medieval in origin. Shallow furrow remains in Trenches 7-11 suggest that the majority of the ridge and furrow has been destroyed by later ploughing. The lack of subsoil would also support this and suggests possible plough truncation of any shallower archaeological remains that might exist in the immediate area. The limited archaeological remains in the trenches and the paucity of artefacts are indicative of low level, past human activity, which is probably agricultural in origin rather than settlement-related.
Project dates	Start: 27-08-2013 End: 04-09-2013
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	SM2204 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	ECB4005 - HER event no.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Monument type	DITCH Roman
Monument type	FURROWS Post Medieval
Monument type	DITCH Uncertain
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Uncertain
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Solar park
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	Between deposition of an application and determination

Project location

Country	England
Site location	CAMBRIDGESHIRE SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE BOURN Skylark Meadow Solar Park Phase 2
Study area	16.40 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 3249 5800 52 0 52 12 13 N 000 03 39 W Point
Site coordinates	TL 3199 5776 52 0 52 12 06 N 000 04 06 W Point



Project creators

Name of Organisation	Albion Archaeology
Project brief originator	none
Project design originator	Albion Archaeology
Project director/manager	Robert Wardill
Project supervisor	Kathleen Pilkinton

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Cambs County Archaeological Stores
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics"
Digital Archive recipient	Cambs County Archaeological Stores
Digital Contents	"Animal Bones",'Ceramics',"other"
Digital Media available	"Text","Database","GIS","Images raster / digital photography"
Paper Archive recipient	Cambs County Archaeological Store
Paper Contents	"Animal Bones", "Ceramics","other"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet",'Correspondence','Drawing',"Microfilm",'Miscellaneous Material',"Photograph","Plan",'Report',"Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Skylark Meadow Solar Park - Phase 2, Bourn Cambridgeshire
Author(s)/Editor(s)	'Pilkinton, K'
Author(s)/Editor(s)	'Lightning, J'
Other bibliographic details	2013/152
Date	2013
Issuer or publisher	Albion Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Bedford

Entered by	Helen Parslow (hl.parslow@albion-arch.com)
Entered on	18 September 2013

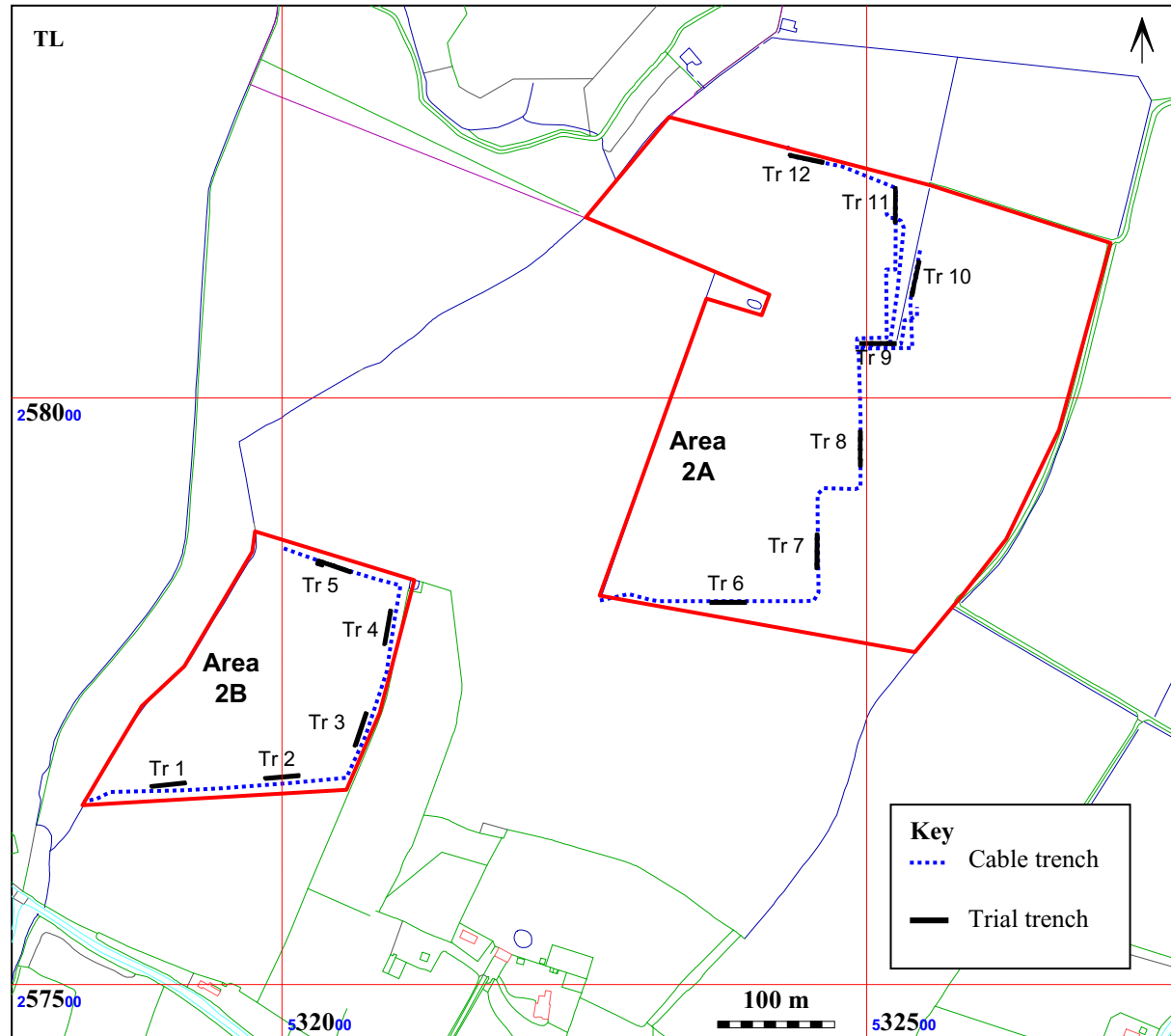
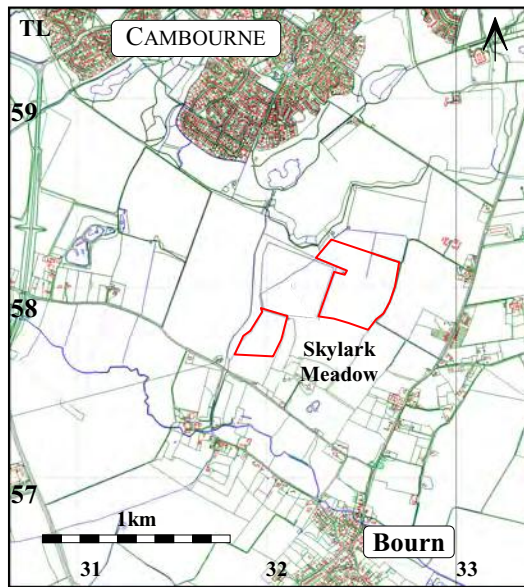
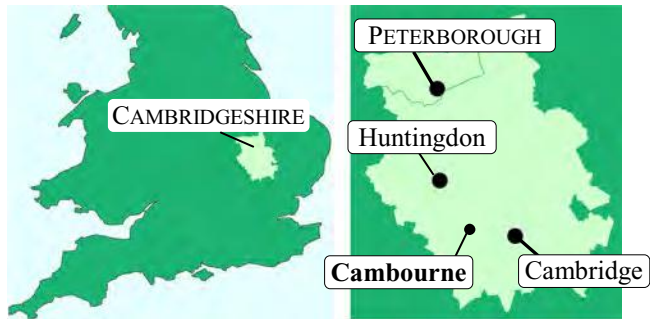


Figure 1: Site and trench location

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

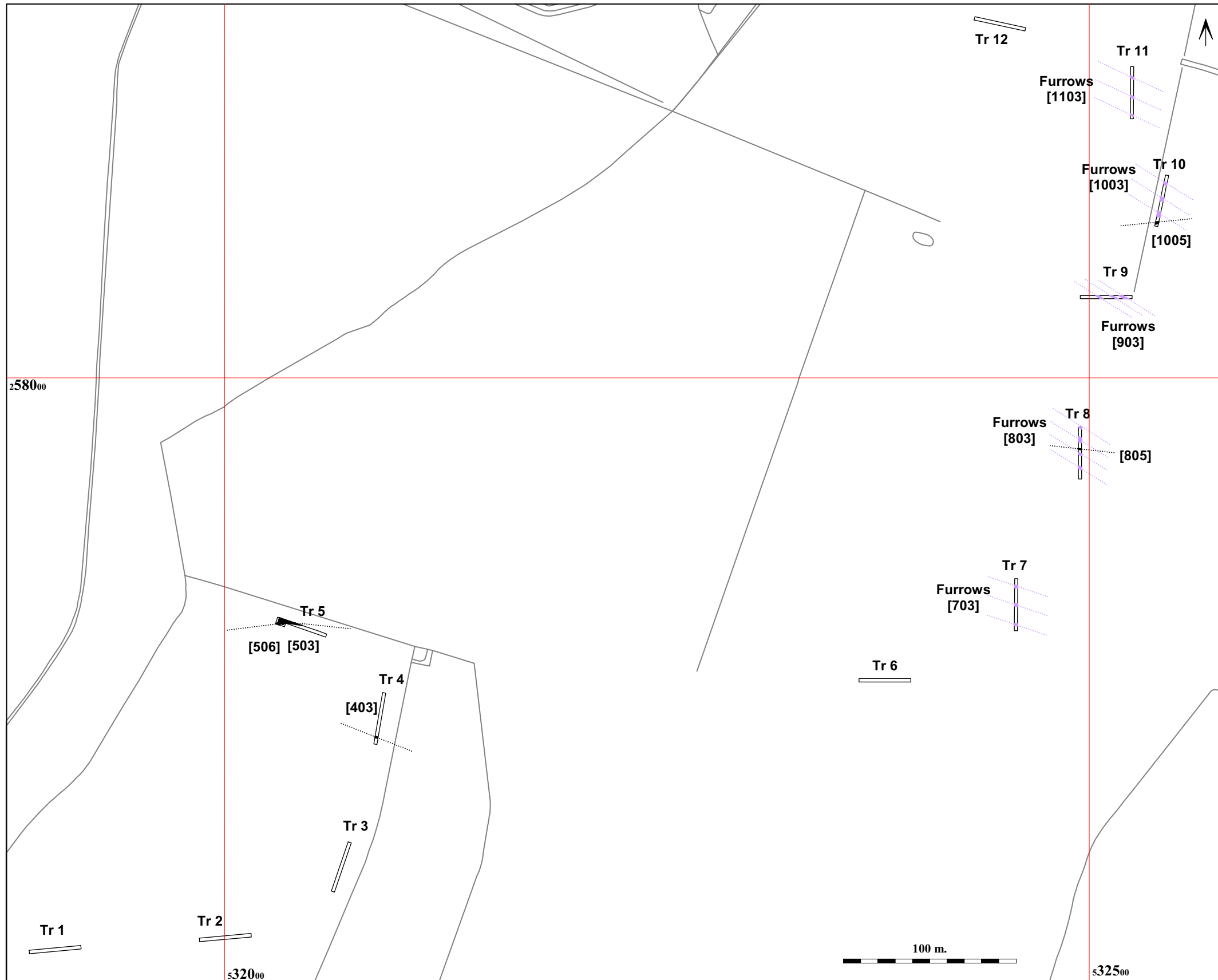


Figure 2: All features plan

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

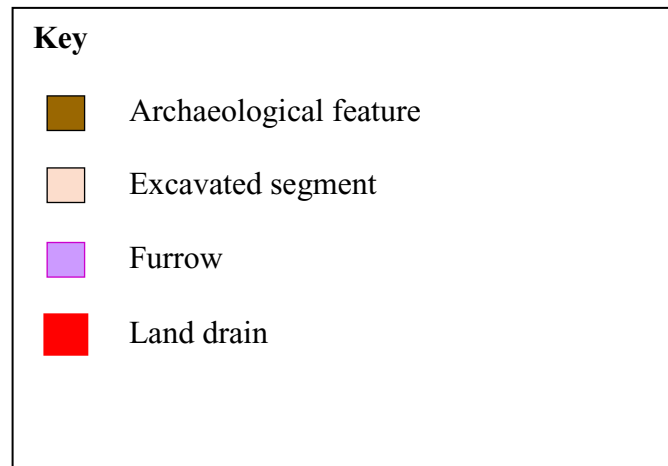
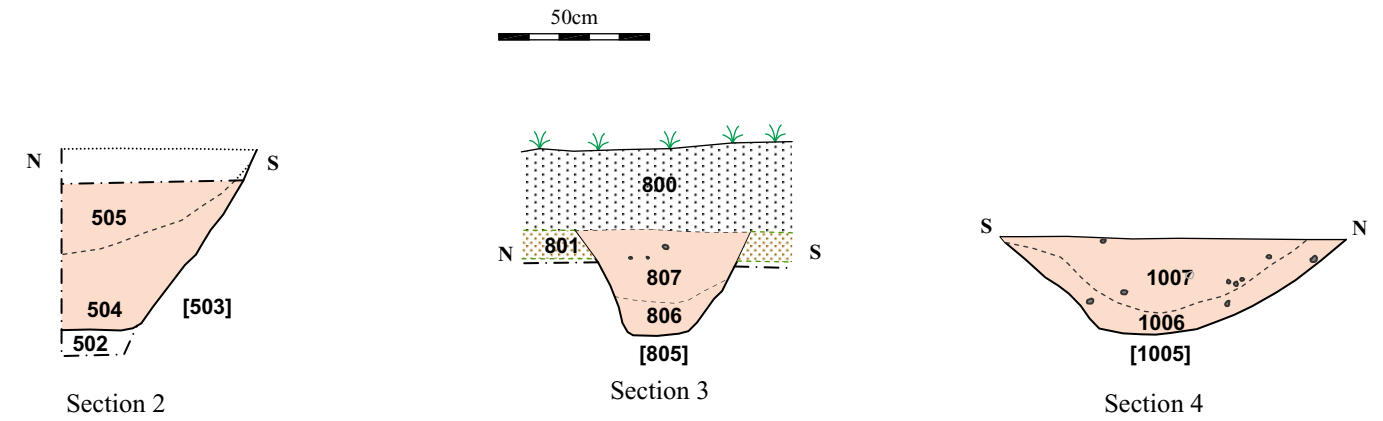
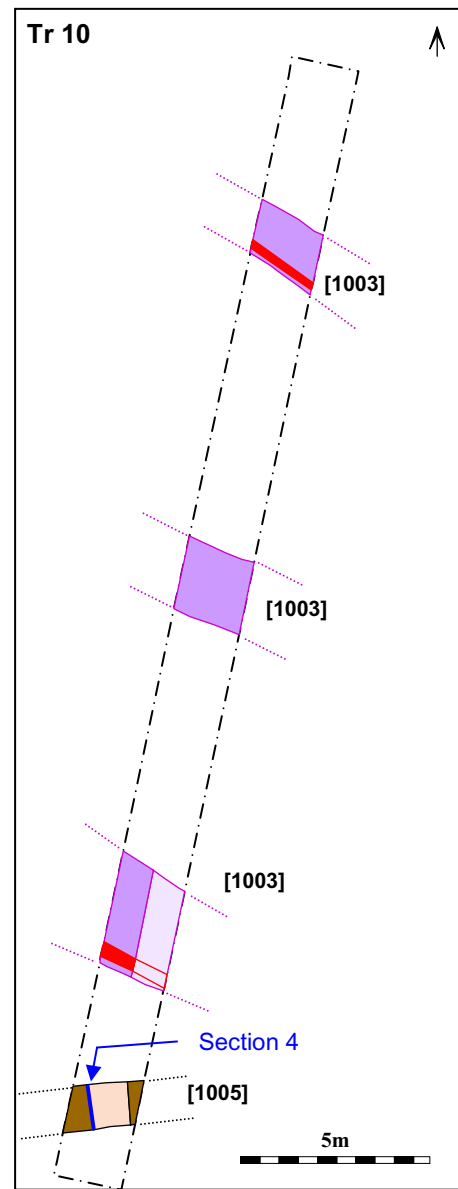
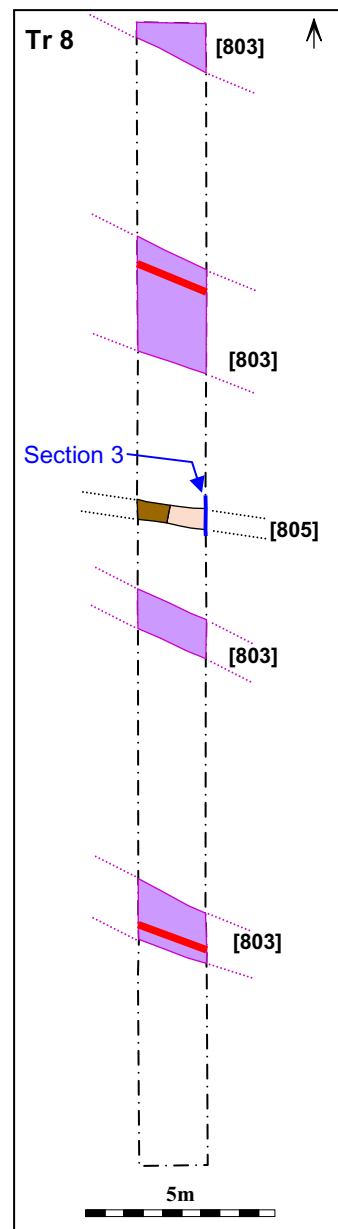
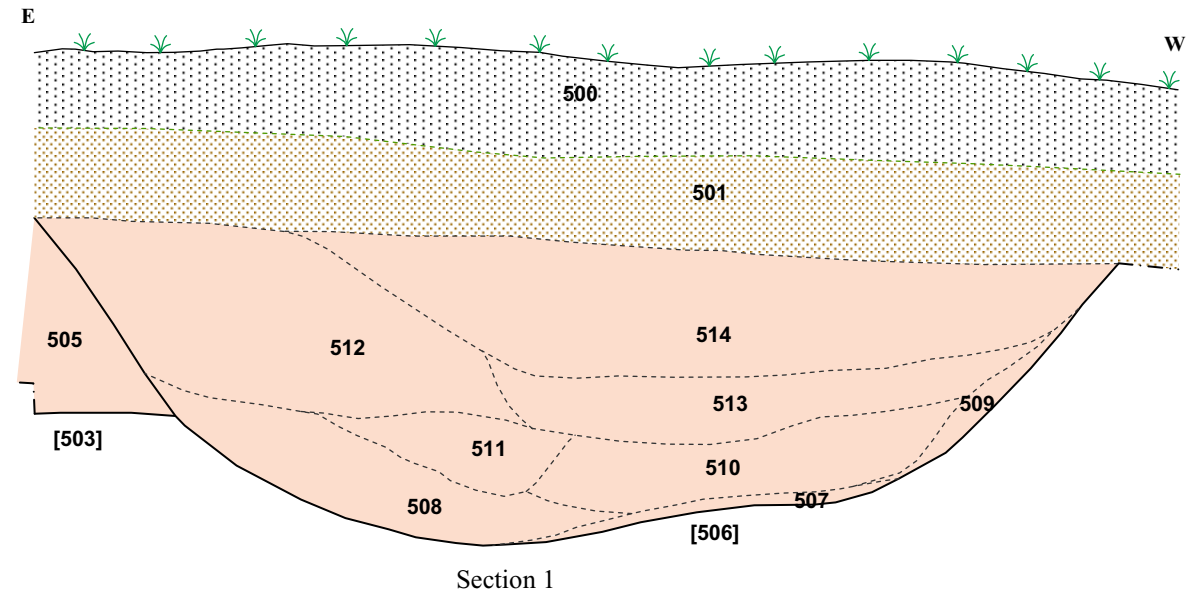
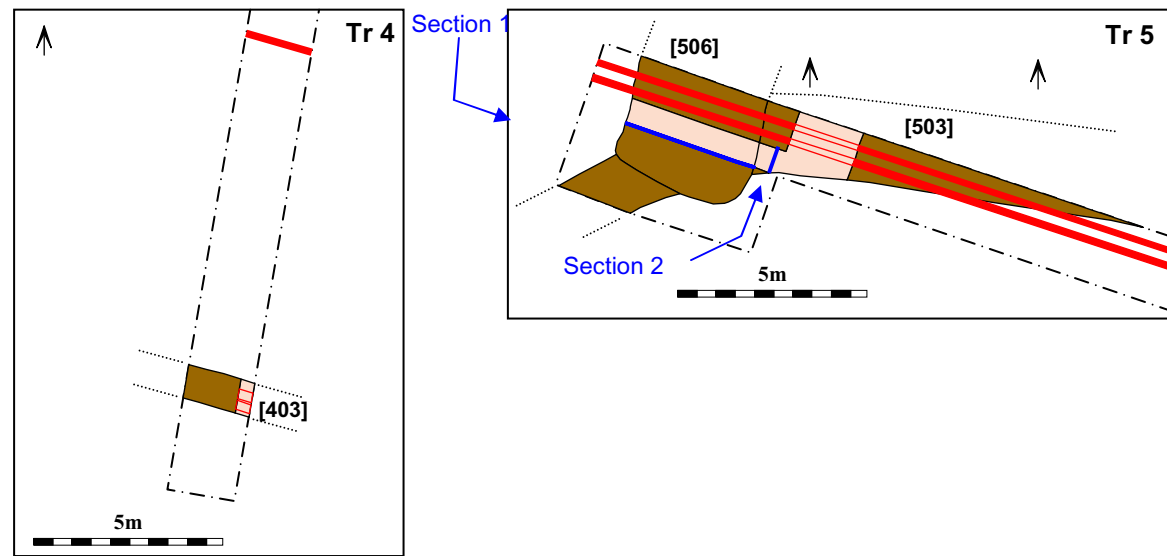


Figure 3: Selected plans and sections

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



Albion
archaeology



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

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

