LAND AT REACH ROAD BURWELL CAMBRIDGESHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION

Albion archaeology





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ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION

Project: RR2486 CHER Event No. ECB4280 OASIS No. albionar1-192201

> Document: 2015/001 Version 1.0

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6th January 2015

Produced for: Countrypark Estates Ltd

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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 Framptons on behalf of Countrypark Estates Ltd and was monitored on behalf of the Local Planning Authority by Kasia Gdaniec of Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team.

The trial trenching fieldwork was undertaken by Richard Gregson (Archaeological Supervisor) and Catie Watts (Archaeological Technician). This report was prepared by Richard Gregson with contributions from Joan Lightning (CAD Technician) and Jackie Wells (Finds Officer).

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Version History

Version	Issue date	Reason for re-issue
1.0	06/01/2015	n/a

Key Terms

The following abbreviations are used throughout this report:

CHERCambridgeshire Historic Environment RecordHETHistoric Environment Team of Cambridgeshire County CouncilCIfAChartered Institute for ArchaeologistsLPALocal Planning Authority

Non-Technical Summary

Outline planning permission (14/00046/OUM) has been granted for residential and employment development of land off Reach Road, Burwell, Cambridgeshire.

One of the conditions of the permission related to archaeology and Cambridgeshire County Council's Historic Environment Team issued a brief for an initial stage of archaeological field evaluation comprising trial trenching.

The trial trenching took place between 18th and 28th November 2014. Twelve trenches were opened across the site. A low density of archaeological features was revealed across the evaluation area in all but one of the trenches. The features comprised mainly ditches with two clusters of small pits.

A small amount of pottery was recovered from three of the ditches. Most of it is medieval in date and, in some cases, more specifically early medieval.

The remaining undated ditches had broadly similar fills and alignments to the dated features and to the medieval settlement evidence excavated in an adjacent plot to the east. This suggests that most of the undated ditches within the evaluation are also likely to be medieval in date.

In addition to the ditches, two clusters of possible small pits were also revealed. Although no datable artefacts were recovered from them, it is possible that they were also medieval in date because similar clusters of pits were evident in the settlement area to the east.

The results of the trial trenching suggest that the evaluation area was in use during the medieval period. However, the low density of features and relatively small number of artefacts suggest that the site may have been agricultural land, rather than a focus of domestic occupation. The features have limited potential to add to our understanding of former land-use on the periphery of the large fen-edge village of Burwell. Overall, the medieval remains revealed by the evaluation are likely to be of local and, possibly, regional interest.



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

Outline planning permission (14/00046/OUM) has been granted for a residential and employment development of land off Reach Road, Burwell, Cambridgeshire.

One of the conditions of the permission related to archaeology and Cambridgeshire County Council's Historic Environment Team (HET) issued a brief for an initial stage of archaeological field evaluation (HET 2014) comprising trial trenching.

The purpose of the evaluation phase is to determine the potential impact of the development proposals on archaeological remains in order to devise an appropriate mitigation strategy, if necessary.

The trial trenching was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (Albion Archaeology 2014a) that was approved by the HET prior to commencement of fieldwork.

1.2 Site Location, Topography and Geology

Burwell lies *c*. 12km north-east of Cambridge and *c*. 4km north-west of Newmarket to the north of the A14. Reach Road lies to the south of Burwell and connects the B1102 Swaffham Road with the village of Reach to the north-west of Burwell (Figure 1).

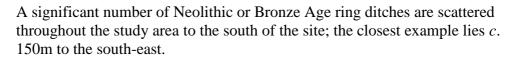
The proposed development area lies on the south side of Reach Road. It comprises: the former DS Smith commercial site; two areas of rough grassland, lined with trees to the west and south; and a narrow access route from Swaffham Road in the south-east. It is bordered by modern residential properties along Swaffham Road in the south and Railway Close in the southeast, industrial units in the north and pasture and arable to the north-east and west.

Burwell lies on the edge of a chalk ridge which defines the change from the higher agricultural land to the south of the village and the lower ground to the north, which was fenland until its drainage in 1850 (Wareham and Wright 2002).

The site lies on level ground at c. 10m OD. The underlying geology is West Melbury Marly Chalk Formation with no superficial deposits recorded. The site is centred on grid reference TL 585 657.

1.3 Archaeological Background

A desk-based heritage assessment was recently compiled for the site (Albion Archaeology 2014b). The document reviewed known heritage assets in the vicinity of the site and a 1km-radius study area around it and assessed the potential for further assets on the site itself. Its main conclusions are summarised here.



Roman settlement evidence was recorded to the north of Reach Road. This consisted of large quantities of Roman pottery, box tiles and roof tiles revealed during deep ploughing of the field opposite the site (HER 04663). A wide scatter of Roman pottery and occupation debris was also recorded stretching underneath Burwell Castle, and recently a decorated lead vat was discovered by a metal detectorist (HER 06807).

A group of undated linear and square enclosure cropmarks lie between the site and the castle (MCB 16981) and an evaluation to the north-east of the site has revealed Iron Age and Roman settlement and burial evidence (MCB 17708).

Burwell is listed in the Domesday Survey of 1086 as a large manor in the hundred of Staploe with 63.5 households, land for 16 ploughlands and two mills. A stray find of a late Saxon coin was found in Spring Close, Burwell (CB 14760) and this area is suggested as a place for the late Saxon settlement. Earthworks suggesting the existence of enclosures and medieval houses lie to the north and east of the medieval castle to the south of Spring Close (HER 01775). Part of the settlement was obliterated by the construction of the castle in the 12th century (Wareham and Wright 2002).

The Devil's Dyke (HER 10550), a post-Roman bank and ditch of possible defensive purposes, lies at the south-west edge of the study area. It is a scheduled monument.

Burwell Castle (HER 01775) is a scheduled monument (NHLE 1015596). The castle lies at the southern edge of the village to the west of St Mary's Church and north of Reach Road, *c*. 300m north of the site. It is a motte and bailey-type castle, believed to have been constructed by King Stephen's forces in the mid 12th century.

Isolated finds of Bronze Age to post-medieval date, including a small Bronze Age metalwork hoard, are scattered throughout the study area.

Burwell is an elongated settlement with a medieval focus around the castle and at least two hamlets that grew into a combined village. Several listed buildings from the 16th to the 19th century line the High Street and The Causeway, the central spine of the village. Throughout the 19th century, with the increased drainage of the fens and availability of farmland, further farm buildings were added and the village expanded westwards

The railway line (HER 07633) was opened in 1884 and provided good transport links for the residents and industries in Burwell. The track of the railway crossed the southern part of the site and the station building was situated just to its south-east. Part of the platform (and the access to it) extended into the site. The station has now been replaced by a modern housing development.

Subsequent to the preparation of the heritage assessment, it has been established that an archaeological excavation was conducted in 2002 in a plot of land to the east of the site. At the time of writing, this excavation is not listed in the HER and it is understood that no report has been prepared. However, a plan was obtained from the excavators (Figure 2) and reference is made to the findings of 11th- to 15th-century settlement activity, including the remains of a later medieval limekiln and a lode channel, in a later publication (Muldowney 2007).

1.4 Project Objectives

Archaeological evidence from the surrounding area indicated that there was the potential for the survival of archaeological remains within the development site.

The objective of the evaluation was to provide information on any archaeological remains present and to enable an appropriate mitigation strategy to be formulated, if necessary.

Information on the following was required:

- The location, extent, nature and date of any archaeological features or deposits that might be present.
- Determining the amount of truncation that may affect any remains, and whether palaeosols or 'B' horizons are present.

The report would also examine the significance of the results with reference to regional research frameworks, which for this area are *Research and Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England* (Medlycott 2011).



The trial trenching took place between 18th and 28th November 2014. Twelve trenches were opened across the site (Figure 2).

Trenches 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7 were 30m long and 1.8m wide. Trenches 5, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 were 20m long and 1.8m wide.

The trenches were opened by a tracked 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.

The project adhered throughout to the standards prescribed in the following documents:

•	Albion Archaeology	Procedures Manual: Volume 1 Fieldwork (2nd edn, 2001).
•	ALGAO (east)	Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England
•	Archaeological Archives Forum	Archaeological Archives: A Guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation (2nd ed. 2011)
•	Cambs. County Council	Deposition of Archaeological Archives in Cambridgeshire (CCC 14/05/14).
•	English Heritage	Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) (2009)
		Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation (2011)
•	CIfA	By-Laws and Code of Conduct Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation

The archive of finds and records generated during the project will be deposited with the Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Store under event number ECB4280.

Details of the project and its findings will be submitted to the Archaeology Data Service's OASIS database under reference number albionar1-192201.



3. RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

All deposits found during the investigations are described below and shown in Figures 2–6. Detailed information on all features and deposits can be found in Appendix 1.

3.2 Overburden and Undisturbed Geological Deposits

Trenches 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7 were situated in areas of open ground. Overburden in all of them, with the exception of Trench 4, consisted of topsoil that was dark brown-grey in colour and varied from sandy silt to silty clay in composition, overlying light to mid brown-grey subsoil that varied in composition from chalky silt to silty clay. In Trench 4, buried topsoil (402) was overlain by a possible make-up layer or external surface layer (401) and an upper topsoil layer (400).

Trenches 5, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 were situated in areas that had been developed as part of the former DS Smith commercial site and had been surfaced in concrete, tarmac or coarse gravel. Below the external surfaces were make-up layers that had been laid down over a reduced ground surface. In many places topsoil had been completely removed leaving only subsoil, which in a few places survived as a 0.5m-thick layer.

The undisturbed geological deposit varied from light grey to yellow-white in colour and from chalky clay to chalk in composition.

3.3 Roman

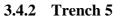
Residual Roman pottery was recovered from ditch [506] in Trench 5. This suggests that there was Roman activity in the area but not within the site as none of the features found within the trenches are believed to be Roman in date.

3.4 Early Medieval Features

Pottery recovered from three ditches, one in the north-west [108], one in the south [506] and one in the south-west [703] of the evaluation area was identified as medieval (1150–1500) in date. Some of the pottery was identified, more specifically, as early medieval in date (1150–1250).

3.4.1 Trench 1

Four east-west aligned, inter-cutting ditches [103], [105], [108], [111] were revealed towards the south-east end of Trench 1. They were 0.8–1.85m wide and up to 0.56m deep. Three sand-tempered pottery sherds (6g) recovered from the secondary fill of ditch [108] are datable to the 12th–13th century, while an indeterminate, abraded grey ware sherd (2g) from ditch [111] may be Romano-British in date. It is probable that these ditches defined a medieval boundary that was important enough to be repeatedly re-established despite it being located in an area that was low-lying and prone to flooding.



An ENE-WSW aligned ditch [506] was revealed in Trench 5. It was 0.88m wide and 0.47m deep. The secondary fill (508) produced seven medieval sand-tempered pottery sherds (17g), including a glazed vessel of 13th–14th-century date. Two residual Roman coarse ware sherds (3g) and an undated (possibly Roman) reduced sandy ware sherd (9g) derived from the same fill.

3.4.3 Trench 7

A 1.2m-wide, 0.29m-deep, NW-SE aligned ditch [703] in Trench 7 produced two early medieval sand-tempered pottery sherds (7g), and eight abraded animal bone fragments (6g) of indeterminate form. The feature was perpendicular to a 2.75m-wide ditch [707] from which no datable artefacts were recovered. A small posthole [705] was located on its north-eastern side.

3.5 Undated Features

Undated features, including several ditches and pits, were revealed in a number of trenches. Due to flooding in Trenches 1, 2, 3, 11 and 12 some of these features could not be excavated. However, the deposits within them were similar to deposits found within other ditches identified by their pottery assemblages as medieval in date.

The majority of undated features across the evaluation area were ditches. They were 0.37-2.75 m wide and 0.2-0.6 m deep.

Four ditches [1005], [1007], [1011], [1013] in Trench 10 were close together and all aligned NW-SE. Although the features produced no datable artefacts, [1005] yielded an oyster shell (15g), and 11 pieces of animal bone (51g), the latter comprising abraded long bone fragments and a sheep/goat molar.

Ten highly abraded, undiagnostic animal bone fragments (5g) were collected from the secondary fill of ditch [405].

Other undated features found in Trenches 8 and 12 are described below.

3.5.1 Trench 8

Two N-S linear features [806] and [808] were revealed in Trench 8. Both were shallow with irregular sides. The upper fill of feature [808] was unusual in that it contained some peat. It is not known whether the features were natural in origin, e.g. small stream channels, or whether they were deliberately dug and left untended to become more irregular through erosion. In addition to the linear features, Trench 8 contained two oval pits [811] and [813] that were 1.11–1.25m wide and up to 0.37m deep.

3.5.2 Trench 12

Six features [1205], [1207], [1209], [1211], [1213], [1215] were identified in Trench 12, several of which were inter-cutting. They included three pits, two gullies and a rectilinear feature. None was excavated due to flooding. The pits were sub-oval or sub-circular in shape and were 0.5–1.25m in diameter. The gullies were 0.33–0.52m wide; the rectilinear feature was 0.5m long and at least 1.65m wide.



In addition to modern make-up layers (gravel, tarmac and concrete surfaces associated with the former DS Smith commercial site) the footings for the corner of a modern, but earlier, brick building (1017) were revealed in Trench 10.



4.1 Summary

Archaeological features were revealed across the evaluation area in all of the trenches except Trench 9. The density of archaeological remains revealed within the trial trenches was fairly similar across the site.

A small amount of pottery was recovered from some of the archaeological features. Although some of it was residual Roman material, most of it was identified as medieval in date and, in some cases, specifically early medieval.

The features comprised mainly ditches with two clusters of small pits and irregular features in Trenches 8 and 12. Some of the latter may have been natural in origin.

Three of the ditches across the site were dated from their pottery as medieval, while a fourth contained oyster shells which are often associated with medieval or Roman sites. The remaining undated ditches had similar fills and alignments that broadly corresponded with the dated features and medieval settlement evidence previously excavated in the adjacent plot to the east. This suggests that most of the undated ditches within the evaluation were also medieval in date. The overall density of ditches appears to be less than in the adjacent plot suggesting that the evaluation area was peripheral to a core settlement area that lay further to the east towards the centre of the village.

In addition to the ditches, two clusters of small pits were also revealed. Although no datable artefacts were recovered from them, it is possible that they were also medieval in date because similar clusters of pits were evident in the settlement area to the east.

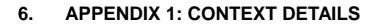
The results of the trial trenching suggest that the evaluation area was in use during the medieval period. However, the low density of features and relatively small number of artefacts suggest the site may have been agricultural land, rather than a focus of domestic occupation.

4.2 Discussion

The limited assemblage of finds and the low density of ditches in comparison to the medieval settlement evidence to the east suggest that the evaluation area was peripheral to the main occupation area in this part of Burwell. As such, the development area has limited potential to add to our understanding of former land-use on the periphery of this large fen-edge village (Medlycott 2011, 70). Overall, the medieval remains revealed by the evaluation are likely to be of local and, possibly, regional interest.

5. **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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Trench:	1				
Max Dimensions:	Length:	30.00 m.	Width: 1.80 m.	Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.7 m.	Max: 0.8 m.
Co-ordinates:	OS Grid Ref.: TL		(Easting: 58467: Northing: 65767)		
	OS Grid	Ref.: TL	(Eastin	g: 58491: Northing: 65750)	
Reason:	To evalua	ate area.			

Context:	Туре:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
100	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey clay silt 0.35m thick.	\checkmark	
101	Subsoil	Firm mid grey silty clay occasional flecks chalk 0.4m thick.	\checkmark	
102	Natural	Firm light grey chalky clay		
103	Ditch	Linear ENE-WSW dimensions: min breadth 0.4m, min depth 0.15m, min length 2.m	\checkmark	
104	Fill	Firm dark grey silty clay	\checkmark	
105	Ditch	Linear ENE-WSW sides: concave base: concave dimensions: min breadth 1.5m, max depth 0.56m, min length 2.m	\checkmark	
106	Primary fill	Firm dark grey brown silty clay 0.06m thick.	\checkmark	
107	Main fill	Firm mid grey chalky clay 0.51m thick.	\checkmark	
108	Ditch	Linear ENE-WSW sides: 45 degrees base: concave dimensions: max breadt 0.8m, max depth 0.33m, min length 2.m	h 🖌	
109	Primary fill	Firm light grey chalky clay 0.05m thick.	\checkmark	
110	Main fill	Firm mid blue grey silty clay 0.29m thick.	\checkmark	\checkmark
111	Ditch	Linear ENE-WSW sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.85m, max depth 0.48m, min length 2.m	\checkmark	
112	Fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay 0.48m thick.	\checkmark	
113	Backfill	Firm light grey chalky clay 0.16m thick.	\checkmark	\checkmark
114	Ditch	Linear NE-SW dimensions: min breadth 1.4m, min length 1.8m		
115	Fill	Firm mid grey silty clay		

Trench: 2

Max Dimensions:	Length:	30.00 m.	Width: 1.80 m.	Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.6 m.	Max: 0.65 m.
Co-ordinates:	OS Grid Ref.: TL		(Easting: 58505: Northing: 65691)		
	OS Grid Ref.: TL		(Easting: 58505: Northing: 65721)		
Reason:	To evalua	ate area.			

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds]	Present:
200	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey clay silt 0.3m thick.	\checkmark	
201	Subsoil	Firm mid grey silty clay occasional flecks chalk 0.4m thick.	\checkmark	
202	Natural	Firm light grey chalky clay		
203	Ditch	Linear E-W dimensions: max breadth 1.95m, min length 1.8m		
204	Fill	Firm dark grey silty clay		



Trench:	3				
Max Dimensions:	Length:	30.00 m.	Width: 1.80 m.	Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.65 m.	Max: 0.7 m.
Co-ordinates:	OS Grid Ref.: TL		(Eastin	g: 58520: Northing: 65666)	
	OS Grid	Ref.: TL	(Eastin	g: 58546: Northing: 65651)	
Reason:	To evalu	ate area.			

Context:	Туре:	Description:	Excavated: Finds	Present:
300	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey clay silt 0.4m thick.	\checkmark	
301	Subsoil	Firm mid grey silty clay 0.3m thick.	\checkmark	
302	Natural	Firm light grey chalky clay		
303	Ditch	Linear NNW-SSE dimensions: max breadth 0.37m, min length 2.75m		
304	Fill	Firm mid grey silty clay		
305	Ditch	Linear N-S dimensions: max breadth 0.55m, min length 2.05m		
306	Fill	Firm dark grey silty clay		

Trench: 4

Max Dimensions:	Length:	30.00 m.	Width: 1.80 m.	Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.43 m.	Max: 0.8 m.
Co-ordinates:	OS Grid Ref.: TL		(Easting: 58610: Northing: 65608)		
	OS Grid Ref.: TL		(Easting: 58640: Northing: 65608)		
Reason:	To evalu	ate area.			

Context: Type: Description:		Description:	Excavated: Finds	Present:	
400	Topsoil	Friable dark grey clay silt occasional small stones 0.35m thick.	\checkmark		
401	Make up layer	Firm light grey chalky clay frequent small chalk 0.08m thick.	\checkmark		
402	Buried topsoil	Firm dark grey clay silt occasional small chalk 0.3m thick.	\checkmark		
403	Subsoil	Firm mid grey chalky clay occasional small chalk 0.25m thick.	\checkmark		
404	Natural	Firm light grey clay chalk			
405	Ditch	Linear NE-SW sides: 45 degrees dimensions: min breadth 1.5m, min depth 0.47m, min length 2.25m	n 🗸		
406	Primary fill	Firm light grey white chalky silt occasional small-medium chalk At least 0.07n thick.	n 🔽		
407	Main fill	Firm light brown grey chalky silt At least 0.47m thick.	\checkmark	\checkmark	



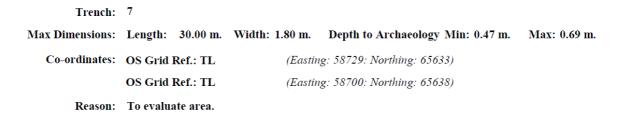
Trench:	5				
Max Dimensions:	Length:	20.00 m.	Width: 1.80 m.	Depth to Archaeology Min: 1.1 m.	Max: 1.18 m.
Co-ordinates:	OS Grid	Ref.: TL	(Easting		
	OS Grid	Ref.: TL	(Easting	g: 58601: Northing: 65636)	
Reason:	To evalua	ate area.			

Context:	Туре:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
500	Concrete	0.25m thick.	\checkmark	
501	Make up layer	Loose dark grey sand moderate small-medium CBM, moderate small stone Tarmac planings, 0.25m thick.	s 🗸	
502	Make up layer	Loose mid orange brown sandy gravel 0.25m thick.	\checkmark	
503	Buried topsoil	Firm dark grey sandy silt 0.3m thick.	✓	
504	Subsoil	Firm mid grey chalky silt 0.4m thick.	\checkmark	
505	Natural	Firm light yellow white clay chalk		
506	Ditch	Linear ENE-WSW sides: 45 degrees base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.88m, max depth 0.47m, min length 3.75m	✓	
507	Primary fill	Firm light grey silty clay 0.07m thick.	\checkmark	
508	Main fill	Firm mid grey silty clay 0.39m thick.	\checkmark	\checkmark

Trench: 6

Max Dimensions:Length:30.00 m.Width:1.80 m.Depth to Archaeology Min:0.63 m.Max:0.65 m.Co-ordinates:OS Grid Ref.: TL(Easting:58672:Northing:65628)OS Grid Ref.: TL(Easting:58689:Northing:65603)Reason:To evaluate area.

Context:	Туре:	Description:	Excavated: Finds Present:
600	Natural	Firm white clay chalk	
601	Subsoil	Firm mid grey chalky clay 0.35m thick.	
602	Topsoil	Friable dark grey silty clay 0.3m thick.	
603	Ditch	Linear ENE-WSW sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.97m, max depth 0.44m, min length 1.8m	
604	Lower fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay frequent small chalk, occasional medium-large stones 0.41m thick.	
608	Upper fill	Firm mid brown grey chalky clay frequent small chalk, occasional small-medius stones Possible collapsed or ploughed in bank material. 0.24m thick.	n 🔽 🗌
605	Ditch	Linear NE-SW sides: 45 degrees base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.33m, max depth 0.56m, min length 1.8m	
606	Lower fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay frequent small chalk, occasional small-medium stones 0.24m thick.	
607	Upper fill	Firm light brown grey silty clay occasional small chalk, occasional small-mediu stones 0.34m thick.	m 🗹 🗌
609	Ditch	Linear NE-SW dimensions: min breadth 2.m, min length 1.8m	
610	Fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay occasional small stones	



Context:	Туре:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
700	Topsoil	Friable dark grey sandy silt 0.26m thick.	\checkmark	
701	Subsoil	Friable light grey chalky silt 0.34m thick.	\checkmark	
702	Natural	Firm light yellow white chalk		
703	Ditch	Linear NNW-SSE sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.2m, max depth 0.29m, min length 3.m	✓	
704	Fill	Firm light grey chalky silt occasional flecks chalk, occasional small chalk	\checkmark	\checkmark
705	Posthole	Circular sides: near vertical base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.23m, max diameter 0.15m	✓	
706	Fill	Firm light grey chalky silt occasional flecks chalk, occasional small chalk	\checkmark	
707	Ditch	Linear ENE-WSW sides: assymetrical base: flat dimensions: max breadth 2.75m, max depth 0.47m, min length 2.5m	✓	
708	Primary fill	Firm mid grey silty clay moderate small chalk 0.23m thick.	\checkmark	
709	Lower fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay occasional flecks chalk 0.09m thick.	\checkmark	
710	Fill	Firm dark brown grey clay silt occasional small stones 0.1m thick.	\checkmark	
711	Main fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay occasional small stones 0.23m thick.	\checkmark	
716	Ditch	Linear NNE-SSW dimensions: max breadth 0.9m, min length 1.7m		
717	Fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay occasional small chalk, occasional small stones		
718	Ditch	Linear ENE-WSW dimensions: max breadth 0.7m, min length 3.m		
719	Fill	Firm light brown grey silty clay occasional small stones		



 Trench:
 8

 Max Dimensions:
 Length:
 22.30 m.
 Width:
 1.80 m.
 Depth to Archaeology Min:
 0.69 m.
 Max:
 0.8 m.

 Co-ordinates:
 OS Grid Ref.: TL
 (Easting:
 58686:
 Northing:
 65663)

 OS Grid Ref.: TL
 (Easting:
 58666:
 Northing:
 65663)

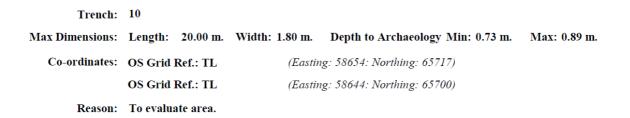
 Reason:
 To evaluate area.
 To evaluate area.
 To evaluate area.

Context: Type:		e: Description:		Finds Present:	
800	Concrete	0.27m thick.	✓		
801	External surface	Loose mid brown grey gravel 0.3m thick.	\checkmark		
802	Make up layer	Firm dark grey sandy clay occasional small-large CBM, frequent small stones 0.18m thick.	\checkmark		
803	Make up layer	Loose mid yellow brown sandy gravel 0.2m thick.	\checkmark		
804	Subsoil	Firm mid brown grey silty clay 0.32m thick.	~		
805	Natural	Firm white chalky clay			
806	Feature	Irregular N-S sides: assymetrical base: uneven dimensions: max breadth 2.m, max depth 0.33m, min length 1.8m	✓		
807	Fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay occasional flecks chalk, occasional small chalk	\checkmark		
808	Feature	Linear N-S sides: assymetrical base: uneven dimensions: max breadth 1.07m, max depth 0.26m, min length 1.8m	✓		
809	Lower fill	Firm mid grey chalky silt frequent flecks chalk, occasional small chalk 0.16m thick.	\checkmark		
810	Main fill	Firm dark grey clay peat occasional flecks chalk 0.26m thick.	\checkmark		
811	Pit	Oval E-W sides: steep base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.8m, max depth 0.37m, max length 1.25m	✓		
812	Fill	Firm mid grey silty clay occasional flecks chalk, occasional small chalk	\checkmark		
813	Pit	Oval E-W sides: concave base: concave dimensions: min breadth 0.35m, mi depth 0.36m, max length 1.11m	n 🗸		
814	Fill	Firm mid grey silty clay frequent flecks chalk, frequent small-large chalk	\checkmark		
815	Buried topsoil	Firm dark grey silty clay 0.09m thick.	\checkmark		

Trench: 9

Max Dimensions:Length:20.00 m.Width:1.80 m.Depth to Archaeology Min:0.95 m.Max:0.95 m.Co-ordinates:OS Grid Ref.: TL(Easting:58645: Northing:65660)OS Grid Ref.: TL(Easting:58637: Northing:65679)Reason:To evaluate area.

Context:	Туре:	Description:	Excavated: Fi	nds Present:
900	Concrete	0.15m thick.	\checkmark	
901	Make up layer	Loose dark grey silty sand moderate small-large CBM, frequent small stone 0.17m thick.	s 🗸	
902	Buried topsoil	Firm dark grey clay silt 0.4m thick.	\checkmark	
903	Subsoil	Firm mid grey silty clay 0.35m thick.	\checkmark	
904	Natural	Firm light yellow white chalky clay		
905	Modern intrusion	sides: vertical dimensions: min breadth 1.8m, min depth 1.2m, min length 10.m	\checkmark	
906	Backfill	Friable dark grey silty sand moderate large CBM At least 0.6m thick.	\checkmark	
907	Backfill	Friable mid grey brown silty sand occasional medium-large CBM, frequent smal large stones 0.7m thick.	1-	



Context: Type: **Description: Excavated: Finds Present:** 1000 Natural Firm light grey white clay chalk ✓ 1001 Subsoil Firm mid brown grey silty clay 0.4m thick. ✓ 1002 **Buried** topsoil Friable dark brown grey silty clay 0.08m thick. ✓ 1003 Make up layer Loose mid orange brown sandy gravel 0.2m thick. 1004 External surface Loose light brown yellow sandy gravel 0.3m thick. ✓ < 1005 Ditch Linear NW-SE sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.6m, max depth 0.4m, min length 1.8m ✓ ✓ 1006 Fill Firm mid brown grey chalky clay occasional small stones ✓ 1007 Ditch Linear NW-SE sides: convex base: flat dimensions: max breadth 1.3m, max depth 0.6m, min length 1.8m ✓ 1008 Primary fill Firm light grey white chalky clay frequent medium-large chalk 0.27m thick. ✓ 1009 Fill Firm light grey silty clay frequent flecks chalk, frequent small chalk 0.17m thick. ✓ 1010 Upper fill Firm mid grey silty clay occasional flecks chalk 0.2m thick. ✓ Linear NW-SE sides: concave dimensions: min breadth 0.37m, min depth 1011 Ditch 0.2m, min length 0.9m Fill ✓ \square 1012 Firm dark brown grey silty clay 1013 Ditch Linear NW-SE dimensions: min breadth 1.25m, min length 1.15m 1014 Fill Firm mid grey silty clay 1015 Irregular N-S dimensions: min breadth 2.6m, min length 2.8m Modern intrusion 1016 Backfill Loose mid orange brown sandy gravel 1017 Wall Wall footings comprising two rows of modern bricks with a cavity between them.

Trench: 11

Max Dimensions:	Length:	20.00 m.	Width: 1.80 m.	Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.6 m.	Max: 1. m.
Co-ordinates:	OS Grid Ref.: TL		(Easting: 58611: Northing: 65738)		
	OS Grid	Ref.: TL	(Eastin	g: 58623: Northing: 65722)	
Reason:	To evalua	ate area.			

Context:	Туре:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1100	Tarmac	0.05m thick.	\checkmark	
1101	Concrete	0.2m thick.	\checkmark	
1102	Make up layer	Loose mid brown orange sandy gravel frequent small-large CBM 0.1m thic	ek. ✓	
1103	Make up layer	Firm dark grey silty clay occasional medium-large CBM 0.1m thick.	\checkmark	
1104	Subsoil	Firm mid grey silty clay 0.4m thick.	\checkmark	
1105	Buried topsoil	Firm dark grey clay silt 0.5m thick.	\checkmark	
1106	Natural	Firm white chalky clay		
1107	Ditch	Linear NE-SW dimensions: max breadth 0.6m, min length 1.85m		
1108	Fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay		



Trench:	12				
Max Dimensions:	Length:	20.00 m.	Width: 1.80 m.	Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.5 m.	Max: 0.6 m.
Co-ordinates:	OS Grid	Ref.: TL	(Eastin		
	OS Grid	Ref.: TL	(Eastin	g: 58563: Northing: 65750)	
Reason:	To evalua	ate area.			

Context:	Туре:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1200	Concrete	0.25m thick.	\checkmark	
1201	Make up layer	Loose mid brown orange sandy gravel frequent small-large CBM 0.25m thick.	\checkmark	
1202	Make up layer	Firm dark grey silty clay occasional medium CBM 0.2m thick.	\checkmark	
1203	Subsoil	Firm mid grey silty clay 0.2m thick.	\checkmark	
1204	Natural	Firm white chalky clay		
1205	Pit	Sub-circular dimensions: min breadth 0.47m, max length 1.25m		
1206	Fill	Firm dark grey silty clay		
1207	Gulley	Linear NE-SW dimensions: max breadth 0.33m, min length 1.72m		
1208	Fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay		
1209	Pit	Sub-oval N-S dimensions: max breadth 0.37m, max length 0.5m		
1210	Fill	Firm mid grey silty clay		
1211	Feature	Sub-rectangular E-W dimensions: min breadth 0.5m, min length 1.65m		
1212	Fill	Firm mid grey silty clay		
1213	Gulley	Linear NE-SW dimensions: max breadth 0.52m, min length 1.9m		
1214	Fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay		
1215	Pit	Sub-circular dimensions: max diameter 0.9m		
1216	Fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay		



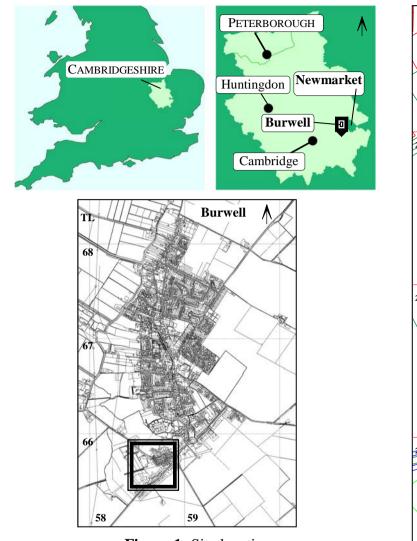
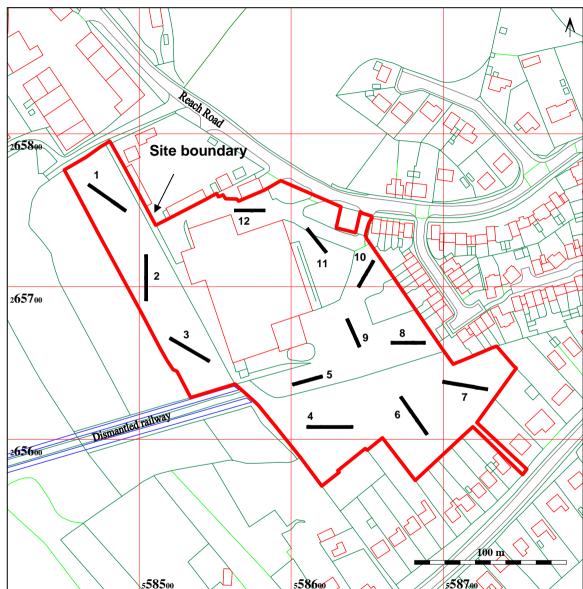


Figure 1: Site location This map is based upon Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Central Bedfordshire Council. Licence No. 100049029 (2011)



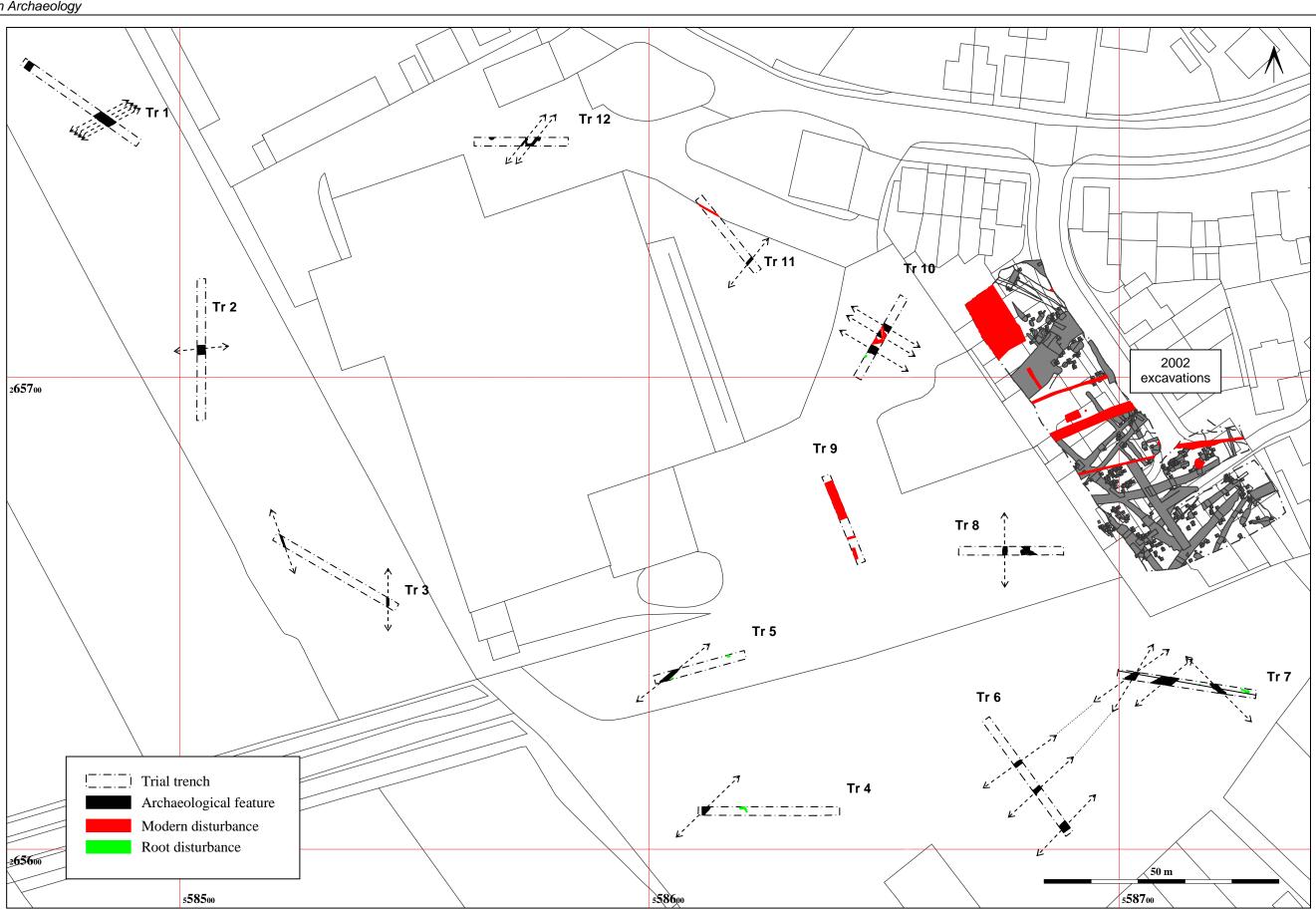
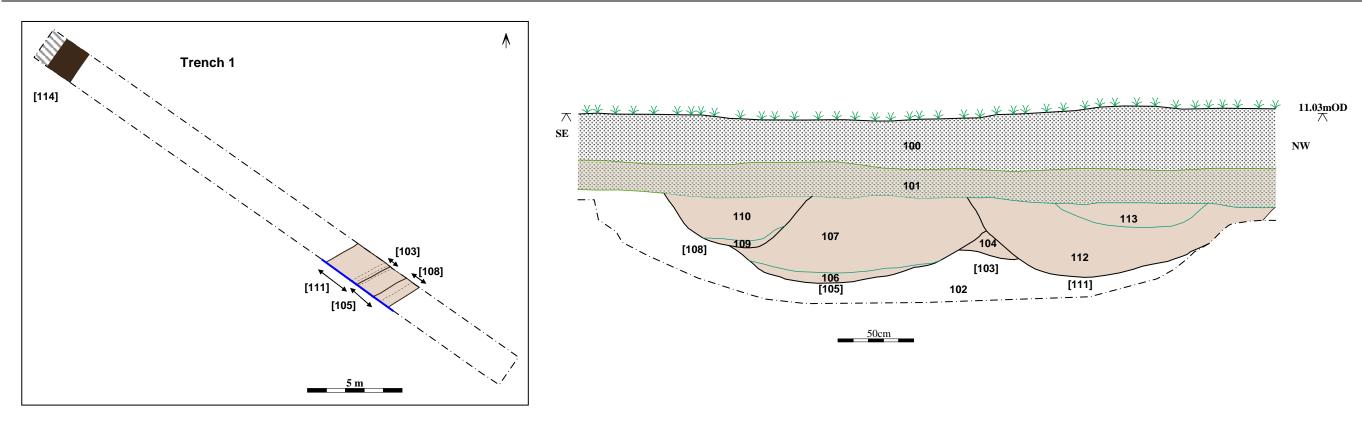


Figure 2: Trenching results
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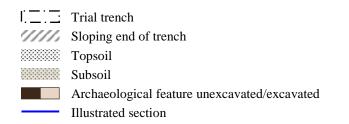


Figure 3: Trench 1

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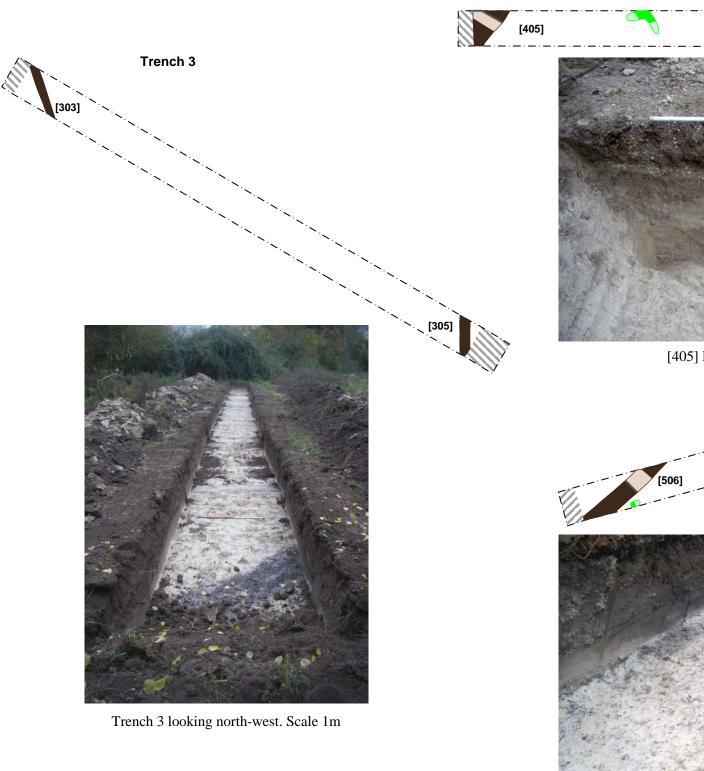
Albion Archaeology



Trench 2 looking south. Scale 1m

Archaeological feature unexcavated/excavated

Root disturbance unexcavated/excavated



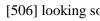
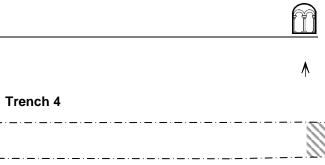


Figure 4: Trenches 2, 3, 4, and 5

I Trial trench

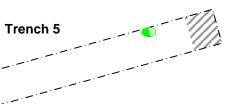
Topsoil Subsoil

Sloping end of trench





[405] looking north. Scale 1m





[506] looking south-west. Scale 1m

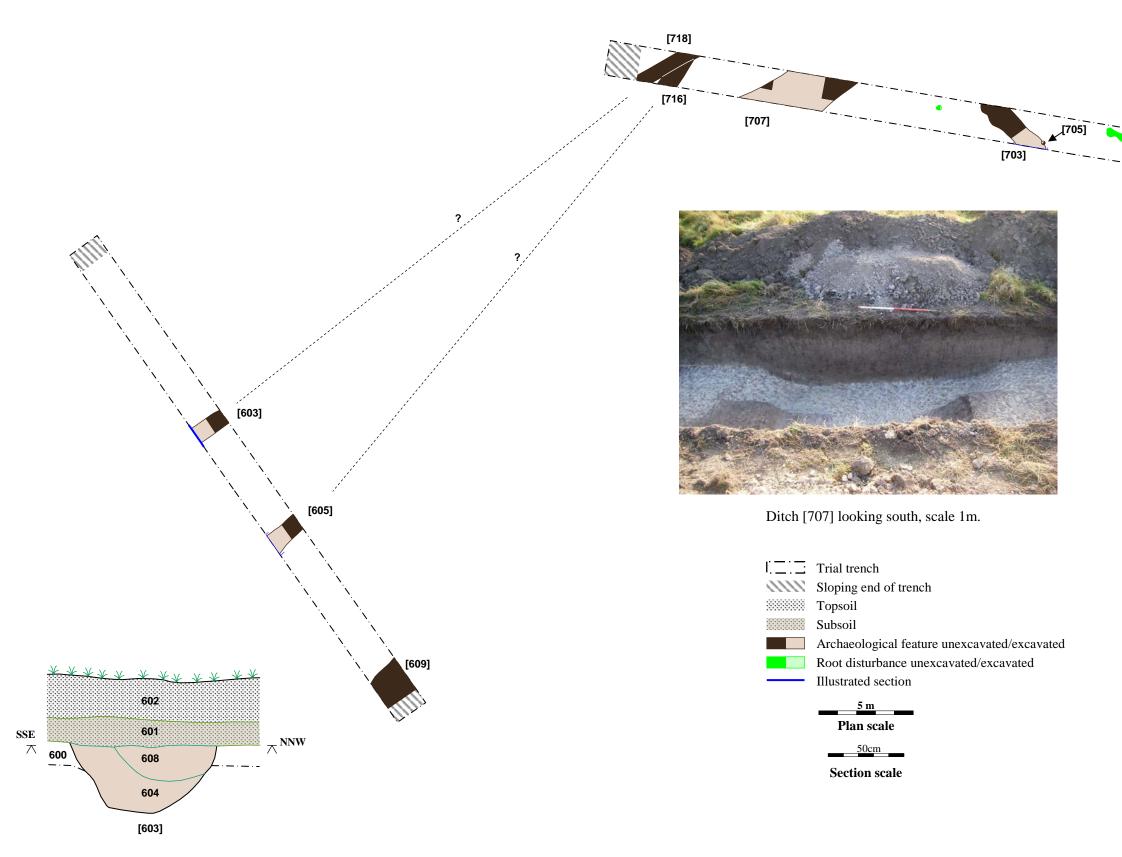
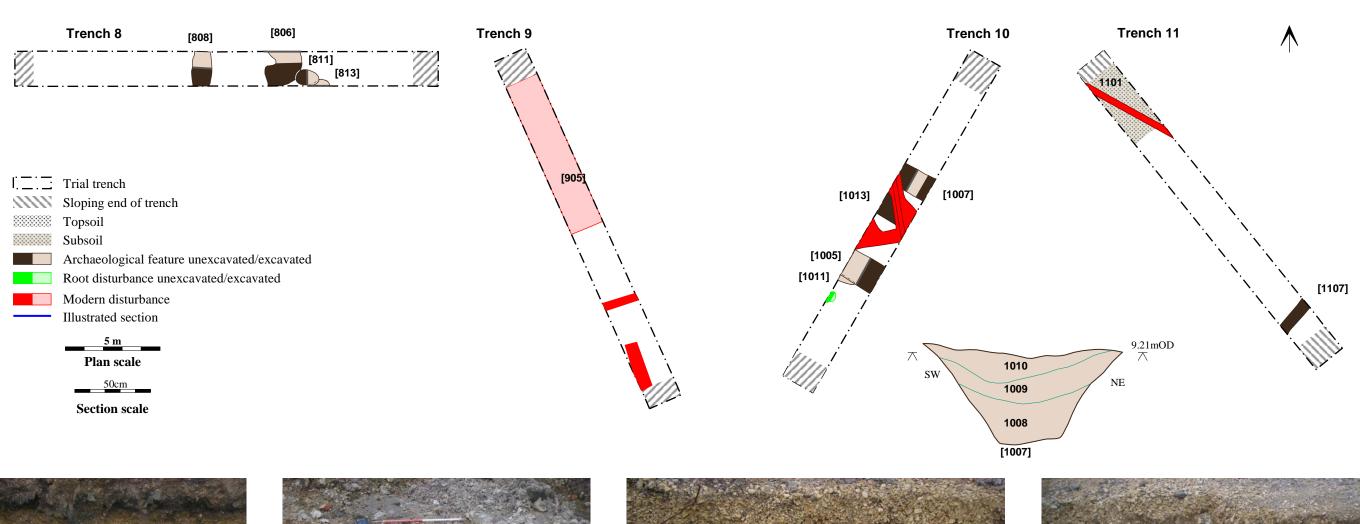




Figure 5: Trenches 6 and 7

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[808] looking south, scale 1m



[806] looking north, scale 1m



[1005] looking south-east, scale 1m



[1007] looking north-west, scale 1m

Figure 6: Trenches 8, 9, 10 and 11

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