CROFT GARDENS BARTON ROAD CAMBRIDGE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION

Albion archaeology





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ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION

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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.

The project was commissioned by Bidwells and monitored on behalf of the Local Planning Authority by Kasia Gdaniec of the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team.

The fieldwork was undertaken by Christiane Meckseper (Project Officer) and Victoria Hainsworth (Assistant Supervisor). Metal-detecting was carried out by Archie Gillespie. This report was prepared by Christiane Meckseper with contributions from Joan Lightning (CAD Technician) and Jackie Wells (Finds Officer). The project was managed by Gary Edmondson (Project Manager). All Albion projects are under the overall management of Drew Shotliff (Operations Manager).

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Key Terms

The following abbreviations are used throughout this report:

CHER Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record

ClfA Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

HET Historic Environment Team of Cambridgeshire County Council

LPA Local Planning Authority
PDA Proposed development area

Structure of this Report

Section 1 serves as an introduction to the project, describing the site's location, its archaeological background and the aims of the archaeological work. Section 2 describes the trial trenching methodology and Section 3 summarises the results of the evaluation, with Section 4 examining the significance of those results. A heritage asset and impact assessment forms Section 5. Section 6 is a bibliography. Appendix 1 (Section 7) contains trench summary information and detailed contextual data. Appendix 2 (Section



8) contains information on the artefacts from the site. Appendix 3 (Section 9) is the OASIS summary form.



Non-Technical Summary

Bidwells, on behalf of King's College Cambridge Developments Ltd, are gathering information in support of a planning application for the holistic redevelopment of the site of Croft Gardens, Barton Road, Cambridge.

As the site lies in an archaeologically sensitive area with a moderate to high potential for Anglo-Saxon burials, the Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (HET), acting in the capacity of archaeological adviser to the LPA, recommended that the site should be subject to an archaeological trial trench evaluation to determine the impact of the development on archaeological remains.

The evaluation took place between 3rd and 6th February 2015. Trench 6 towards the rear of the site revealed an isolated prehistoric pit containing early Iron Age pottery, together with a possible line of three undated postholes. In Trench 1, two parallel ditches were excavated near the Barton Road street frontage. Three abraded sherds of Roman pottery were recovered but it is not certain whether or not they provide reliable dating for the ditches — they may be residual sherds in much later features.

No evidence for Anglo-Saxon burials or settlement was found in the trial trenches.

Throughout the medieval and early post-medieval period the site was most likely agricultural land. A subsoil, possibly alluvial in origin, and a darker "garden soil" were recorded in most of the trenches.

A rubbish pit or midden, containing a relatively large number of ceramic pots and painted pot lids for toothpaste, anchovy paste and bear's grease, was found in Trench 3. This may be associated with the house at no. 27 Barton Road which was built in the early 19th century. The trench also contained a small brick structure, associated with the buildings of Croft Gardens. A green glazed roof tile and 1920s milk bottle was retrieved from a modern rubbish pit, also in Trench 3.

While the Iron Age and possible Roman features were small-scale and isolated, they nevertheless provide evidence for potential early Iron Age and Roman settlement activity and the laying out of boundaries. These remains are of moderate significance in terms of the regional archaeological frameworks. The post-medieval and modern remains provide further evidence for the construction, life and demolition of the known structures on the site. Overall, the remains are of no more than local significance.

The proposed development will comprise the demolition of all buildings currently on site and the construction of new two- to three-storey graduate houses and apartments, with associated landscaping. Depending on the extent of the groundworks associated with the new structures, the potential archaeological impact of the proposals will be moderate to high.

However, the heritage assets revealed during the evaluation are of low to moderate significance. Accordingly, the significance of the potential archaeological impact of the proposed development is assessed as moderate. With a suitable programme of post-determination archaeological mitigation the significance of this impact will be reduced to low.



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Planning Background

Bidwells, on behalf of King's College Cambridge Developments Ltd, are gathering information in support of a planning application for the holistic redevelopment of the site of Croft Gardens, Barton Road, Cambridge.

As the site lies in an archaeologically sensitive area with a moderate to high potential for Anglo-Saxon burials (Albion 2014a), the Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (HET), acting in the capacity of archaeological adviser to the LPA, recommended that the site should be subject to a programme of archaeological investigation to determine the impact of the development on archaeological remains. This is in accordance with the *National Planning Policy Framework 2012*.

The HET issued a brief (2014) for the archaeological works required by the condition. The brief specified that an archaeological field evaluation should be undertaken in the form of trial trenching, with the proviso that if significant archaeological remains were encountered during this stage of works, further archaeological investigation might be required. In that case, any additional work would be the subject of a further brief from the HET.

Albion Archaeology was commissioned to produce a written scheme of investigation (WSI) for the archaeological trial trenching (Albion Archaeology 2014b), based on the Brief, and to undertake the archaeological works. The WSI was approved by the HET. The trial trenching took place between 3rd and 6th February 2015, and the results of the evaluation are set out in this report.

1.2 Site Location and Description

Barton Road is one of the main routes leading in and out of Cambridge on its south-western side. Croft Gardens lies on the southern side of Barton Road in between King's Road and Millington Road, close to its junction with Newnham Road and Lammas Land.

The proposed development area (PDA) consists of: Croft Gardens; its neighbouring property 27 Barton Road to the west; part of the rear garden of 21 Barton Road; and a small woodland with an industrial shed and a Nursery School at the back of the grounds — a total area of c. 0.82ha. It is bordered to the west and east by further residential properties and to the south by the back gardens, further residential houses and a pond at the back of the Millington Road and King's Road properties (Figure 1).

The PDA falls within the parish of St Mark and is centred on grid reference TL 4402 5743. It lies on level ground at 10-15m OD and c. 500m north of the River Cam. The underlying geology consists of sand and gravel River Terrace Deposits 2 over Gault Formation Mudstone¹.

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¹ Contains British Geological Survey Materials NERC (2014)



1.3 Archaeological Background

A heritage asset assessment was recently compiled for the PDA (Albion 2014a). The document reviewed known heritage assets recorded in the Historic Environment Record (HER) in the vicinity of the site and a 500m-radius study area around it and assessed the potential for further assets on the site itself. Its main conclusions are summarised here.

The PDA lies in the south-west part of Cambridge on the southern side of Barton Road. Barton Road is one of the main routes in and out of Cambridge, but lay within agricultural fields outside the limits of the town until the mid-19th century.

So far, no settlement evidence pre-dating the 19th century has been found within the study area and medieval and post-medieval evidence suggests that the area was mainly in agricultural use.

There are isolated find spots of prehistoric artefacts (HER 04398A, 04431, 05103, and a moderate number of recorded finds of Roman pottery (HER 04997A, 05097, 05109A 05113A), which could suggest settlement within the wider area. Extensive cropmark complexes of potentially Iron Age and Roman settlement are recorded south of the River Cam (HER 05031, 09601).

What characterises the archaeological assets within the study area and the PDA are the number of recorded burials. An Iron Age and several Roman burials (HER 04427, 04429, 05161, 05089) were recorded to the east and north of the site, suggesting association with potential settlement. The potential for prehistoric or Roman archaeological remains on the PDA has been assessed as low to moderate.

A relatively large number of Anglo-Saxon burials (HER 05109) were found on the site of the former Croft Lodge to the east of the PDA and on sites to the north and north-west of Croft Gardens (HER 05097A, 05098, 04997), suggesting a fairly extensive Anglo-Saxon burial ground in the area. No Anglo-Saxon burials were found on the PDA itself. However, this does not preclude the possibility of their existence. The potential for further archaeological assets dating to the Anglo-Saxon period is, therefore, assessed as moderate to high.

With the expansion of Cambridge westwards, and the re-location and foundation of several colleges in this part of the town, Barton Road and its neighbouring streets, were gradually developed. The built heritage environment within the study area predominantly consists of late 19th- and early 20th-century detached residential housing. There is ongoing infilling and re-development of sites, leading to the existence of several late 20th- and early 21st-century buildings close to the PDA, mainly in the form of flats.

The buildings currently on the PDA consist of 27 Barton Road, one of the earliest buildings along the road, dating from the c. 1840s. Croft Gardens itself is a courtyard arrangement of three blocks of buildings built in a 1930s modern style with Art Deco or Art Moderne features, similar to Maitland House at the corner of Grantchester Street to the east.



Monitoring of geotechnical test pits in November/December 2014 revealed no archaeological features or artefacts (Albion 2014b). The monitoring recorded modern made ground (on average 0.80m thick) along the Barton Road frontage of the site. To the rear of the site the overburden tended to be 0.5m thick. The underlying geological deposits comprised orange silty sand over white river gravels.

1.4 Project Objectives

The objectives of the trial trenching are detailed in the WSI (Albion 2014). The principal objective was to determine whether archaeological remains were present at the site and, if so, establish their extent, condition, nature and significance. Particular attention was to be paid to determining the amount of truncation that may affect any remains, and whether palaeosols or 'B' horizons were present.

Specific research aims were to:

- Determine the location, extent, nature and date of any archaeological features or deposits that might be present, in particular relating to the Iron Age, Roman and Anglo-Saxon period;
- Characterisation of the artefact contents of soil horizons, to provide an understanding of the presence/absence and condition of underlying archaeological remains.

This information will be used in the formulation of an appropriate mitigation strategy for any archaeological remains that might be present.

The broader objective of the project was to add to the knowledge and understanding of the origins and nature of settlement in the area and produce an archive report that fully described the archaeological works.



2. METHOD STATEMENT

The methodological approach to the project is summarised below and detailed in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Albion Archaeology 2014c).

2.1 Standards

Throughout the project the standards set out in the following documents will be adhered to:

•	Albion Archaeology	<i>Procedures Manual: Volume 1 Fieldwork</i> (2nd edn, 2001).
•	ALGAO (East)	Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England (Gurney 2003). Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers.
•	Cambridgeshire County Council	Deposition of Archaeological Archives in the Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Store: Guidelines. HER 2004/1.
		Brief for Archaeological Evaluation, Croft Gardens, Land at 21-29 Barton Road, Newnham, Cambridge, 1st December 2014.
•	$CIfA^2$	By-Laws and Code of Conduct
		Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation and for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials (2013)
•	English Heritage	Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) Project Managers' Guide (2006)
		Management of Archaeological Projects (MAP2) (1991)
		Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation (2011)

2.2 Archaeological Trial Trenching

Four linear and two square trenches were excavated within the PDA (Figure 2). The trenches were located to avoid a number of site constraints in the form of buildings (which were still in use), hard surfaces, trees and services. In most cases their position had to be adjusted on site.

Trench 4 was excavated to its full length of 20m. Trench 1 had to be shortened due to trees and machine-access issues. Trench 2 had to be re-orientated and shortened to avoid a telecoms cable, tree and access drive and Trench 3 had to be shortened due to a tree canopy. Rectangular Trenches 5 and 6 were slightly

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² All CIfA codes, standards and guidelines are available at: http://www.archaeologists.net/codes/ifa.



reduced in size due to trees and machine-access issues.

The trenches were opened by a mechanical excavator, fitted with a flat-edged ditching bucket. The machine was operated by an experienced driver under the supervision of an archaeologist. All trenches and spoil were scanned with a metal detector. All archaeological excavation and recording was carried out by experienced Albion Archaeology staff.



3. RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

The trial trenching took place between 3rd and 6th February 2015, in a period of generally cold dry conditions, though with occasional sleet and snow. The trenches were inspected and monitored on Thursday 5th February by Kasia Gdaniec of the HET who also agreed to the trenches being backfilled the following day.

All deposits found during the investigations are described below from earliest to latest in date, integrating artefact data as appropriate. Figures 2 and 3 show plans and sections of the features; Figures 4 to 11 represent selected images. More detailed information on the deposits revealed in the trenches can be found in Appendix 1, with artefact information in Appendix 2.

Contexts in brackets refer to deposits recorded on site. Cut features are in square brackets; deposits or layers are in curved brackets.

3.2 Overburden and Geological Deposits

Ground conditions differed slightly between the northern and southern parts of the site. Trenches 1, 2 and 3 lay within the landscaped, grassed grounds of Croft Gardens while Trenches 4, 5 and 6 lay within a small area of woodland towards the rear of the site.

Overburden in Trenches 1, 2 and 3 comprised a layer of turf and topsoil, generally 0.20m thick. This overlay a layer of dark brown soil (a possible former garden soil) (103), (202) and (305), which was up to 0.50m thick.

In Trenches 4, 5 and 6 overburden comprised a thin layer of leaf mulch over a layer of topsoil or former garden soil, which was generally 0.40–0.50m thick (400, 500, 501, 600, 601). It is likely that this layer equates to the garden soils in Trenches 1, 2 and 3.

At the bottom of the sequence of overburden a layer of subsoil, 0.25–0.35m thick and possibly alluvial in origin, was present in all trenches (104, 203, 310, 401, 502, 602). Layer (602) contained fragments of two 17th-century clay tobacco pipe bowls and a fragment of 17th-century pottery.

The subsoil overlay the natural geological stratum which consisted of a mid to light orange gravelly silty sand. A slightly irregular feature [106] was situated in the southern end of Trench 1 (Figure 4). It was cut directly into the geological stratum and had irregular sides and a concave base. It contained a light naturally silted fill and no finds. It is likely that this is feature represents a variation in the underlying geology.

3.3 Archaeological Features and Deposits

3.3.1 Prehistoric pit and postholes



A small number of prehistoric features were revealed in Trench 6 (Figure 11). These consisted of a small pit [604] at the northern limit of excavation and three possible postholes [606], [608] and [610] forming a short SW-NE alignment.

The pit contained a light grey-brown fill (605) and several pottery fragments, deriving from a single vessel dated to the early Iron Age. The fills of the postholes were dark grey in colour with frequent small roots; they produced no artefacts.

3.3.2 Possible Roman ditches

Two parallel ditches [108] and [111] were located in the northern end of Trench 1 (Figures 5 and 6). The ditches were on an E-W alignment, parallel to and c. 6m south of Barton Road. Ditch [108] may represent a replacement or re-definition of [111]. They were filled with naturally silted material; its dark colour suggests it derives from an unstable upper soil profile. The fills of the ditches yielded three small fragments of abraded Roman pottery. The latter have provisionally been assigned an early Roman date but their abraded nature means that they cannot categorically date the ditches to the Roman period — they may be residual sherds within a much later feature.

3.3.3 Post-medieval and modern occupation layers and pits

A layer of subsoil (310) was recorded in Trench 3. It was truncated by two possible pits [306] and [317], which contained a large number of ceramic and glass vessels (Figure 8). It is possible that these were rubbish pits or middens used to discard material originating from the household at 27 Barton Road. They were overlain by a garden soil (305).

A modern rubbish pit was located in the southern edge of Trench 3 (Figure 8). It was cut from below the topsoil and extended beyond the limit of excavation in the south. It was filled with broken ceramic sewage pipe (not kept), fragments of a vivid green glazed roof tile and a milk bottle of a type which first appeared in the 1920s. It is likely that this pit is contemporary with the construction of the Croft Gardens buildings.

Trench 2, which was situated immediately to the north of 27 Barton Road, revealed a series of thin bands of white, yellow and grey gravel interspersed with lenses of dark soil (201) (Figure 7). This was situated directly below the modern topsoil and above the main "garden soil" of the site. It is possible that these represent former external gravel surfaces which were repeatedly renewed during the use of the building. No finds were recovered from the layer.

3.3.4 Modern demolition layers

Trench 1 revealed a layer of demolition material (101) underneath the topsoil (visible on Figure 4). This consisted of loose orange silty sand with frequent fragments of brick and mortar (not retained); pottery, clay tobacco pipe and window glass were also present. Layer (101) sealed a possible make-up layer of orange sand (102). The demolition layer most likely formed when the buildings which occupied the street frontage of the plot at 27 Barton Road were demolished in the 1970s. It contained a mixture of 18th- and 19th-century pottery, a 17th-century clay pipe bowl fragment and modern garden wares and window glass.



3.3.5 Modern structures

A small rectangular brick structure was revealed by the excavation of Trench 3 (Figure 8). It measured 3.60m x 2.60m in plan and was 1.20m deep. It was built of modern half-frogged bricks (313) and was externally reinforced by a layer of soft concrete (312). It was backfilled with demolition rubble (315). A possible entrance lay in its north-eastern side, facing the Croft Gardens buildings.

The structure was later than the "garden soils" and rubbish pits discussed in Section 3.3.3 and it is possible that it was contemporary with the Croft Garden buildings. It is not shown on any historical maps and its function is unclear.

Another small building (504) was located close to this structure, to the south of the modern perimeter wall of Croft Gardens, adjacent to Trench 5 (Figure 3). The structure had been demolished some time in the past and only its brick foundations and a red tile floor, set in a grey concrete base survived. The structure can be associated with a small outbuilding that is shown on OS maps from 1939 onwards.



4. SUMMARY OF RESULTS AND SIGNIFICANCE

The evaluation at Croft Gardens revealed evidence for small-scale prehistoric and (possible) Roman activity and the remains of layers and features associated with the 19th- and 20th-century structures known to have existing (or still extant) on the site.

A small pit datable to the early Iron Age with three possibly associated postholes was recorded in Trench 6.

Trench 1 revealed two parallel ditches of possible Roman date near the street frontage of Barton Road.

No features or artefacts of Anglo-Saxon date were identified.

The results of the evaluation accord with known heritage assets from the area, as recorded in the HER. A rich Iron Age burial was revealed to the rear of St Mark's Church (HER 05161, HER04492) and further prehistoric burials were found at Newnham College playing fields (HER 05089). This suggests the existence of contemporary prehistoric settlement nearby. Roman settlement and burial evidence was revealed in the grounds of Newnham College (HER 04427, MCB17316) and large-scale Iron Age and Roman settlement evidence is known along the southern edge of the River Cam. Roman pottery fragments have been recorded at various locations along the length of Barton Road.

While the Iron Age and Roman features were small-scale and isolated, they nevertheless provide evidence for potential early Iron Age and Roman settlement activity and the laying out of boundaries. These remains are of moderate significance in terms of the regional archaeological frameworks (Medlycott 2011).

The presence of a small number of 17th-century clay tobacco pipe fragments and pottery within the subsoil of the site shows that this area was open land, though close to human habitation. The pipe bowl fragments could also be losses by agricultural workers on the land. The darker garden soils above the subsoil most likely formed immediately prior to and/or during the use of the site in the early 19th century, when Barton Road became increasingly developed and the house at no. 27 Barton Road was built.

The fine gravel deposits recorded immediately to the north of the house in Trench 4 could also originate from the use of the house and represent external surfaces or make-up layers for surfaces no longer extant.

The rubbish pit in Trench 3, containing fragments of a large number of containers for everyday household goods, such as toothpaste, anchovy paste and glass bottles, could be the remainder of a midden or pit excavated to dispose of rubbish originating from no. 27 Barton Road. A plastic bottle dating from c. 1940 from the same feature could be an intrusive find that was introduced during the construction of small brick structure (313) located at the back of the Croft Garden buildings in Trench 3.



The function and use of structure (313) is unclear. As it has a possible north-facing entrance, it is most likely to be associated with the buildings at Croft Gardens rather than no. 27 Barton Road. The presence of the 1940s plastic bottle may reinforce this interpretation. It is possible that the structure was an early cold store. No black discolouration was recorded on the bricks, ruling out an interpretation as a coal store. The foundation and tiled floor of a small structure to the back of the Croft Gardens buildings survived above ground. This can be correlated with a structure first shown on the 1939 OS map.

The post-medieval and modern remains provide further evidence for the construction, life and demolition of the known structures on the site. The quality and good survival of the 19th-century ceramic and glass wares in the rubbish pit of Trench 3 in particular give a vivid picture of a 19th-century household. However, the remains are of no more than local significance in terms of the regional archaeological frameworks.



5. HERITAGE ASSET AND IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The proposed development will comprise the demolition of all buildings currently on site and the construction of new two- to three-storey graduate houses and apartments with associated landscaping. Depending on the extent of the groundworks associated with the new structures, the potential archaeological impact of the proposals will be moderate to high.

However, the heritage assets revealed during the evaluation are of low to moderate significance. Accordingly, the significance of the potential archaeological impact of the proposed development is assessed as moderate. With a suitable programme of post-determination archaeological mitigation the significance of this impact can be reduced to low.



6. **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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7. APPENDIX 1: TRENCH SUMMARIES



Max Dimensions: Length: 20.00 m. Width: 1.60 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.8 m. Max: 1.2 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 43992: Northing: 57470)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (*Easting: 43991: Northing: 57454*)

Reason: To evaluate the area near the street frontage.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
100	Topsoil	Firm dark grey brown sandy silt moderate small-medium stones 0.22m thic	k.	
101	Demolition layer	Loose mid brown orange silty sand frequent medium CBM, frequent small mortar 0.17m thick. Pottery, clay tobacco pipe and window glass were recovered.	V	V
102	Make up layer	Friable mid orange yellow sand Contains white sand lenses. 0.14m thick.	✓	
103	Buried topsoil	Firm dark grey brown clay silt moderate small stones 0.45m thick. The deposit contained a small quantity of pottery.	✓	✓
104	Subsoil	Firm dark brown orange sandy silt occasional small stones 0.25m thick.	✓	
105	Natural	Firm mid red orange silty gravel		
106	Ditch	Linear sides: concave base: concave dimensions: min breadth 0.9m, max depth 0.3m, min length 2.45m Features extends beyond LoE in west and south.	✓	
107	Fill	Firm mid orange grey sandy silt occasional small stones	✓	
108	Ditch	Linear sides: near vertical base: flat dimensions: max breadth 1.35m, max depth 0.4m, min length 1.6m		
109	Main fill	Compact dark brown grey clay silt moderate flecks charcoal, frequent small-medium stones 0.38m thick. Upper fill of ditch, which contained a small quantity of pottery.		✓
110	Lower fill	Firm mid red brown sandy silt 0.06m thick. Contains moderate small pea grave as part of matrix.	1	
111	Ditch	Linear sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.1m, max depth 0.4m, min length 1.6m	✓	
112	Lower fill	Firm mid red brown sandy silt occasional small chalk, moderate small stones Occasional pea grit as part of matrix. 0.15m thick. This deposit contained small quantities of pottery and animal bone.		✓
113	Upper fill	Compact dark grey brown clay silt moderate flecks charcoal, frequent small stones This deposit contained small quantities of pottery and animal bone.		✓



Max Dimensions: Length: 8.50 m. Width: 1.60 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 1.2 m. Max: 1.3 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 43990: Northing: 57437)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (*Easting: 43995: Northing: 57431*)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
200	Topsoil	Friable dark brown black clay sand 0.20m thick. Turf.	✓	
201	Make up layer	Loose light brown white sandy gravel 0.27m thick. Becomes thinnner towards north. Consists of lenses and bands of whitish gravel and dark soil.	✓	
202	Buried topsoil	Friable dark red brown sandy silt moderate small stones 0.40m thick. Possible former garden soil.	✓	
203	Subsoil	Friable mid orange brown sandy silt moderate small stones 0.50m thick.	✓	
204	Natural	Firm light brown orange silty sand frequent small stones		



Max Dimensions: Length: 8.50 m. Width: 1.60 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.7 m. Max: 1.2 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 44022: Northing: 57425)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (*Easting: 44031: Northing: 57425*)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
300	Turf line	Firm dark brown black clay sand 0.10m thick. Mainly grass and roots.	✓	
301	Topsoil	Friable dark red brown sandy silt frequent small stones 0.10 - 0.20m thick.	✓	
302	Dump material	Friable mid yellow brown silty sand $$ frequent small mortar $$ Gritty. 0.20 - 0.25m thick.	✓	
303	Pit	sides: vertical base: flat dimensions: max breadth 1.15m, max depth 0.38m Only recorded in section. Possibly structural and related to entrance to brick building?	k	
304	Fill	Friable mid yellow orange silty sand frequent flecks mortar, frequent small morta Demolition rubble?	ır 🗆	
305	Buried topsoil	Friable dark red brown sandy silt occasional large CBM, moderate medium charcoal, moderate small stones 0.40 - 0.50m thick. Possible buried garden soil?	ı 🗸	
306	Pit	sides: near vertical base: flat dimensions: max breadth 1.2m, max depth 0.5m Only recorded in section.	✓	
307	Main fill	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt frequent small stones Deliberate infill with rubbish. Frequent glass and ceramic fragments, pot lids, plastic bottles and cu alloy object. 0.45m thick.	✓	✓
308	Upper fill	Friable mid yellow brown sandy silt moderate small chalk, moderate small morta 0.07m thick. Re-deposited (309)?	nr 🗸	
309	Dump material	Friable mid yellow brown sandy silt $$ moderate small chalk, moderate small mortar $$ 0.30 - 0.38m thick. Gritty.		
310	Subsoil	Friable mid red brown sandy silt moderate small charcoal, moderate small stones More than 0.30m thick. Extends beyond LoE.		
311	Foundation	Rectangular sides: vertical base: flat dimensions: max breadth 2.6m, max depth 1.2m, max length 3.6m Construction cut for rectangular brick structure.	✓	
312	Fill	Compact light yellow white concrete Crumbly. Infill behind brick structure into construction cut.	V	
313	Brickwork	Compact mid red orange Brick structure. Machine made bricks 220 x 110 x 65mm. Frogged and stamped on one side. Bonded with a compact yellowish grey sandy mortar.		
314	Fill	Friable mid red brown sandy silt		
315	Demolition layer	Loose dark brown sandy silt frequent medium CBM, frequent medium mortar Backfill of structure 313 with demolition rubble.	✓	
316	Feature	Linear sides: irregular Less of a cut, more of an interface between reddish subsoil in south and darker dump layers in north.		
317	Pit	sides: near vertical base: flat dimensions: max breadth 1.8m, max depth 0.38m	✓	
318	Fill	Loose dark green brown silty sand frequent small stones	✓	
319	Pit	Irregular sides: irregular base: flat dimensions: max depth 0.3m, max diameter 1.m		
320	Fill	Loose light white sand frequent medium CBM Frequent brown ceramic pipe frags, glass and metal debris.	✓	✓



Max Dimensions: Length: 8.50 m. Width: 1.60 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.7 m. Max: 1.2 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 44022: Northing: 57425)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (*Easting: 44031: Northing: 57425*)

Reason: To evaluate the area.

Context: Type: Description: Excavated: Finds Present:

321 Natural Firm mid brown red sandy silt moderate small stones Natural or alluvial? subsoil.



Max Dimensions: Length: 20.00 m. Width: 1.60 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.5 m. Max: 0.8 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 43978: Northing: 57399)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (*Easting: 43998: Northing: 57399*)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
400	Topsoil	Firm dark grey brown sandy silt occasional small stones 0.35-0.40m thick.	✓	
401	Subsoil	Firm mid grey brown sandy silt moderate small stones 0.30-0.50m thick.	✓	
402	Natural	Firm mid red orange sandy silt moderate small stones		
403	Drain	Linear sides: irregular base: flat	✓	
404	Fill	Loose frequent medium CBM Frequent brown ceramic pipe frags, moderate asbestos frags, moderate medium stones.	\checkmark	



Max Dimensions: Length: 4.00 m. Width: 3.60 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 1.1 m. Max: 1.1 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 44024: Northing: 57415)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: 1	Finds Present:
500	Topsoil	Friable dark brown black sandy silt moderate small stones 0.10m thick.	✓	
501	Buried topsoil	Friable dark orange brown sandy silt frequent small stones 0.40m thick.	✓	
502	Subsoil	Friable mid orange brown sandy silt moderate small stones 0.30m thick.	✓	
503	Natural	Firm mid orange red sandy silt frequent small stones		
504	Internal surface	Summary context number for the remains of a small early 20th century structure situated to the north-west of Trench 5. Consisted of brick walls surrounding a red ceramic tile floor set in a concrete base. Structure had been demolished level with surrounding ground.		



Max Dimensions: Length: 4.50 m. Width: 3.50 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.8 m. Max: 0.8 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 44031: Northing: 57400)

Context:	Context: Type: Description:		Excavated:	Finds Present:
600	Topsoil	Friable dark brown black sandy silt frequent small stones 0.10m thick. Frequent roots and leaf mulch.	✓	
601	Buried topsoil	Friable dark brown sandy silt frequent small stones 0.40m thick.	✓	
602	Subsoil	Friable mid orange brown sandy silt frequent small stones 0.30m thick.	✓	✓
603	Natural	Firm mid brown orange silty sand frequent small stones		
604	Pit	Circular sides: near vertical base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.28m, max diameter 0.38m $$	✓	
605	Fill	Friable mid green brown sandy silt moderate small stones Deliberate infill, contained broken pottery fragments.	✓	✓
606	Posthole	Circular sides: near vertical base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.2m, max diameter 0.26m	✓	
607	Fill	Friable dark brown grey silty sand moderate small stones Friable to loose. Frequent small roots.	✓	
608	Posthole	Circular dimensions: max diameter 0.26m Unexcavated.		
609	Fill	Friable dark brown grey silty sand moderate small stones		
610	Posthole	Circular sides: near vertical base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.2m, max diameter 0.26m	✓	
611	Fill	Friable dark brown grey silty sand moderate small stones Friable to loose. Frequent small roots.	✓	



8. APPENDIX 2: ARTEFACT SUMMARY

8.1 Introduction

Eight deposits within three trenches yielded a modest finds assemblage, comprising mainly Victorian and later ceramics and glass vessels, the majority collected from rubbish pit [306], Trench 3 (Table 1).

Tr.	Feature	Description	Fill	Spot Date*	Finds Summary
1	101	Demolition spread	101	C19+	Pottery (430g), clay tobacco pipe (8g),
					window glass (10g)
	103	Garden soil	103	C19-20	Pottery (4g)
	108	Ditch	109	Roman	Pottery (35g)
	111	Ditch	112	Roman	Pottery (6g); animal bone (12g)
	111	Ditch	113	C20	Pottery (3g); animal bone (14g)
3	306	Rubbish pit	307	C19+	Pottery (2.7kg), land drain (64g), plastic bottle x1,
					copper alloy furniture knob x 1; glass vessel x 15
	319	Pit	320	C20	Pantile (986g); glass vessel (536g)
6	602	Subsoil	602	C20	Pottery (2g), clay tobacco pipe (22g), animal bone (6g),
					oyster shell (64g)
	604	Pit	605	Early Iron Age	Pottery (675g)

^{* -} based on date of latest artefact

Table 1: Artefact summary

8.2 Ceramics

Eighty-two pottery sherds, representing approximately 62 vessels (3.9kg) were collected. The assemblage displays variable fragmentation, with individual sherd weights ranging from 1g to 278g. The mean sherd weight is 48g, and the material is generally well preserved. Fabric types identified are summarised in Table 2.

Fabric type	Sherd No.	Wt (g)	Fill / Sherd No.
Late prehistoric			
Coarse sand and flint	14	675	(605):14
Early Roman			
Reduced sandy coarseware	1	16	(109):1
Oxidised sandy coarseware	1	19	(109):1
Whiteware	1	6	(112):1
17th century			
Glazed red earthenware	1	2	(602):1
18th century and 19th century+			
Porcelain	1	26	(307):1
Transfer-printed ware	20	293	(101):19, (307):1
Buff / brown stoneware	2	102	(101):2
White earthenware	7	135	(101):5, (307):2
Yellow ware with banded decoration	1	6	(101):1
Misc. mass-produced Victorian wares	30	2,557	(307):30
Modern garden wares	3	106	(103):1, (113):1, (307):1

Table 2: Pottery type series

Later prehistoric and Roman

The earliest pottery, deriving from Trench 6 pit [604], comprises 13 coarse sandand flint-tempered sherds (674g) from a round-shouldered vessel, datable to the early Iron Age (*c*. 600–350 BC). Sherds are sizeable, with a mean weight of 52g, and relatively unabraded. The vessel has a flat rim (diameter *c*. 280mm), with



diagonal finger-nail impressions along the top, and a row of deep finger-tip impressions around the girth. An additional sherd (1g) deriving from the same vessel, was collected from the sieved residue of sample <1>, taken from pit fill (605).

E-W aligned parallel ditches [108] and [111], Trench 1, yielded abraded, wheel-thrown pottery (41g), provisionally assigned an early Roman date. Two sandy coarse ware sherds, including a jar base angle and a whiteware body sherd are represented.

Post-medieval and modern

A small body sherd of 17th-century glazed red earthenware (2g) derived from alluvial deposit (602).

The majority of the assemblage comprises a collection of Victorian and later paste and cosmetic pots, most deriving from rubbish pit [306]. Undecorated examples include eight complete cosmetic or paste pot bases, ranging in diameter from 55–95mm, and five lids (three complete), with diameters of 60–85mm. Five decorated pot lids are catalogued below:

- John Gosnell & Co. Ltd, coloured print pictorial Cherry Tooth paste pot lid; diameter 80mm.
- Benbow & Son, London, Areca Nut Tooth Paste; monochrome pot lid; diameter 80mm
- Crosse & Blackwell Anchovy Paste monochrome pot lids x 2; (1 complete); royal crest pictorials; diameter 90mm.
- James Atkinson's bear's grease pot lid; black transfer 'JAMES ATKINSONS BEARS GREASE ... LONDON PRICE 2/6'; chained and muzzled bear pictured; diameter 60mm.

Also present are three complete Crosse and Blackwell Anchovy Paste pots/jars with monochrome royal crest pictorials (height 90mm), and a corresponding lid (incomplete: diameter 50mm) with monochrome Crosse and Blackwell text. A complete whiteware bottle stopper (diameter 50mm), with a diamond registration mark on the interior was also collected.

Twenty sherds (293g) of 19th-century transfer-printed earthenwares, the majority deriving from demolition spread (101) occur. Their colour range includes dark blue, light blue and green examples. Central decorative designs are floral and Chinese; the latter includes the ubiquitous 'blue willow' pattern, introduced c. 1790. Borders have continuous repeating designs, mainly featuring geometric and floral motifs.

Stonewares are represented by a salt-glazed vessel of 17th–18th-century date, and an 18th–19th-century brown ink bottle. Single sherds of 19th-century porcelain, and yellow ware, the latter with banded decoration, also occur.

Mass-produced modern garden wares are represented by three flower pot fragments (106g), which, along with a piece of modern ceramic land drain (64g), from rubbish pit [306], have not been retained.



An incomplete Flemish ceramic pantile (986g) was collected from modern pit [319]. The object has a vivid green glaze, and has partial stamps on the underside, one reading [MADE IN BELG....], and one possibly representing the factory name. The pantile is similar to examples observed on extant 1930s buildings in Croft Gardens, and is likely to be of similar date.

8.3 Glass Vessels

Sixteen Victorian and more recent glass bottles, jars and phials, deriving from two features, are catalogued below:

Rubbish pit [306]

- Clear colourless glass. Short, octagonal moulded bottle (ink well?) with sheared rim. Ht53.2mm; w. 36.5mm; breadth 36.5mm. Victorian+
- Clear colourless glass. Octagonal moulded bottle, rim out-turned and flat. Ht 98mm; brdth 38.6mm; w.22.3mm; rim diam. C. 19.5mm. Victorian+
- Clear light blue-green glass. Circular bottle stopper with tapering stem. Stopper top embossed with Lea & Perrins. Diam 25.3mm; length 34.2mm. Victorian+
- Clear natural blue-green glass. Narrow bottle neck, applied thickened lip and stringrim. Ht. 71mm; rim diam. 19.6mm; neck diam. 18.4mm. Victorian+
- Clear natural blue-green glass. Sauce bottle neck, mould lines visible, applied ring *c*.15mm below flat 'sheared' lip. Ht. 75mm; rim diam. 24mm. Victorian+
- Clear natural green glass. Part cylindrical bottle wall, circular base and start of kick. Diam body 50.6mm; surviving ht. 98.6mm. Victorian+
- Clear light green glass. Jar stopper embossed with Aire & Calder Bottle Co Castleford & London. Diam 59.5mm; ht.21.6mm. 1863-1913
- Clear light green glass. Small jar/bottle stopper. Diam. 42mm; ht. 22mm.
 Victorian+
- Clear colourless glass. Bottle/phial, cylindrical body, short neck ring lip, shallow kick. Ht. 81.8mm; base diam. 71.2mm; lip diam 25.5mm. Victorian+
- Clear colourless glass. Cylindrical phial, short neck, rim out-turned and flattened. Ht. 99.8mm; rim diam. 20mm; base diam. 30.8mm. Victorian+
- Clear colourless glass. Short cylindrical phial, mould seam through body and neck, lip broken. Lip out-turned and flattened. Ht. 44.2mm; base diam. 28mm; lip diam. *c*. 24mm. Late Victorian+
- Clear colourless glass. Short cylindrical phial, short neck, rim out-turned and flattened. Flat base. Ht. 44mm; base diam. 27.5mm; rim diam.21mm. Late Victorian+
- Clear colourless glass. Small cylindrical phial, neck mould lines visible, none on body, lip out-turned and flattened. Ht. 61.5mm; base diam. 18.5mm; lip diam. 16mm. Victorian+
- Clear glass light green tinge. Lip and short neck of cylindrical phial/bottle. Lip outturned, neck has mould lines 3/4 of length (top reheated to form lip). Body does not survive. Ht. 32mm; Lip diam. c. 26mm. Victorian+
- Clear leaf-green glass. Small cylindrical phial, three part mould, body and two for shoulders and neck, rim out-turned and flattened. Ht. 50.4mm; base diam. 19.6mm; rim diam. *c*.17.8mm. Victorian+

Pit [319]

- Moulded colourless glass milk bottle with applied lip, embossed within diamond C.C.S., below Cambridge; opposing face within diamond Pasteurised Milk, beneath Co-operative Society Ltd. Ht. 216mm; diam base 75mm; diam rim 54mm; mould R515. 1920s+.



8.4 Other Finds

Demolition layer (101) yielded a clear pale green-tinged window glass fragment (10g) of post-medieval or modern date, and a complete clay tobacco pipe bowl, datable to the 17th century. The plain bowl has a crudely milled rim and is largely obscured by a sooty residue. Two further 17th-century plain pipe bowls, both with flat heels and imperfectly milled rims derived from subsoil (602).

Rubbish pit [306] contained a Victorian copper alloy furniture knob. The back plate is of squat bell-like profile, centre hollow with inserted screw and bolt *in situ*. The front has a thin moulded/stamped plate with a rim which folds over the back plate, leading to a sunken ornate depiction of long-stemmed flowers in high relief. A moulded clear plastic ovoid bottle (height 56mm), datable to the 1940s+derived from the same feature.

8.5 Ecofacts

Three pieces of animal bone — two ribs and a long bone fragment (32g) — were collected from ditch [111] and subsoil (602). The latter also contained four abraded oyster shells (64g). The animal bones all have worn / eroded surfaces and are of indeterminate species.



9. APPENDIX 3: OASIS SUMMARY FORM

9.1 OASIS ID: albionar1-197696

Project details

Project name Croft Garden, Barton Road, Cambridge

Short description of the project

Archaeological monitoring of geotechnical pits and trial trench evaluation. The latter comprised four linear trenches 1.6m wide and 9–15m long and two rectangular pits c. 5x5m in size. The evaluation revealed a small pit containing early Iron Age pottery in Trench 6 to the rear of the site. Two parallel possible Roman ditches were excavated in Trench 1, close to the Barton Road street frontage. Trenches 2, 4 and 5 did not contain any archaeological features. Trench 5 revealed a rubbish pit, which contained several 19th-century ceramic toothpaste, anchovy paste and bear grease pot lids and glass bottles, possibly related to occupation of no. 27 Barton Road. A small 20th-century brick structure was also excavated in Trench 5, most likely associated with the houses

at Croft Gardens.

Project dates Start: 26-11-2014 End: 05-02-2015

Previous/future work No / Not known

Any associated project reference

project referen

ECB 4329 - HER event no. CG2362 - Contracting Unit No.

Type of project Field evaluation
Site status Conservation Area

Current Land use Residential 2 - Institutional and communal accommodation

Monument type DITCH Roman

PIT Early Iron Age STRUCTURE Modern RUBBISH PIT Post Medieval

Significant Finds POTTERY Early Iron Age

POTTERY Roman
POTTERY Post Medieval
POTTERY Modern

Methods & techniques "Sample Trenches", "Test Pits"

Development type Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)

Prompt National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF

Position in the planning process

Pre-application

Project location

Country England

Site location CAMBRIDGESHIRE CAMBRIDGE CAMBRIDGE Croft Gardens, Barton Road,

Cambridge

Postcode CB3 9LD
Study area 0.82 Hectares
Site coordinates TL 4402 5743 Point

Project creators



Name of Organisation Albion Archaeology

Project brief originator Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body

Project design

originator

Albion Archaeology

Project Gary Edmondson
director/manager Christiane Meckseper
Project supervisor Christiane Meckseper

Type of Developer

sponsor/funding body

Project archives

Physical Archive

recipient

Cambs County Archaeological Stores

Physical Contents "Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Glass"

Physical Archive

notes

Finds to be deposited once transfer of title sorted

Digital Archive

recipient

Cambs County Archaeological Stores

Digital Contents "Animal Bones", "Ceramics" "Glass", 'other"

Digital Media

available

"Images raster / digital photography", "Images vector" ,"Survey", 'Text"

Paper Archive

recipient

Cambs County Archaeological Store

Paper Contents "Animal Bones", "Ceramics", 'Glass", "other"

Paper Media available "Context sheet", 'Correspondence", "Drawing" "Microfilm", "Plan", "Report", "Section",

"Unpublished Text"

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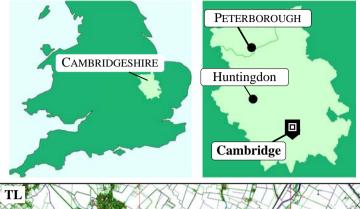
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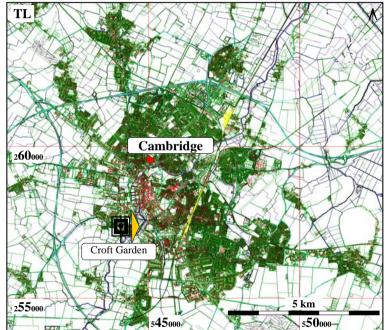
Description Comb bound grey report.

Entered by Helen Parslow (hl.parslow@albion-arch.com)

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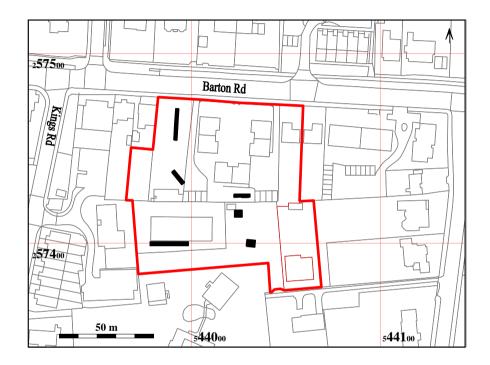


Figure 1: Site location

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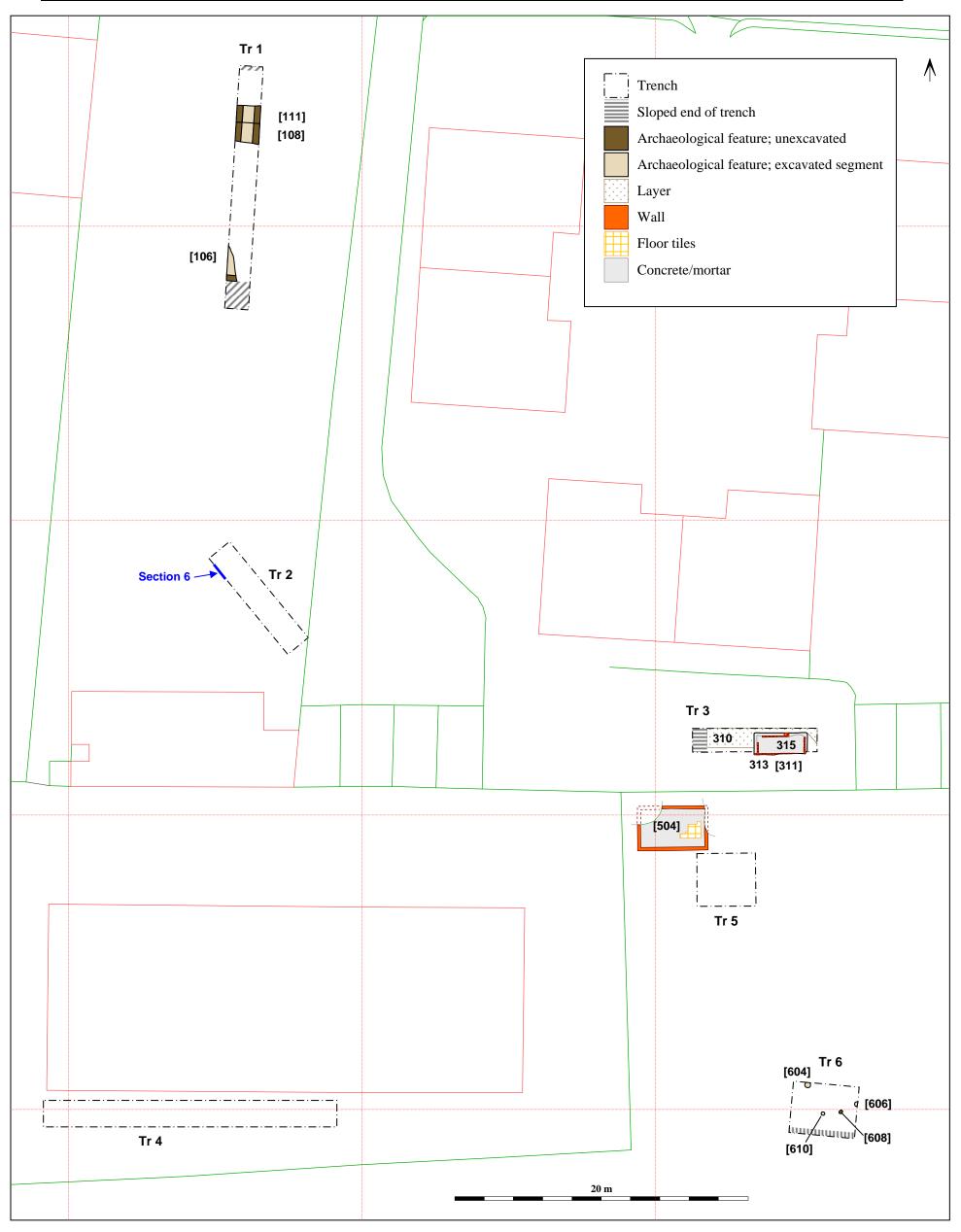


Figure 2: All-features plan

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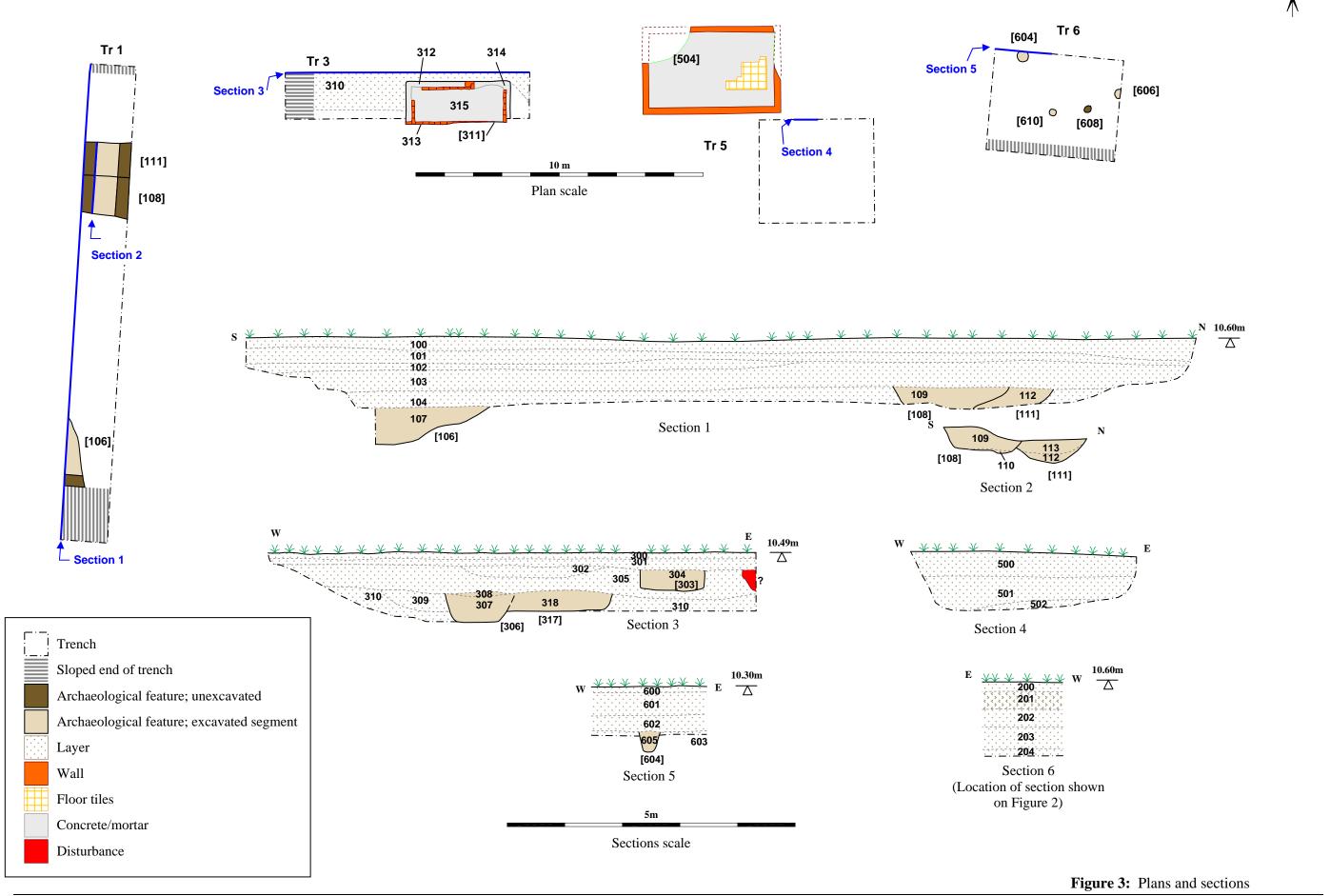






Figure 4: Trench 1 undated feature [106]. 1m scale





Figure 5: Trench 1 Roman ditches [108] and [111] looking west. 1m scale



Figure 6: Trench 1 Roman ditches [108] and [111] looking south-west. 1m scale





Figure 7: Trench 2 gravel layer (201), garden soil and subsoil. 1m scale



Figure 8: Trench 3, structure (313) and pits looking east. 1m scale





Figure 9: Trench 4 looking west. 1m scale



Figure 10: Trench 5 looking north. 1m scale





Figure 11: Trench 6 small pit and possible postholes, looking north. 1m scale



Albion archaeology



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