

**LAND OFF HIGH STREET
AND LODGE ROAD
CRANFIELD
BEDFORDSHIRE**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION

Albion
archaeology



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AND LODGE ROAD
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Contents

1. INTRODUCTION	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	7
2. METHODOLOGY	9
3. RESULTS	10
3.1 Introduction	10
3.2 Overburden and Undisturbed Geological Deposits	10
3.3 Mid-late Iron Age Features	10
3.4 Medieval Furrows	11
3.5 Post-Medieval and Modern Features	11
3.6 Root Disturbance	12
4. CONCLUSIONS AND HERITAGE STATEMENT	13
4.1 Summary and Significance of the Evaluation Results	13
4.2 Impact Assessment	13
5. BIBLIOGRAPHY	15
6. APPENDIX 1: TRENCH SUMMARY	16
7. APPENDIX 2: ARTEFACT SUMMARY	23
7.1 Introduction	23
7.2 Pottery	23
7.3 Animal bone	24
7.4 Flint	24
8. APPENDIX 3: SIGNIFICANCE AND IMPACT CRITERIA	25



LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1: Site and trench location plan

Figure 2: All features plan

Figure 3: Trench 2 detailed plan and sections

The figures are bound at the back of the report.



Preface

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

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Key Terms

The following terms or abbreviations are used throughout this report:

CBCA	Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeologist
HER	Central Bedfordshire and Luton Historic Environment Record
IfA	Institute for Archaeologists
PDA	Proposed Development Area
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation



Non-Technical Summary

A planning application is to be submitted for a potential housing development on land off High Street, Cranfield, Bedfordshire.

The proposed development area (PDA) lies on the south-west edge of Cranfield in a landscape that contains settlement evidence dating from the late pre-Belgic Iron Age to the Roman period. Consequently it was proposed that an archaeological field evaluation be carried out in order to establish the nature, extent and date of any archaeological remains within the PDA.

The evaluation, comprising the excavation of six trial trenches, was undertaken between 3rd and 6th March 2014. Archaeological features were identified in five of the six trenches. Most of them comprised features associated with the agricultural use of the PDA from the medieval period onwards. The exception are mid-late Iron Age settlement features, comprising pits, postholes and a ditch revealed within Trench 2.

The evidence of mid-late Iron Age settlement activities on the PDA is of particular interest in light of regional research objectives regarding Iron Age rural settlement patterns on the clay plateaus (Oake 2007, 11).

The furrows revealed in all but one of the trenches are of less significance, proving that the area of the PDA was cultivated from at least the medieval period onwards as indicated by historical maps. The revealed post-medieval and modern features are of negligible significance.

Any groundworks or landscaping associated with residential development within this area of the PDA will potentially have a direct negative impact on the mid-late Iron Age features. However, the absence of similarly dated features within the remaining trenches suggests that any proposed development away from Trench 2, particularly around the farthest Trenches 3–6, is unlikely to impact upon any such remains.

Any proposed development is likely to impact upon the medieval furrows which are likely to be present throughout the majority of the PDA. These are of little significance beyond being proof that the PDA was subject to strip cultivation during the medieval period. They offer little potential to address identified research objectives.

The significance of the potential impact on the identified archaeological heritage assets is, therefore, classed as: moderate to high for the mid-late Iron Age features revealed within Trench 2; slight for the medieval furrows; and neutral for the post-medieval and modern remains (see Appendix 3 for classification used in assessing the level of impact).

The HER records a number of heritage assets within 500m of the PDA, several of which are post-medieval standing buildings. The closest two, HER6364 and HER14362 on High Street and Lodge Road respectively, lie c. 100m from the PDA. They are already within a setting that encompasses 20th-century housing, particularly off Lodge Road immediately to the south and east of the PDA. This suggests that the residential development of the PDA is unlikely to have a negative affect on their setting or, as a result, their significance.



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 *Project Background*

A planning application is to be submitted for a potential housing development on land off High Street Cranfield, Bedfordshire.

The proposed development area (PDA) lies on the south-west edge of Cranfield in a landscape that contains settlement evidence dating from the late pre-Belgic Iron Age to the Roman period (see Section 1.3). Consequently it was proposed that an archaeological field evaluation be carried out in order to establish the nature, extent and date of any archaeological remains within the PDA. This was in accordance with Section 18 of 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.

This report presents the findings of the trial trench evaluation, carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (Albion Archaeology 2014) approved by the CBCA.

1.2 *Site Location, Topography and Geology*

The PDA lies on the south-west edge of Cranfield on land adjacent to the junction of High Street and Lodge Road (Figure 1). It is c. 6900sqm in area and is bounded to the north-west by High Street and to the south by Lodge Road and an existing row of houses. To the north-east lie open fields. Land to the east is currently under development.

High Street, Cranfield follows the NE-SW line of a gentle ridge or plateau which overlooks Marston Vale to the south-east. The PDA is situated on fairly level ground towards the south-west end of the ridge. It is at an average height of c. 110m OD centred on grid reference SP 94964 41558. The underlying geology is Quaternary glacial till over Jurassic Oxford Clay.

1.3 *Archaeological and Historical Background*

1.3.1 *Introduction*

Two extensive archaeological investigations have taken place close to the PDA.

A geophysical survey and trial trench evaluation (HER 11866) was conducted by Museum of London Archaeological Service in an area within Cranfield Airfield, to the north and west of the PDA.

A desk-based assessment (Albion Archaeology 2004), geophysical survey and trial trench evaluation (Albion 2005), and mitigation works (Albion 2011) were carried out at Home Farm Cranfield (HER 13418) in fields to the south-east and

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



east of the PDA.

The results of both investigations combined with HER data from a 500m radius study area, centred on the PDA, are summarised in chronological order below.

1.3.2 Prehistoric (before AD43)

Archaeological investigations within Cranfield Airfield found limited evidence for earlier prehistoric activity in the form of a few flint artefacts and a single sherd of Neolithic / Bronze Age pottery as well as evidence for Iron Age settlement and field systems.

Archaeological investigations at Home Farm found evidence for dispersed, late pre-Belgic Iron Age settlements and agricultural activity. These were generally located towards the edge of the plateau on which the PDA and most of the village of Cranfield is situated. Later Iron Age enclosed settlements were also found in two areas to the east of the PDA that were either on or near the edge of the plateau. As well as evidence for settlement and agricultural activity, there was also evidence for funerary activity in the form of two inhumations and two cremation burials.

There is, therefore, evidence for dispersed Iron Age settlements in the wider landscape around the PDA. However, none has been identified in the immediate vicinity of the PDA.

1.3.3 Roman (AD43 – c. 450)

Evidence for Roman activity was found within both the Cranfield Airfield and the Home Farm investigations. The remains at Home Farm included an enclosed farmstead and evidence for agricultural activity in the form of a series of cultivation trenches located in an area to the east of the PDA.

The Roman settlement was concentrated on the edge of the plateau area, overlooking the scarp slope of Marston Vale; no settlement evidence was found in the immediate vicinity of the PDA.

1.3.4 Saxo-Norman (850 – 1150)

A small cluster of ponds or intercutting pits dating to the Saxo-Norman period were recorded in an evaluation trial trench c. 650m to the east of the PDA. Further scattered evidence of Saxo-Norman activity was found during the archaeological mitigation in the same general area.

1.3.5 Medieval (1150 – 1500)

The PDA falls within the potential limits of the medieval settlement as defined in the HER (HER 16931) which shows the main village core as a linear settlement extending south along the High Street to the junction with Lodge Road.

A composite map of the pre-enclosure landscape around Cranfield shows that many of the fields, including the one the PDA is in, had been subject to ridge and furrow cultivation that probably dated to the medieval period (Coleman 1986). Archaeological investigations confirmed the presence of furrows in some



of the fields around the PDA, but not in the field located immediately to the north-east of the PDA. However, a series of post-medieval land drains found here corresponded to the alignment of the cultivation strips shown on the pre-enclosure map.

A small number of medieval pits were found towards the south-east edge of the site at Home Farm, some 300–500m to the east of the PDA.

1.3.6 Post-medieval (1500 – 1900)

The HER contains a small number of entries dating to the post-medieval period within the general vicinity of the PDA. They include seven standing buildings, a former 19th-century gravel extraction pit and the sites of several now demolished buildings.

The closest standing buildings are Goodman Almshouses at 14-22 High Street (HER 6364), located *c.* 100m north-east of the PDA. The next closest, located *c.* 100m south-east of the PDA on Lodge Road, is the Gate Lodge (HER 14362, DBD 2861) built in the 19th century for the now demolished Cranfield Court. All the other standing buildings are all located further along the High Street towards the centre of Cranfield. They include another almshouse (HER 6367, DBD 2864), a much modernised Methodist chapel (HER 10074) and three more dwellings (HER 14365, DBD 2735 & DBD 2875).

The most notable of the demolished structures is the site of a former windmill (HER 3186) located *c.* 250m south-west of the PDA. The 19th-century gravel pit (HER 10044) was located *c.* 50m south of the PDA on the opposite side of Lodge Road.

The 1883 1st Edition OS Map shows no buildings, property plots or other points of interest within the field in which the PDA is situated.

1.3.7 Modern (1900 – present)

The most archaeologically significant site of this period is Cranfield Airfield which dominates the area to the north and west. This now forms part of Cranfield Institute of Technology (University). However, it started life as RAF Cranfield in 1940 and subsequently played an important role in the Second World War (Dyer 1995). Seven pillboxes were built to defend the Airfield, only three of which now survive. The details of these have been recorded as part of the *Defence of Britain Project* (ADS 2004). Significantly none of these defences were located within the current PDA which is not thought to contain any physical remains relating to the airfield and its defences.

1.4 Project Objectives

1.4.1 General project objectives

The general objectives of the evaluation were to determine:

- (i) The location, extent, nature, and date of any archaeological features or deposits that may be present within the PDA;



- (ii) The integrity and state of preservation of any archaeological features or deposits that may be present within the PDA.
- (iii) The nature of palaeo-environmental remains to determine local environmental conditions.

1.4.2 Research 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).

Although archaeological investigations in the immediate vicinity of the PDA have revealed little or no archaeological remains, those same investigations have demonstrated that the PDA lies within a broader landscape that contains several dispersed Iron Age and Roman settlements. 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.



2. METHODOLOGY

The evaluation, comprising the excavation of six trial trenches, was undertaken between 3rd and 6th March 2014. The methodological approach to the project is summarised below. A full methodology is provided in the WSI (Albion Archaeology 2014).

The trenches were opened using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless bucket and 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 was encountered first. The spoil heaps were also scanned for the recovery of artefacts.

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. Context numbers in square brackets refer to the cuts [***] and round brackets to fills or layers (***). Each trench was subsequently drawn and photographed as appropriate. The trenches were backfilled following the approval of the CBCA.

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

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IfA 	<i>By-Laws and Code of Conduct</i>
	<i>Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation (updated 2012)</i>
	<i>Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials (updated 2008)</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> English Heritage 	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) Project Managers’ Guide (updated 2009)</i>
	<i>Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation. 2nd ed. (2011)</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Albion Archaeology 	<i>Procedures Manual: Volume 1 Fieldwork (2nd edn, 2001).</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ALGAO East 	<i>Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England (2003)</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bedford Museum 	<i>Preparing Archaeological Archives for Deposition in Registered Museums in Bedford (2010)</i>

The project archive will be deposited with Bedford Museum (Accession No. BEDFM: 2013.21). Details of the project and its findings will be submitted to the OASIS database (ref: albionar1-175483) in accordance with the guidelines issued by English Heritage and the Archaeology Data Service.



3. RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

The results of the trial trenching are summarised below and shown on Figures 2–3. Details of all the observed features and deposits are contained in Appendix 1 and a summary of the artefacts recovered is provided within Appendix 2.

3.2 Overburden and Undisturbed Geological Deposits

The overburden was fairly uniform across the site and comprised 0.19–0.38m of topsoil, which overlay 0.09–0.40m of mid orange-brown silty clay subsoil. This overlay undisturbed geological deposits of light grey-yellow silty clay containing frequent chalk flecks.

3.3 Mid-late Iron Age Features

Three pits, three postholes and a ditch of mid-late Iron Age date were revealed in Trench 2 (Figure 3).

3.3.1 A pit and two nearby postholes at the south-west end of the trench

A pit and two nearby postholes were revealed near the south-west end of Trench 2.

Irregular-shaped pit [205] was at least 1m long, continuing beyond the edge of the trench to the south-east. It had concave sides, a flat base and was 1.30m wide and 0.15m deep. It contained two fills, varying from a mid yellow-grey to mid-brown grey silty clay, which produced several sherds of mid-late Iron Age pottery.

A sub-circular posthole [208], measuring *c.* 0.7m across and 0.2m deep, appeared to truncate the north-west end of the pit. The upper of its two fills (211) contained a ceramic perforated lug of mid-late Iron Age date that may represent either a vertical handle or a horizontal suspension loop. Another, smaller, posthole [212] containing a similar fill was located 0.75m to the north-east of the pit. It too contained sherds of mid-late Iron Age pottery.

3.3.2 Pits, posthole and ditch at the north-east end of the trench

Another pit [216] and nearby posthole [219] were revealed towards the north-east end of Trench 2. The pit was of similar size and character to pit [205], though it continued beyond the north-west edge of the trench. It contained several sherds of mid-late Iron Age pottery and small amount of animal bone. Though no artefacts were found within the adjacent posthole [219], its close proximity and comparable fill to that of the pit suggests it is of a similar date.

A NW-SE aligned ditch [221] was located immediately to the south-west of pit [216]. It was 0.85m wide and 0.3m deep, though its upper profile was truncated by one of the later furrows (see Section 3.4). It contained a similar fill to that of the other mid-late Iron Age features — mid brown-grey silty clay that included two small sherds of mid-late Iron Age pottery and a flint core likely to be of earlier date. The ditch truncated a small pit [223] measuring at least 0.75m wide



and 0.22m deep which contained a fill of mid grey-yellow silty clay and several pieces of animal bone.

3.4 Medieval Furrows

The remnants of ridge and furrow agriculture, typical of the medieval period, in the form of shallow linear features measuring 1–3.3m wide and *c.* 0.2m deep, were present within all trenches apart from Trench 5. Those within Trenches 3, 4 and 6 on the north-east side of the PDA were aligned NE-SW, in contrast to those within Trenches 1 and 2 to the south-west, which were aligned NW-SE and are likely to represent a separate parcel of land. A similar arrangement of cultivation strips is shown within the vicinity of the PDA on a composite map of the pre-enclosure landscape around Cranfield (Coleman 1984)

Though the furrows are likely to be the result of medieval cultivation, this system of agriculture continued to be used in some areas until the large, open fields were enclosed from the late 18th century onwards.

3.5 Post-Medieval and Modern Features

Several features dating to the post-medieval and modern periods were revealed within Trenches 2, 3, 4 and 6 (Figure 2).

3.5.1 Ditches

A NNE-SSW aligned ditch [214] was revealed truncating some of the furrows within Trench 2. It had steep concave sides with a flat base; it was 0.36m wide and 0.20m deep. Though it contained one small fragment of a modern plant pot, a large sherd of 17th-century earthenware may suggest the ditch dates to this earlier period.

A wider ditch [225], aligned NW-SE, was revealed to the north of ditch [214]. It contained large brick fragments of modern date.

3.5.2 Four postholes

Four small postholes [303], [305], [307], [309] were identified in Trench 3; they contained fragments of either coal or concrete.

3.5.3 Pit

A 5m-long pit [311] had been dug through the topsoil within the south-east end of Trench 3. It contained fragments of fired clay and modern brick and tile.

3.5.4 Land drains and services

Eight land drains were identified in the base of four of the trenches, most of which shared their alignments with the nearby furrows.

A NE-SW aligned ‘French’ drain containing frequent stones was revealed truncating and following the alignment of a furrow within Trench 3.

A NW-SE aligned service trench containing a ceramic pipe heading towards a house on the NW side of the PDA was observed in Trench 3.



3.6 Root Disturbance

The irregular shape, in plan and profile, of nine features investigated within four of the trenches indicates they are the result of rooting. They contained no artefacts and were 0.3–1.25m across and 0.1–0.23m deep.



4. CONCLUSIONS AND HERITAGE STATEMENT

4.1 *Summary and Significance of the Evaluation Results*

Archaeological features were identified in five of the six trenches. The majority comprised features associated with the agricultural use of the PDA from the medieval period onwards. The exception is pits, postholes and a ditch of mid-late Iron Age date revealed within Trench 2.

The number of pottery sherds and small amount of animal bone recovered from the mid-late Iron Age features suggests that they are associated with settlement activity in the immediate vicinity. However, the absence of any contemporary features in the other trenches suggests this activity may be confined to the area around Trench 2. It is perhaps notable that, dispersed settlement activity of a similar date, found during excavations to the south-east (Albion 2011), was also seemingly confined to specific areas, with the large expanses in between being devoid of contemporary settlement activity.

The evidence of mid-late Iron Age settlement activities on the PDA is of particular interest in light of regional research objectives regarding Iron Age rural settlement patterns on the clay plateaus (Oake 2007, 11).

The furrows revealed in all but one of the trenches are of less significance, proving the area of the PDA was cultivated from at least the medieval period onwards as indicated by historical maps. The revealed post-medieval and modern features are of negligible significance.

4.2 *Impact Assessment*

The significance of the potential impacts upon the identified heritage assets, both within and outside the PDA, is discussed below. The classification used in assessing the level of impact is contained in Appendix 3.

4.2.1 *Heritage assets within the PDA*

The evaluation indicates that mid-late Iron Age remains of moderate significance are present within the PDA in the vicinity of Trench 2. Any groundworks or landscaping associated with residential development within this area of the PDA will potentially have a direct negative impact on these heritage assets. However, the absence of similarly dated features within the remaining trenches suggests that any proposed development away from Trench 2, particularly in the area of the farthest Trenches 3–6, are unlikely to impact upon any such remains.

Any proposed development is likely to impact upon the medieval furrows which are likely to be present throughout the majority of the PDA. These are of little significance beyond proving that the PDA was subject to strip cultivation during the medieval period. They offer little potential to address identified research objectives.

The significance of the potential impact on the identified archaeological heritage assets is, therefore, classed as: moderate to high for the mid-late Iron Age



features revealed within Trench 2; slight for the medieval furrows; and neutral for the post-medieval and modern remains (see Table 1 below).

Asset	Significance of asset	Potential impact upon asset	Significance of this impact
Mid-late Iron Age settlement features within vicinity of Trench 2	Moderate	Moderately to highly adverse	Moderate to High
Medieval furrows	Low	Moderately to highly adverse	Slight
Post-medieval – modern features	Negligible	Moderately to highly adverse	Neutral

Table 1: Buried archaeological assets — summary of potential, significance and impact

4.2.2 Heritage assets outside the PDA

The HER records a number of heritage assets within 500m of the PDA (see Section 1.3), several of which are post-medieval standing buildings. The closest two, HER6364 and HER14362 on High Street and Lodge Road respectively, lie c. 100m from the PDA. They are already within a setting that encompasses 20th-century housing, particularly off Lodge Road immediately to the south and east of the PDA. This suggests that the residential development of the PDA is unlikely to have a negative affect on their setting or, as a result, their significance.



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6. APPENDIX 1: TRENCH SUMMARY



Trench: 1

Max Dimensions: Length: 30.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.4 m. Max: 0.47 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP (Easting: 94909: Northing: 41563)

OS Grid Ref.: SP (Easting: 94879: Northing: 41563)

Reason: Assess Archaeological Potential

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
100	Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown clay silt 0.19m to 0.25m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
101	Subsoil	Mid orange brown silty clay 0.22m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
102	Natural	Firm light grey yellow silty clay frequent flecks chalk	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
103	Furrow	Linear NW-SE sides: Assymetrical base: uneven dimensions: min breadth 2.83m, min depth 0.17m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
104	Furrow	Friable mid grey brown silty clay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 2

Max Dimensions: Length: 30.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.2 m. Max: 0.75 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP (Easting: 94920: Northing: 41542)

OS Grid Ref.: SP (Easting: 94939: Northing: 41566)

Reason: Assess Archaeological Potential

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
200	Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown clay silt 0.20m to 0.50m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
201	Subsoil	Friable mid orange brown silty clay 0.30m to 0.35m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
202	Natural	Firm light grey yellow silty clay frequent flecks chalk	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
203	Furrow	Linear NW-SE sides: Assymetrical base: uneven dimensions: min breadth 3.35m, min depth 0.4m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
204	Fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
205	Pit	Irregular sides: irregular base: concave dimensions: min breadth 1.3m, min depth 0.18m, min length 1.m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
206	Primary fill	Friable mid yellow grey silty clay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
207	Backfill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
208	Posthole	Sub-circular sides: Assymetrical base: concave dimensions: min depth 0.2m, min diameter 0.7m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
209	Fill	Firm mid yellow grey silty clay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
210	Fill	Firm mid yellow grey silty clay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
211	Backfill	Friable mid brown grey silty clay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
212	Posthole	Circular sides: steep base: flat dimensions: min depth 0.14m, min diameter 0.38m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
213	Backfill	Friable mid brown grey silty clay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
214	Ditch	Linear N-S sides: steep base: flat dimensions: min breadth 0.37m, min depth 0.21m, min length 7.m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
215	Backfill	Friable mid grey brown silty clay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
216	Pit	Oval sides: Assymetrical base: uneven dimensions: min breadth 0.94m, min depth 0.16m, min length 1.7m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
217	Primary fill	Friable mid yellow grey silty clay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
218	Backfill	Friable mid brown grey silty clay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
219	Posthole	Irregular sides: U-shaped base: flat dimensions: min breadth 0.23m, min depth 0.11m, min length 0.4m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
220	Backfill	Friable mid brown grey silty clay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
221	Ditch	Linear NW-SE sides: concave base: concave dimensions: min breadth 0.85m, min depth 0.3m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
222	Backfill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
223	Pit	Linear NW-SE sides: irregular base: uneven dimensions: min breadth 0.73m, min depth 0.22m, min length 0.55m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
224	Backfill	Firm mid grey yellow silty clay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
225	Ditch	Linear NW-SE sides: steep base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.7m, max depth 0.33m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
226	Backfill	Firm mid orange grey clay silt Contained large modern brick fragments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 3

Max Dimensions: Length: 30.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.47 m. Max: 0.47 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP (Easting: 94962: Northing: 41577)

OS Grid Ref.: SP (Easting: 94991: Northing: 41569)

Reason: Assess Archaeological Potential

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
300	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey clay silt occasional medium stones, occasional small stones 0.30m to 0.38m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
301	Subsoil	Firm mid orange brown silty clay occasional small-large CBM, occasional flecks charcoal, occasional medium stones, occasional small stones 0.09m to 0.17m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
302	Natural	Firm light grey yellow silty clay frequent flecks chalk	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
303	Posthole	Circular sides: concave base: flat dimensions: min depth 0.09m, min diameter 0.18m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
304	Backfill	Friable mid brown grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
305	Posthole	Circular sides: near vertical base: flat dimensions: min depth 0.15m, min diameter 0.33m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
306	Backfill	Friable mid orange grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
307	Posthole	Circular sides: 45 degrees base: v-shaped dimensions: min depth 0.05m, min diameter 0.16m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
308	Backfill	Friable mid brown grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
309	Posthole	Sub-oval sides: concave base: flat dimensions: min breadth 0.25m, min depth 0.08m, min length 0.4m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
310	Backfill	Friable mid brown grey clay silt occasional medium stones, occasional small stones Fill contains concrete and coal fragments- modern.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
311	Pit	Sub-oval sides: irregular base: concave dimensions: min depth 0.6m, min length 3.85m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
312	Fill	Friable dark brown grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional medium stones, occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
313	Backfill	Friable dark brown grey clay silt moderate small-large CBM, occasional medium stones, occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
314	Furrow	Linear NE-SW sides: concave base: concave dimensions: min breadth 1.7m, min depth 0.15m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
315	Fill	Friable mid orange grey silty clay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 4

Max Dimensions: Length: 30.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.55 m. Max: 0.65 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP (Easting: 94981: Northing: 41554)

OS Grid Ref.: SP (Easting: 95011: Northing: 41554)

Reason: Assess Archaeological Potential

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
400	Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown clay silt 0.25m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
401	Subsoil	Firm mid orange brown silty clay 0.30m to 0.40m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
402	Natural	Firm light grey yellow silty clay frequent flecks chalk	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
403	Furrow	Linear NE-SW sides: irregular base: concave dimensions: min breadth 1.8m, min diameter 0.08m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
404	Fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 5

Max Dimensions: Length: 20.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.46 m. Max: 0.66 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP (Easting: 95026: Northing: 41547)

OS Grid Ref.: SP (Easting: 95012: Northing: 41532)

Reason: Assess Archaeological Potential

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
500	Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown clay silt 0.24m to 0.35m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
501	Subsoil	Firm mid orange brown 0.21m to 0.31m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
502	Natural	Firm light grey yellow silty clay frequent flecks chalk	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 6

Max Dimensions: Length: 30.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.55 m. Max: 0.8 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP (Easting: 95034: Northing: 41535)

OS Grid Ref.: SP (Easting: 95049: Northing: 41509)

Reason: Assess Archaeological Potential

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
600	Topsoil	Friable mid grey brown clay silt 0.15m to 0.20m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
601	Subsoil	Firm mid orange brown silty clay 0.40m to 0.60m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
602	Natural	Firm light grey yellow silty clay frequent flecks chalk	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
603	Furrow	Linear NE-SW sides: irregular base: concave dimensions: min breadth 2.1m, min depth 0.06m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
604	Fill	Friable mid grey brown silty clay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



7. APPENDIX 2: ARTEFACT SUMMARY

7.1 Introduction

Seven features in Trench 2 produced a small finds assemblage comprising pottery, animal bone and a piece of flint (Table 2). The material was scanned to ascertain its nature, condition and, where possible, date range. Modern building materials were noted within modern features in three of the other trenches. They were left on site.

Feature	Description	Fill	Date	Finds Summary
205	Pit	207	Mid to late Iron Age	Pottery (74g)
208	Posthole	211	Mid to late Iron Age	Pottery (48g)
212	Post hole	213	Mid to late Iron Age	Pottery (13g)
214	Ditch	214	Post-medieval	Pottery (80g)
216	Pit	218	Mid to late Iron Age	Pottery (90g); animal bone (2g)
221	Ditch	222	Mid to late Iron Age	Pottery (5g); flint core (86g)
223	Pit	224	Undated	Animal bone (280g)

Table 2: Artefact summary by feature for Trench 2

7.2 Pottery

Twenty-nine pottery sherds weighing 310g were recovered from Trench 2. The assemblage displays variable fragmentation, with the smallest sherd weighing 1g, and the largest 74g. With the exception of two sherds recovered from ditch [214], all are of mid to late Iron Age date. Nine fabric types were identified in accordance with the Bedfordshire Ceramic Type Series (Table 3).

Fabric code	Common name	Sherd No.	Context/Sherd No.
<i>Mid to late Iron Age</i>			
F03	Grog and sand	5	(207):2, (218):1, (222):2
F07	Shell	12	(218):12
F18	Sand and shell	3	(207):2, (211):1
F28	Fine sand	1	(207):1
F29	Coarse sand	1	(218):1
F30	Sand and calcareous	1	(213):1
F33	Grog and calcareous	4	(213):4
<i>Post-medieval+ modern</i>			
P01	Fine glazed red earthenware	1	(215):1
MOD	Mass-produced earthenware	1	(215):1

Table 3: Pottery type series

Hand made pottery of mid to late Iron Age date occurs in a range of fabrics tempered with grog, sand, shell and calcareous inclusions. Eleven undiagnostic vessels are represented, the majority deriving from the upper fill of pit [216]. Feature sherds are a flattened rim with an internal ledge, a handle fragment, and a double perforated lug. The orientation of the latter is unclear, and it may represent either a vertical handle or a horizontal suspension loop.

A sherd of 17th-century glazed red earthenware (74g) and a fragment of modern plant pot (6g) derived from ditch [214].



7.3 Animal bone

Two highly abraded long bone fragments (2g) derived from the upper fill of Iron Age ditch [216], and ten pieces of limb bone (280g) from undated pit [223]. None are identifiable to species.

7.4 Flint

A patinated flint core (86g) occurred as a residual find in Iron Age ditch [221]. The object comprises a partial nodule, with cortex remaining over half the surface and two possible flake removal scars from the edge.



8. APPENDIX 3: SIGNIFICANCE AND IMPACT CRITERIA

Significance	Definition
<i>Very high (International)</i>	A designated World Heritage Site or place of equivalent 'outstanding universal value' and international significance
<i>High (Regional to national)</i>	Designated heritage assets (scheduled monuments, Grade I or Grade II* listed buildings, registered Park or Gardens or battlefields) of national significance. Or: Undesignated heritage assets and archaeological remains of potentially equivalent value. This includes assets which are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • rare in the heritage environment record or • are a good example of a type site or • have a high potential to add to regional and national research criteria
<i>Moderate (Local to district and/or regional)</i>	Designated heritage assets of regional significance (Grade II listed buildings, Conservation Areas, Registered Park or Garden or battlefield <u>not</u> associated with events of national significance). Or: Undesignated heritage assets and archaeological remains of potentially equivalent value. This includes assets which are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • more commonly found in the heritage environment record or • have particular regional associations or may have important associations on a local or parish level (e.g. they have meaning to local population or embody something of the special identity of a locality) • have moderate potential to add to local and regional research criteria
<i>Low (Local)</i>	Assets which are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • are relatively poorly preserved or • have limited significance on a local level • have a low potential to add to local and regional research criteria
<i>Uncertain</i>	Sites where there is evidence that a heritage asset may exist, but where there is insufficient information to determine its nature, extent and degree of survival given current knowledge (e.g. cropmarks untested by fieldwork or random finds spots).
<i>Negligible</i>	Where there is very authoritative evidence – usually backed up field evaluation – that there is no possibility that anything of archaeological or historical significance exists or where any potential surviving remains have no value within the context of the current study.

Table 4: Significance criteria

Magnitude of Impact	Effect of Impact
Highly adverse	Causes total destruction of or permanent change to most key elements of the asset that results in major loss of integrity and reduction in significance. Substantial change to the setting of the asset. Any such change would almost certainly considerably reduce the significance of the asset and would not normally be reversible.
Moderately adverse	Either: causes permanent change to or loss of many key elements of the asset that lead to a moderate loss of its overall integrity and reduction in significance. Moderate change to the setting of the asset. Or: temporarily causes major loss of integrity and significance, e.g. through restricting accessibility and visibility, or by altering its setting.
Slightly adverse	Either: causes permanent change to some key or peripheral elements of the asset, or changes to the setting of the asset, that lead to a slight loss of its overall integrity or significance. Or: temporarily causes moderate loss of integrity and significance, e.g. through restricting accessibility and visibility, or by altering its setting.



Magnitude of Impact	Effect of Impact
Negligible	Minor permanent or temporary changes to the asset that have no appreciable direct or indirect effect on the asset or its setting and do not affect its significance.
No change	No change to the asset or its setting.
Slightly Beneficial	Either: delivers some improvement to the asset that does not increase its overall integrity or significance. Or: arrests an existing process of adverse change.
Moderately Beneficial	Either: causes long-term improvement of the asset, involving some increase in its integrity or significance. Or: reverses an existing process of adverse change.
Highly Beneficial	Causes major benefit to the asset that increases its integrity and significance. Such change would almost certainly increase the significance of the asset.

Table 5: Magnitude of impact criteria

Significance of impact matrix						
<i>Value/Sensitivity</i>	Very high	Neutral	Slight	Moderate /high	High or Very High	Very High
	High	Neutral	Slight	Moderate	Moderate /high	High or Very High
	Moderate	Neutral	Neutral / slight	Slight	Moderate	Moderate / high
	Low	Neutral	Neutral / slight	Neutral / slight	Slight	Slight / moderate
	Negligible	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral / slight	Neutral / slight	Slight
		No change	Negligible	Slightly adverse	Moderately adverse	Highly adverse
		<i>Magnitude of impact</i>				

Table 6: Significance of impact matrix

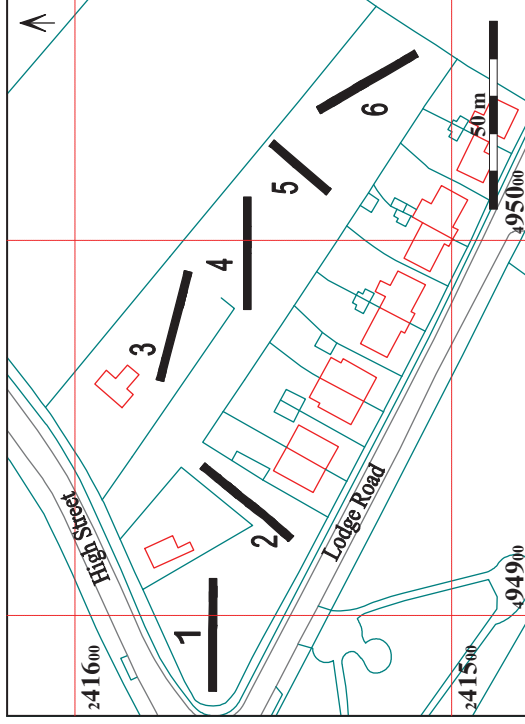
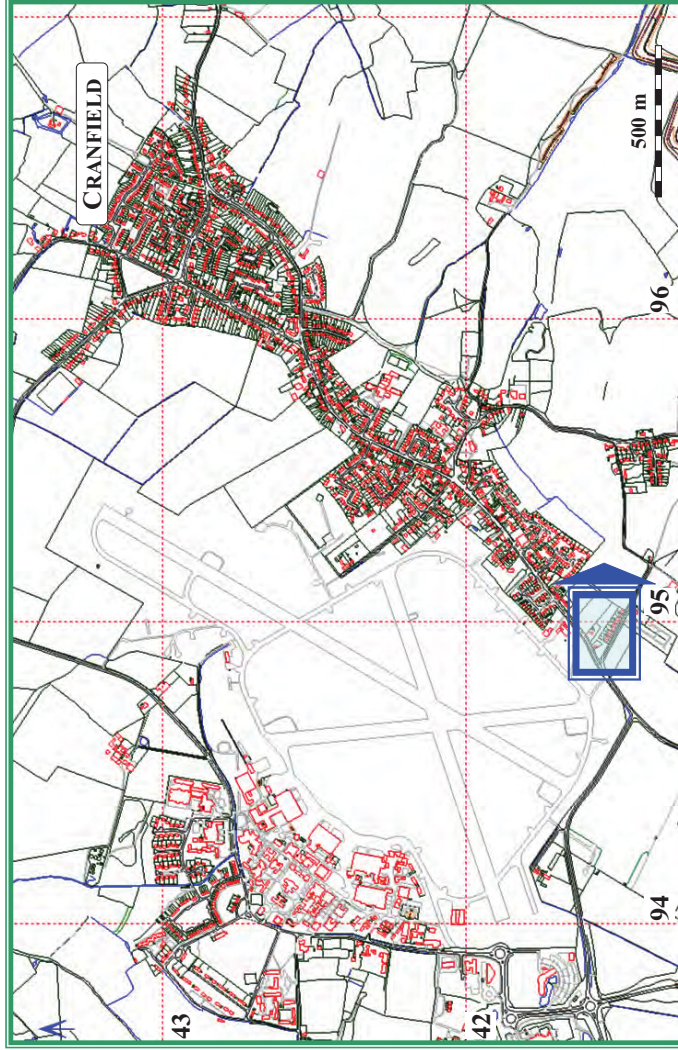
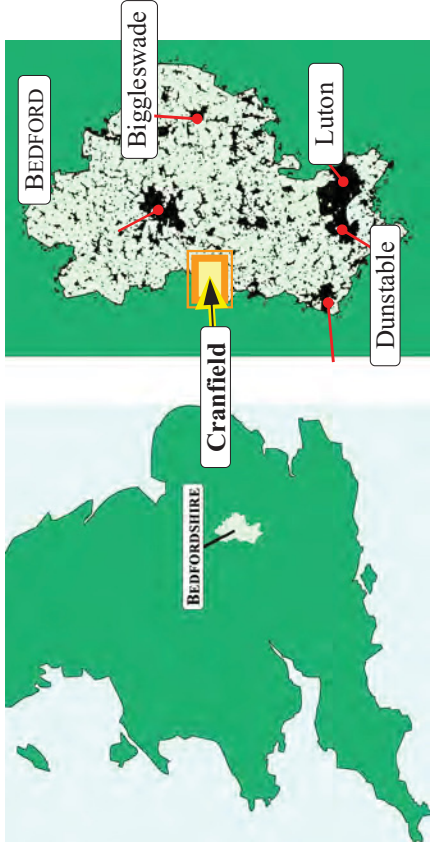


Figure 1: Site and trench location plan

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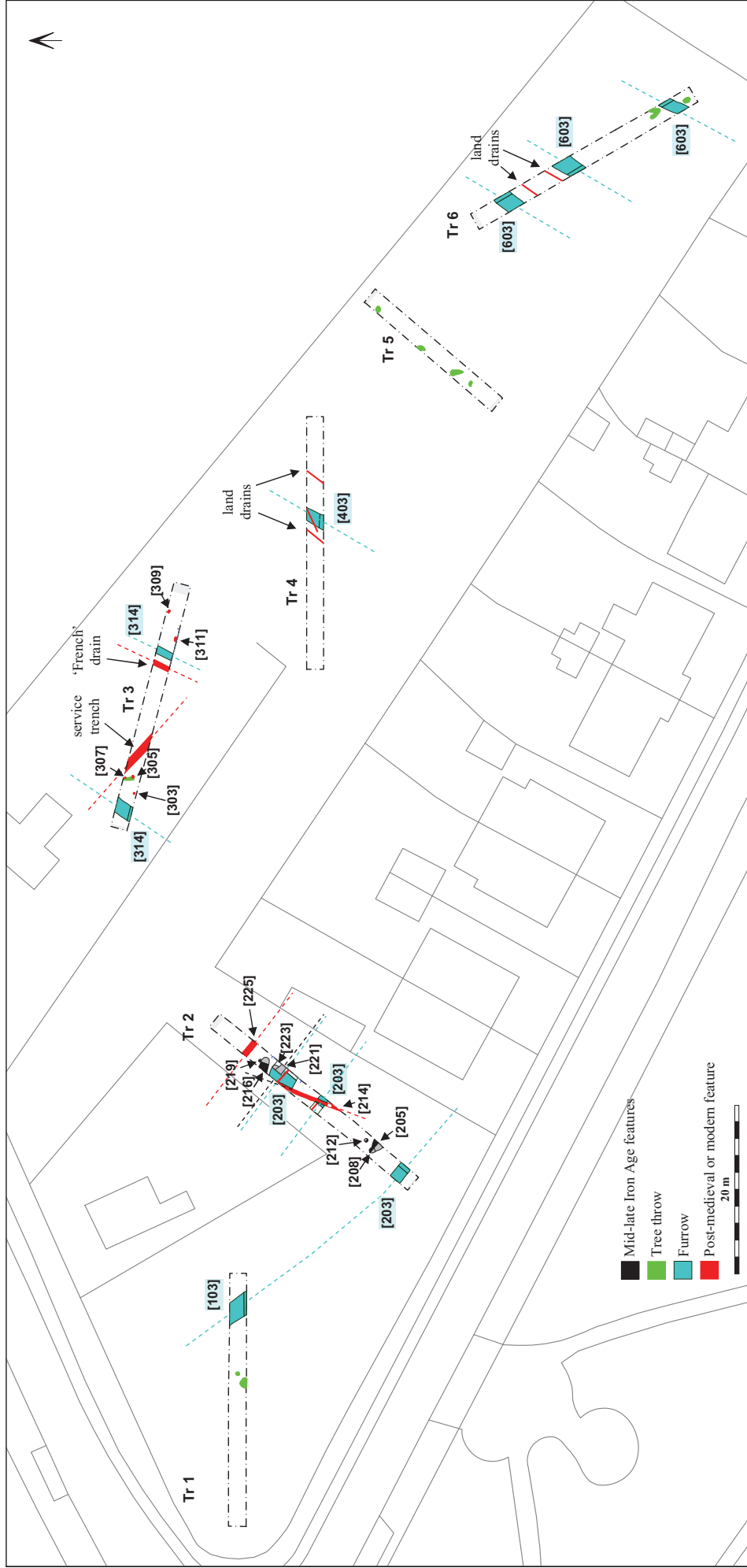


Figure 2: All features plan

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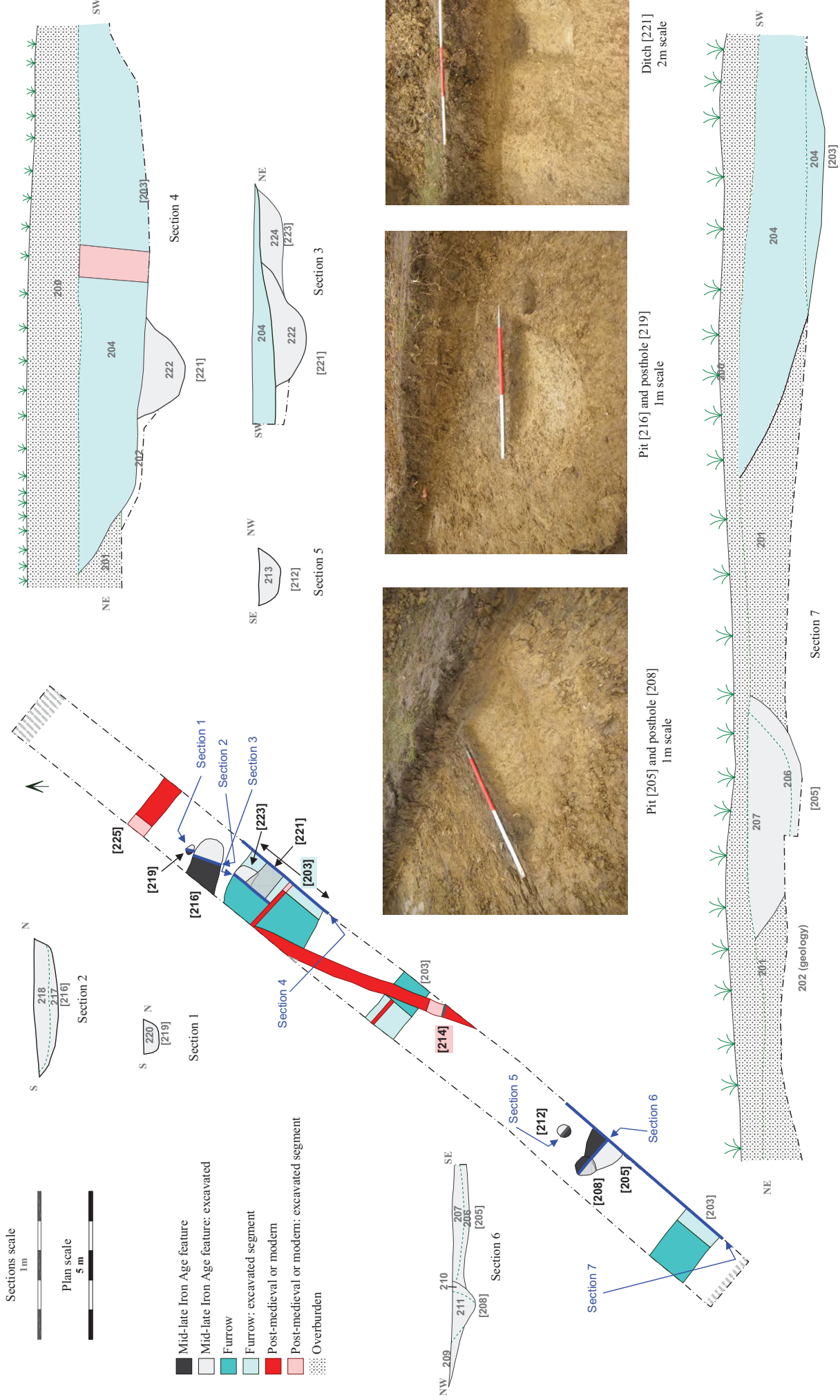


Figure 3: Trench 2 detailed plan and sections

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