

**LAND AT HILLFOOT ROAD  
SHILLINGTON  
BEDFORDSHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION  
AND  
HERITAGE STATEMENT**

**Albion**  
archaeology





**LAND AT HILLFOOT ROAD  
SHILLINGTON  
BEDFORDSHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION  
AND  
HERITAGE STATEMENT**

Project: HF2754  
Luton Culture accession no.: LTNMG 1167  
CBC HER search no.: 201516/214

Document: 2016/8  
Version 1.0

3rd March 2016

Compiled by	Checked by	Approved by
Ian Turner	Jeremy Oetgen	Drew Shotliff

Produced for:  
Woods Hardwick Planning Ltd

On behalf of  
Canton Ltd





## ***Contents***

---

List of Tables .....	2
List of Figures .....	2
List of Photographs.....	2
Preface .....	3
Key Terms .....	3
Non-Technical Summary .....	4
<b>1. INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>6</b>
1.1 Project Background .....	6
1.2 Status and purpose of this document.....	6
1.3 Site Location Topography and Geology .....	6
1.4 Archaeological Background .....	7
<b>2. GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY .....</b>	<b>8</b>
2.1 Summary Methodology for Magnetometer Survey.....	8
2.2 Summary of the Results of Geophysical Survey .....	8
<b>3. RESULTS OF TRIAL TRENCHING .....</b>	<b>9</b>
3.1 Methodology .....	9
3.2 Methodological Standards.....	9
3.3 Trial Trenching Results .....	10
3.4 Artefacts.....	13
<b>4. CONCLUSIONS AND HERITAGE STATEMENT .....</b>	<b>16</b>
4.1 Summary and Significance of the Evaluation Results .....	16
4.2 Impact Assessment and Heritage Statement.....	17
<b>5. BIBLIOGRAPHY .....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>6. APPENDIX 1: CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES .....</b>	<b>20</b>
6.1 Cartographic Sources .....	20
<b>7. APPENDIX 2: TRENCH SUMMARIES.....</b>	<b>21</b>



<b>8. APPENDIX 3: IMPACT ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY.....</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>8.1 Significance and Impact Criteria.....</b>	<b>33</b>

### ***List of Tables***

Table 1: Finds Summary by trench and feature .....	13
Table 2: Pottery Type Series and quantification.....	14

### ***List of Figures***

Figure 1: Site location plan
Figure 2: All features
Figure 3: Trenches 9 and 10 detail
Figure 4: First edition OS map 1881

### ***List of Photographs***

Plate 1: Medieval furrow [303]
Plate 2: Medieval furrow [1103]
Plate 3: Ditch [903]
Plate 4: Layer (905)
Plate 5: Ditch [1003]
Plate 6: Pit [1006]
Plate 7: Ditch [1008]
Plate 8: Ditches [1003] and [1008]

*The figures and plates are bound at the back of the document.*



## Preface

*Every effort has been made in the preparation of this document to provide as complete an assessment as possible, within the terms of the brief. 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.*

*This document has been prepared by Ian Turner (Archaeological Supervisor) with contributions from Jackie Wells (Finds Officer). The figures were prepared by Joan Lightning. Fieldwork was led by Ian Turner. The field team comprised Alan King, Gareth Shane (Assistant Archaeological Supervisors), Matt Billings, Anna Orłowska-Synus and Krzysztof Ryniec, (Archaeological Technicians).*

Albion Archaeology  
 St Mary's Church  
 St Mary's Street  
 Bedford, MK42 0AS  
 ☎: 0300 300 8141  
 Fax: 0300 300 8209  
 E-mail: [office@albion-arch.com](mailto:office@albion-arch.com)  
[www.albion-arch.com](http://www.albion-arch.com)

## Version History

Version	Issue date	Reason for re-issue
1.0	03/03/2016	n/a

## Key Terms

Throughout this project design the following terms or abbreviations are used:

BLARS	Bedfordshire and Luton Archives and Record Service
CBC	Central Bedfordshire Council
CifA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
EBD	Events Bedfordshire
HELM	Historic Environment Local Management
HER	Historic Environment Record for Central Bedfordshire
NHLE	National Heritage List for England
NLS	National Library of Scotland
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
OS	Ordnance Survey
PAS	Portable Antiquities Scheme
PDA	Proposed development area
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation



## **Non-Technical Summary**

*Woods Hardwick Planning Ltd are preparing to submit a planning application to Central Bedfordshire Council for residential development comprising c. 40 dwellings at Land at Hillfoot Road, Shillington, Bedfordshire.*

*Pre-application advice from the Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeologist confirmed that a programme of field evaluation was required to support the application. This is in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework.*

*Albion Archaeology was commissioned to carry out the field evaluation which comprised geophysical survey, followed by trial trenching.*

*This document presents the results of the fieldwork and provides a heritage statement that appraises the significance of the heritage assets found within the proposed development area (PDA) and assesses the potential impact of the proposed scheme on them. It is intended that this heritage statement will inform the development masterplan.*

*Archaeological features were present in nine of the eleven trenches, but most of these are interpreted as agricultural in origin.*

*Fourteen furrows were dispersed among the trenches. A ditch was present towards the eastern limit of the PDA in Trenches 9 and 10. A 0.20m-thick layer was also identified in Trench 9. These features contained roof tile fragments of late medieval to post-medieval date and some Roman and early medieval pottery which is considered to be residual. The ditch is interpreted as the boundary ditch of an enclosed field, as illustrated on the 1st edition OS map of 1881, on which Trenches 9 and 10 were targeted. The layer was located within what would have been the enclosed field.*

*A large, irregular pit in Trench 10 is undated. It was also located within the former enclosed field.*

*A modern ditch containing a large fragment of china was also present in Trenches 9 and 10. It either represents a shortening and squaring-off of the north end of the enclosed field, or it may be a later internal division or drainage feature.*

*The relatively small finds assemblage was fairly mixed, with many features containing Roman and early medieval pottery and un-diagnostic roof tile fragments of late-medieval to post-medieval date. On this basis, the features are considered most likely to date from the late medieval to post-medieval periods. However, the presence of earlier artefacts indicates that there was Roman and early medieval settlement activity in the vicinity. The abraded condition of much of the pottery might suggest that it arrived on site as a result of rubbish disposal combined with manuring during the late medieval to post-medieval period.*

*It is also noted that feature definition was poor against the unusually dark-coloured clay natural, which made the edges and direction of the features difficult to ascertain.*





*The archaeological remains can be considered to be of low potential in terms of both visibility and the highly mixed finds assemblage, which is potentially misleading with regard to dating. The activity that has occurred within the area has not left a clear signature, with the features present suggestive of prolonged agricultural activity, close to settlement but beyond its limits.*

*The late medieval to post-medieval ditch, layer and pit are of low significance, adding to a body of knowledge regarding the overall late medieval/post-medieval landscape and land use in the vicinity of Shillington. The lack of structural features suggests that it is unlikely that significant remains are present in the vicinity and indicates low potential for the PDA to address research questions with regard to medieval/post-medieval settlement.*

*The furrows revealed are of negligible significance, proving the area of the PDA was cultivated from at least the medieval period onwards.*

*The modern period ditch is also of negligible significance.*

*The significance of the potential impact on the identified archaeological heritage assets is, therefore, classed as: slight for the late medieval to post-medieval features revealed to the east of the PDA and neutral for modern remains.*

*The Grade I listed All Saints' Church lies c. 190m to the south-west of the PDA. It is situated on the mound and forms a landmark. The church is separated from the PDA by the existing residential areas of Shillington village, so there will be no significant impact on the setting of the church.*

*The PDA lies within Shillington Conservation Area but the HER only records four designated heritage assets within 35–70m. These are Grade II listed buildings of medieval to 18th-century date (HER3845, 3846, 3847 and 4743). However, they are already separated from the PDA and encompassed by 20th-century housing. Therefore the residential development of the PDA is unlikely to have any harmful effect on their setting or, as a result, their significance.*



## 1. INTRODUCTION

---

### 1.1 **Project Background**

Woods Hardwick Planning Ltd is preparing to submit a planning application to Central Bedfordshire Council for residential development comprising *c.* 40 dwellings at Land at Hillfoot Road, Shillington, Bedfordshire.

Pre-application advice from the Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeologist (CBCA) confirmed that a programme of field evaluation was required to support the application. This is in accordance with the *National Planning Policy Framework – Section 12: Conserving and enhancing the historic environment* (March 2012).

Albion Archaeology was commissioned to carry out the field evaluation which comprised geophysical survey (Stratascan 2015) followed by trial trenching. The evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI) (Albion Archaeology 2015), which was approved by the Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeologist (CBCA).

### 1.2 **Status and purpose of this document**

This document presents the combined results of the fieldwork and provides a heritage statement that appraises the significance of any heritage assets found within the proposed development area (PDA) and assesses the potential impact of the proposed scheme on them. It is intended that this heritage statement will inform the development of the masterplan.

### 1.3 **Site Location Topography and Geology**

Shillington is a largely rural village lying around 16km to the south-east of Bedford, close to the county boundary with Hertfordshire.

It lies in the valley between the Pegsdon Hills, part of the Chiltern range to the south, and the Greensand Ridge in Bedfordshire to the north. It is dominated by a chalk mound rising some 20m above the surrounding land and falling to Hill Foot End to the north. The Grade I listed Parish Church of All Saints is situated on the mound and forms a landmark which can be seen for miles around<sup>1</sup>.

The (PDA) lies at the centre of the village to the east of Hillfoot Road (Figure 1). It comprises *c.* 1.67ha of rough pasture land bisected by a public right of way, centred on grid reference TL12573/34152. The ground slopes from around 58m OD in the north-west corner to 55m OD in the south-east corner of the site.

The geology of the site comprises clay and silt overlying chalk<sup>2</sup>.

---

<sup>1</sup> Shillington History Society <http://www.shillington-history.org.uk/Introduction1.htm>

<sup>2</sup> British Geological Survey <http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyviewer>



## 1.4 Archaeological Background

The following summary is based upon data obtained from the Central Bedfordshire and Luton Historic Environment Record (search reference no. 201516/214).

The site lies within Shillington Conservation Area, immediately north of the medieval core of the village (HER17113) and around 200m north-east of the 14th-century Church of All Saints (HER 1119). The village is listed in Domesday Book as held by the Abbot of St Benedict's Abbey, Ramsey.

There is limited evidence within the Historic Environment Record for activity predating the medieval period within 1km of the PDA. This includes a number of Roman period metal artefacts, including brooches and coins (HER18388, 18393, 18394, 18400), found by metal detectorists in fields c. 0.7km to the west of the PDA.

Limited previous archaeological investigations have been carried out in and around the village. In 2012, trial trenching in advance of small-scale residential development, c. 130m to the south-east of the PDA (HER EBD965), identified two ditches of medieval date and later post-medieval boundary features.

In 2013, twenty-three test pits were excavated throughout and beyond the village by local residents funded by the Heritage Lottery fund (HER EBD1231). The results provided new evidence for the development of the area now occupied by the village (Access Cambridge Archaeology 2013). The earliest evidence from a test pit near the church comprised pottery sherds dating to the Bronze Age period. Small quantities of Roman pottery were also found in five different test pits.

No evidence was found for activity dating to the period between the 5th and 9th centuries AD but Saxo-Norman pottery of 10th- to 11th-century date was found in two distinct concentrations suggesting more than one settlement focus at this period. The high medieval period saw settlement at these sites grow and the appearance of three other sites of activity. This growth ceased and settlement contracted in the late medieval period. The test pit data indicated that Shillington gradually recovered during the post medieval period, although it did not achieve its pre-14th-century size until the 19th century.

An historic map search for Shillington revealed within the PDA, a north-east to south-west aligned footpath, which is an extant feature, and the north-west corner of a former field boundary. These features are illustrated on the 1881 1st edition OS map. The field boundary is also recorded on the 1817 Shillington 'Inclosure' map (the field boundary was investigated in Trenches 9 and 10, see 4.3.3.2 below).



## **2. GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY**

---

### **2.1 Summary Methodology for Magnetometer Survey**

The geophysical survey (Stratascan 2015) was undertaken in accordance with the WSI and was carried out over all parts of the PDA that were suitable for survey, this equated to 3.3ha of grassland.

It comprised a detailed magnetic gradiometer survey conducted using a Bartington Grad 601-2 instrument with a typical depth of penetration of 0.5–1.0m. Readings were taken at 0.25m centres along traverses 1.0m apart. This equates to 3600m sampling points in a full 30m x 30m grid. A temporary grid was established across the entire survey area using wooden pegs at 30m intervals. A detailed method statement for the geophysical survey is provided in the WSI, Section 6.1.

Specific aims of the geophysical survey were to determine the location, nature and extent of any below-ground potential archaeological features. The results of the geophysical survey were used to refine the trial trenching strategy.

### **2.2 Summary of the Results of Geophysical Survey**

The geophysical survey revealed widely spaced parallel linear anomalies (related to ridge and furrow cultivation) across the west of the PDA. These were the only archaeological features detected.

An area of weak scattered magnetic debris to the east of the PDA was judged to be modern in origin. Other areas of magnetic disturbance were interpreted as the result of substantial nearby ferrous metal objects such as fences and underground services. A number of magnetic ‘spikes’ indicated ferrous metal objects that were likely to be modern rubbish.

The survey did not identify any features of archaeological origin, other than furrows, suggesting that the PDA had low potential for archaeological remains. The evidence of ridge and furrow cultivation indicated that the PDA had been used for agricultural purposes since the medieval period.



### 3. RESULTS OF TRIAL TRENCHING

#### 3.1 Methodology

A full methodology was provided in the WSI (Albion Archaeology 2015).

Trial trenching took place between 16th and 18th December 2015. A total of eleven trenches were excavated, measuring 25m by 2m which equates to a 3.29% sample, by area. The trenches were positioned to identify areas and features of archaeological potential as indicated by the geophysical survey and historical map data.

The trenches were opened by a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, under close archaeological supervision. Overburden was removed down to the top of the archaeological deposits or undisturbed geological deposits, whichever was encountered first. The spoil heaps were also scanned for artefact recovery.

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

#### 3.2 Methodological Standards

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

• Albion Archaeology	<i>Procedures Manual: Volume 1 Fieldwork</i> (2nd edn, 2001)
• ALGAO (East)	<i>Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England</i> (Gurney 2003)
• Archaeological Archives Forum	<i>Archaeological Archives: A Guide to Best Practice in Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Curation</i> (Brown 2007)
• ClfA	<i>Charter and by-law and Code of conduct</i> (2014)
	<i>Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation</i> (2014)
• Historic England/ English Heritage	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) Project Managers' Guide</i> (updated 2015)
	<i>Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation</i> (Campbell et al. 2011)
• Luton Culture	<i>Procedure for preparing archaeological archives for deposition with Luton Culture</i> (2013)



### **3.3 Trial Trenching Results**

Features and deposits found within the trial trenches are described chronologically below and shown in Figures 2–3 and Plates 1–8. Any artefacts recovered from features are referenced in the text and discussed separately in detail in Section 3.4 below.

Detailed contextual information on all deposits and features can be found in Appendix 2.

#### **3.3.1 Overburden and geological deposits**

Generally across the PDA, the overburden comprised topsoil over subsoil, which lay directly on undisturbed geological deposits.

The topsoil was a 0.15–0.30m-thick layer of dark grey-brown clay silt. The subsoil was a 0.08–0.23m-thick layer of mid grey-brown to brown-grey silty clay.

Across the north-eastern half of the PDA, the undisturbed geological deposit was light brown-orange to grey-brown clay. Across the SW half of the PDA, the undisturbed geological deposit was light grey clay changing to mid grey clay towards the SW quarter of the area.

#### **3.3.2 Feature definition**

Generally, it was found during the archaeological investigation that feature definition was poor against the background geology — clays of unusually dark colour. The features could be discerned with difficulty against the surrounding geology, often by the presence of a few artefacts, with the definition improving after a day of weathering. However, the edges and accurate direction of the features remained difficult to ascertain, with most features having to be overcut in order to detect the diffuse variations between features and geology.

#### **3.3.3 Late medieval to post-medieval (1400–1750)**

Artefacts of late medieval to post-medieval date were present within three furrows and a ditch in Trench 10 to the east of the PDA. Trenches 10 and 9 were targeted on the NW boundary of a field illustrated on the 1st Edition OS map of 1881 (Figures 2 and 3).

##### **3.3.3.1 Furrows**

Fourteen furrows were present, distributed among all trenches except Trenches 4, 5 and 9 where none were visible. The orientation of the furrows varied slightly, but they were all broadly aligned NW-SE.

In profile, the furrows ranged from shallow concave to concave sides with a flat or asymmetric base. They were 0.5–2.40m wide and 0.1–0.28m deep and contained deposits that varied from light grey-brown to mid brown-grey silty clay (Plates 1 and 2).



Three of the furrows [703], [803], [1010] contained undiagnostic roof tile fragments of late medieval to post-medieval date. Five of the furrows [303], [703], [803], [1010] and [1103] contained pottery of early medieval date and/or some pottery of Roman date. The abraded condition of the pottery suggests that it is residual.

Generally, furrows are likely to be the result of medieval ploughing, although the system of strip farming is likely to have continued in use until the fields were 'Inclosed' in the late 18th century.

### **3.3.3.2 Ditch containing artefacts of late medieval to post-medieval date**

A NNE-SSW aligned ditch [1008] was present in Trench 10 to the east of the PDA. It had concave sides and a flat base. It was 1.50m wide and 0.32m deep and contained a deposit of mid grey silty clay (Plates 7 and 8). The ditch also contained a roof tile fragment of late medieval to post-medieval date, pottery of Roman and early medieval date, undated timber nails and a hobnail.

The ditch is interpreted as the boundary ditch of an enclosed field, as illustrated on the 1st edition OS map of 1881, on which Trench 10 was targeted.

Ditch [903] at the NE end of Trench 9 is likely to be the same feature, based on its location and orientation with regard to the 1881 map. It had 45-degree sides and a concave base. It was 1.17m wide and 0.36m deep. It contained mid grey silty clay and animal bone (367g), oyster shell and an undatable roof tile fragment (Plate 3).

Ditch [903] is judged to be of late medieval to post-medieval date based on the date of the artefacts contained within it. The correlation of the ditches present in Trenches 9 and 10 to the boundary illustrated on the map of 1881 is a good match. The unusual shape of the field, as illustrated on the 1881 map, suggests that the field, or enclosure, may have had a specific purpose and the origin and date of the land parcel could considerably predate the 1881 map.

### **3.3.3.3 Layer (905)**

Layer (905) was visible for 9.5m at the south end Trench 9 where it continued beyond the edge of the trench to the south, east and west. It comprised mid brown-grey silty clay that was up to 0.20m thick towards the south end of the trench (Plate 8). It contained a fragment of roof tile of late medieval to post-medieval date, moderate amounts of abraded pottery of Roman (128g) and early medieval date (42g), an iron nail and animal bone fragments (18g).

Within the excavated trench baulk section, the layer appeared to be situated within an expansive slight depression. The formation process for the depression is not known. It is possible that the depression and layer represent the position of a former midden.

The layer is judged to be of late medieval to post-medieval date based on the date of the roof tile fragment within it; the Roman and early medieval pottery



are considered residual. It is noted that the furrows and ditch discussed above also contained an artefact assemblage of the same mixed date.

### 3.3.4 Quarry pit [1006]

A large pit was investigated at the south end of Trench 10; it continued beyond the limit of the trench to the south, east and west.

The feature had asymmetric sides with a flat sloping base; it was 0.22m deep and at least 2.50m across (Plate 6). It contained a lower deposit of dark grey-black silty clay with frequent charcoal and a secondary deposit of dark brown-grey silty clay (re-deposited geology). A single sherd of Roman pottery (14g) was recovered from the primary deposit.

The feature is interpreted as a probable quarry pit with a backfill that includes a spread of hearth debris. An alternative explanation is that the irregular feature is a tree-throw. The 1st edition OS map of 1881 (Figure 4) illustrates trees in this area in a fairly regular pattern, which might suggest that this area was an orchard. However the charcoal-rich deposit is difficult to explain as there was no sign of *in-situ* burning; thus the quarry-pit interpretation is judged to be more likely.

The date of the pit is uncertain. The single sherd of Roman pottery is considered insufficient for secure dating, given that the features of late medieval to post-medieval discussed above also contained both Roman and early medieval pottery.

### 3.3.5 Modern (1750+) ditch

Modern ditch [1003] was present in Trench 10. It had concave sides and a flat base. It was 1.15m wide and 0.15m deep and contained a deposit of mid grey silty clay (Plate 5). The ditch also contained a modern china fragment, roof tile of late medieval to post medieval date, early medieval pottery and animal bone. The ditch is interpreted as a possible re-cut of the boundary ditch of an enclosed field, as illustrated on the 1st edition OS map of 1881, on which this trench was targeted.

A NE-SW aligned shallow linear feature [906] present towards the centre of Trench 9 is possibly the same feature, based on its location and orientation. This feature was originally thought to be a furrow. However its alignment is at odds with the other furrows and its location and orientation are a good match to ditch [1003] in Trench 10 suggesting that it is the same feature. It had concave sides and a flat base; it was 1.30m wide, 0.07m deep and contained mid grey silty clay but no artefacts.

Assuming that it is the same ditch as [1003], it either represents a shortening and squaring-off of the north end of the enclosure or it may be a later internal division or drainage feature.





### 3.4 Artefacts

Fifteen deposits across nine trenches yielded an assemblage comprising pottery, ceramic building material, animal bone, oyster shell and seven iron objects (Table 1). No finds were recovered from features in Trenches 1 or 5.

Tr.	Feature	Description	Fill	Date range	Finds Summary
2	201	Topsoil	201	Indeterminate	Pottery (1g); ceramic roof tile (6g); animal bone (7g)
3	303	Furrow	304	C13-14	Pottery (12g)
4	402	Natural	402	C15-17	Pottery (5g); ceramic roof tile (153g)
6	600	Topsoil	600	C16-17	Pottery (104g)
7	703	Furrow	704	C15-17	Pottery (21g); ceramic roof tile (17g)
8	803	Furrow	804	C15-17	Pottery (30g); ceramic roof tile (67g); iron strip RA1, animal bone (1g); oyster shell (8g)
9	903	Ditch	904	Indeterminate	Ceramic roof tile (61g); animal bone (367g); oyster shell (6g)
	905	Layer	905	C12-14	Pottery (170g); ceramic roof tile (25g); iron nail x1; animal bone (18g)
10	1001	Topsoil	1001	Modern	Pottery (7g); ceramic roof tile (79g); animal bone (45g)
	1002	Natural	1002	Indeterminate	Ceramic roof tile (59g)
	1003	Ditch	1004	Modern	Pottery (21g); ceramic roof tile (33g); animal bone (38g)
	1006	Pit	1005	Roman	Pottery (14g)
	1008	Ditch	1009	C15-17	Pottery (49g); ceramic roof tile (15g); iron bar RA2; iron nail x4; clinker (1g)
	1010	Furrow	1011	Modern	Pottery (12g); ceramic roof tile (5g); land drain (13g); animal bone (37g)
11	1103	Furrow	1104	C12-13	Pottery (43g); animal bone (8g)

**Table 1:** Finds Summary by trench and feature

#### 3.4.1 Pottery

Thirty-four pottery sherds (489g) were collected from thirteen deposits. With a mean sherd weight of 14g, the material displays variable fragmentation, although is uniformly abraded. Single sherds range in weight from 1g to 105g. Fifteen fabric types were identified using common names and type codes in accordance with the Bedfordshire Ceramic Type Series (Table 2).

Fabric code	Common name	Sherd No.	Wt (g)	Fill/Sherd No.
<i>Roman</i>				
R05A	Oxidised sandy	1	21	(704):1
R05C	Oxidised sandy micaceous	1	8	(804):1
R06B	Coarse grey ware	1	18	(905):1
R06C	Fine grey ware	1	5	(905):1
R13	Shell	3	126	(905):1, (1005):1, (1009):1
<i>Late Saxon</i>				
B01	St Neots-type ware	1	2	(1011):1
<i>Medieval</i>				
B07	Shell	1	20	(905):1
C59A	Coarse sandy	5	25	(401):1, (804):1, (905):2, (1011):1
C59B	Harsh sandy	9	78	(201):1, (804):1, (905):1, (1009):1, (1011):1, (1104):4
C61	Sandy (calcareous inclusions)	3	29	(1004):1, (1104):2
C	Non-specific medieval	1	12	(304):1
<i>Post-medieval</i>				
P01	Glazed red earthenware	2	106	(600):1, (1011):1
<i>Modern</i>				
P37	White salt-glazed stoneware	1	14	(1004):1
P100	China	1	7	(1001):1
UNID	Miscellaneous undated	3	18	(804):2, (1011):1

**Table 2:** Pottery Type Series and quantification***Roman***

Six abraded coarse ware body sherds (164g) occurred residually in furrows (703), (803); ditch [1008] and layer (905). A single shelly sherd (14g) collected from pit [1006], although Roman in origin, is not considered sufficient to provide a secure date for the feature. All sherds are small and highly abraded, and with the exception of a small rim, are undiagnostic.

***Late Saxon and medieval***

A late Saxon St Neots ware body sherd (2g) occurred as a residual find in furrow [1010]. Locally manufactured sand tempered coarse ware sherds of 12th–13th-century date (132g), and a contemporary shelly bowl rim (20g) were collected from furrows (803), (1010), (1103); ditches (1003), (1008); and layers (201), (401) and (905). Furrows [303] and [1010] respectively yielded a highly battered and worn glazed fine ware sherd (12g), and a tiny sherd of possible Hedingham-type ware (3g).

***Post-medieval and modern***

Two sherds of 17th-century glazed red earthenware (106g) derived from topsoil (600) and furrow [1010]. An 18th-century white salt-glazed stoneware plate rim (14g) derived from ditch [1003] and an unstratified sherd of modern china (7g) from topsoil (1001).

***Unidentified***

Two abraded body sherds (15g) of indeterminate Roman or medieval date (one sand tempered and one shelly ware) derived from furrow [803].

**3.4.2 Ceramic building material**

Ceramic building material comprises ten pieces of late medieval / post-medieval flat roof tile (394g) collected from furrows [703], [803], [1010]; ditches [1003], [1008]; and layers (402), (905) and (1001).

Five indeterminate and highly abraded tile fragments (126g), possibly of Roman date, derived from topsoil (201), ditch [903] and layer (1001).

Three pieces of modern Gault clay land drain (13g) recovered from furrow [1010] were not retained.

**3.4.3 Other finds**

Undatable iron objects comprise rectangular-sectioned strip and bar fragments (RAs 1 and 2) collected respectively from furrow [803] and ditch [1008]. The latter also contained three fragmentary timber nails and a hobnail or tack. A further timber nail derived from layer (905).

Thirty-three animal bone fragments (521g) were recovered from eight deposits (Trenches 2, 8–11) the majority (367g) from ditch [903]. Individual pieces have a mean weight of 16g and generally survive in poor condition.

Diagnostic bone elements are mainly large / medium mammal limb bone shafts. Miscellaneous tooth and pelvis fragments, and a partial rib, the latter



with cut marks, occur in smaller quantities. Pieces identifiable to species are a pig metacarpal and sheep/goat molar.

Two pieces of oyster shell (14g) were collected from furrow [803] and undated ditch [903].



## 4. CONCLUSIONS AND HERITAGE STATEMENT

---

### 4.1 *Summary and Significance of the Evaluation Results*

Archaeological features were present in nine of the eleven trenches, but most of them are interpreted as agricultural in origin.

Fourteen furrows were dispersed among the trenches. A ditch was present towards the eastern limit of the PDA in Trenches 9 and 10. A 0.20m-thick layer was also identified in Trench 9. These features contained roof tile fragments of late medieval to post-medieval date and some Roman and early medieval pottery which is considered to be residual. The ditch is interpreted as the boundary ditch of an enclosed field, as illustrated on the 1st edition OS map of 1881, on which Trenches 9 and 10 were targeted. The layer was located within what would have been the enclosed field.

A large, irregular, pit in Trench 10 is undated. It was also located within the former enclosed field.

A modern ditch containing a large china fragment was also present in Trenches 9 and 10. It either represents a shortening and squaring-off of the north end of the enclosed field, or it may be a later internal division or drainage feature.

The relatively small finds assemblage was fairly mixed, with many features containing Roman and early medieval pottery and undiagnostic roof tile fragments of late medieval to post-medieval date. On this basis, the features are considered most likely to date from the late medieval to post-medieval periods. However, the presence of earlier artefacts indicates that there was Roman and early medieval settlement activity in the vicinity. The abraded condition of much of the pottery might suggest that it arrived on site as a result of rubbish disposal combined with manuring during the late medieval to post-medieval period.

It is also noted that feature definition was poor against the unusually dark-coloured clay geology, which made the edges and direction of the features difficult to ascertain, even in ideal observation conditions with moist ground conditions, good light and cloud cover.

The archaeological remains can be considered to be of low potential in terms of both visibility and the highly mixed finds assemblage, which is potentially misleading with regard to dating. The activity that has occurred within the area has not left a clear signature, with the features present suggestive of prolonged agricultural activity, close to settlement but beyond its limits.

The late medieval to post-medieval ditch, layer and pit are of *low* significance, adding to a body of knowledge regarding the overall late medieval/post-medieval landscape and land use in the vicinity of Shillington. The lack of structural features suggests that it is unlikely that significant remains are



present in the vicinity and indicates low potential for the PDA to address research questions with regard to medieval/post-medieval settlement.

The furrows revealed are of negligible significance, proving the area of the PDA was cultivated from at least the medieval period onwards.

The modern period ditch is also of negligible significance.

## 4.2 **Impact Assessment and Heritage Statement**

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 a group of late medieval to post-medieval features, all of *low* significance, are present to the east of the PDA. Any groundworks or landscaping associated with residential development within this area will potentially have a direct harmful impact on these heritage assets. However, the features offer little potential to address identified research objectives.

Any proposed development is likely to impact upon the late medieval to post-medieval furrows which are likely to be present across the majority of the PDA. These are of little value beyond proving that the PDA was subject to strip cultivation during the medieval period so are of *low* significance. They offer no potential to address identified research objectives.

The modern period ditch is of *negligible* significance.

The significance of the potential impact on the identified archaeological heritage assets is, therefore, classed as: *slight* for the late medieval to post-medieval features revealed to the east of the PDA and *neutral* for modern remains (see Table 3 below).

Asset	Significance of asset	Potential impact upon asset	Significance of this impact
Late medieval to post-medieval ditch, layer and furrows	Low	Moderately to highly adverse	Slight
Modern features	Negligible	Moderately to highly adverse	Neutral

**Table 3:** Buried archaeological assets — summary of potential, significance and impact

### 4.2.2 **Heritage assets outside the PDA**

The Grade I listed All Saints' Church lies *c.* 190m to the south-west of the PDA. It is situated on the mound and forms a landmark. The church is separated from the PDA by the existing residential areas of Shillington Village, so there will be no significant impact on the setting of the church.



The PDA lies within Shillington Conservation Area but the HER only records four designated heritage assets within 35–70m. These are Grade II listed buildings of medieval to 18th-century date (HER3845, 3846, 3847 and 4743). However, they are already separated from the PDA and encompassed by 20th-century housing. Therefore, the residential development of the PDA is unlikely to have any harmful effect on their setting or, as a result, their significance.



## 5. BIBLIOGRAPHY

---

Access Cambridge Archaeology 2013. *Archaeological Test Pit Excavations in Shillington, Bedfordshire, 2013*

Albion Archaeology, 2015 *Written scheme of investigation for a programme of archaeological field evaluation: Land at Hillfoot Road Shillington, Bedfordshire*. Report 2015/178

Davies, R., Reeves, S. 2015 *Stratascan Geophysical Report: Hillfoot Road, Shillington, Bedfordshire* (Ref. J9153)

Medlycott, M. 2011 *Research and Archaeology Revisited: A Revised Framework for the East of England*. EAA Occasional Paper 24

Oake, M., Luke, M., Dawson, M., Edgeworth, M. and Murphy, P. 2007 *Bedfordshire Archaeology. Research and Archaeology: Resource Assessment, Research Agenda and Strategy*, Bedfordshire Archaeology Monograph 9



## 6. APPENDIX 1: CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES

---

### 6.1 Cartographic Sources

Source	Description	Reference
National Library of Scotland	First edition OS map 1881	Sheet XXVI.NE
<a href="http://www.bedfordshire.gov.uk/CommunityAndLiving/ArchivesAndRecordOffice/CommunityArchives/Shillington">http://www.bedfordshire.gov.uk/CommunityAndLiving/ArchivesAndRecordOffice/CommunityArchives/Shillington</a>	1817 Inclosure map for Shillington	MA43





---

## **7. APPENDIX 2: TRENCH SUMMARIES**

---



**Trench: 1**

**Max Dimensions: Length: 25.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.34 m. Max: 0.4 m.**

**Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL** (Easting: 12518: Northing: 34190)

**OS Grid Ref.: TL** (Easting: 12496: Northing: 34178)

**Reason: Evaluate archaeological potential**

<b>Context:</b>	<b>Type:</b>	<b>Description:</b>	<b>Excavated:</b>	<b>Finds Present:</b>
100	Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown clay silt 0.20m thick.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
101	Subsoil	Firm mid grey brown silty clay 0.14m to 0.20m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
102	Natural	Firm mid brown orange clay 0.22m thick.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
103	Natural	Firm light orange grey clay 0.10m thick.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
104	Natural	Firm light grey clay	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
105	Furrow	Linear NE-SW sides: concave base: flat dimensions: min breadth 2.m, min depth 0.1m General number for three furrows present in Trench 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



**Trench:** 2

**Max Dimensions:** Length: 25.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.37 m. Max: 0.46 m.

**Co-ordinates:** OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 12547: Northing: 34192)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 12536: Northing: 34170)

**Reason:** Evaluate archaeological potential

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
200	Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown clay silt 0.26m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
201	Subsoil	Firm mid grey brown silty clay 0.15m to 0.20m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
202	Natural	Firm mid brown orange clay	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
203	Furrow	Linear NE-SW sides: concave base: flat dimensions: min breadth 2.4m, min depth 0.1m General number for two furrows present in Trench 2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



**Trench: 3**

**Max Dimensions: Length: 25.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.4 m. Max: 0.48 m.**

**Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL** (Easting: 12514: Northing: 34158)

**OS Grid Ref.: TL** (Easting: 12520: Northing: 34134)

**Reason: Evaluate archaeological potential**

<b>Context:</b>	<b>Type:</b>	<b>Description:</b>	<b>Excavated:</b>	<b>Finds Present:</b>
300	Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown clay silt 0.25m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
301	Subsoil	Friable mid brown grey clay silt 0.16m to 0.23m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
302	Natural	Firm light brown grey clay	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
303	Furrow	Linear ESE-WNW sides: concave base: flat dimensions: min breadth 1.64m, min depth 0.17m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
304	Fill	Firm light grey brown silty clay occasional small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



**Trench:** 4

**Max Dimensions:** Length: 25.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.35 m. Max: 0.41 m.

**Co-ordinates:** OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 12539; Northing: 34122)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 12542; Northing: 34097)

**Reason:** Evaluate archaeological potential

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
400	Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown silty clay 0.21m to 0.27m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
401	Subsoil	Firm mid brown grey silty clay 0.14m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
402	Natural	Firm light brown grey clay	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



**Trench:** 5

**Max Dimensions:** Length: 25.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.5 m. Max: 0.5 m.

**Co-ordinates:** OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 12543; Northing: 34146)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 12563; Northing: 34130)

**Reason:** Evaluate archaeological potential

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
500	Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown silty clay C. 0.30m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
501	Subsoil	Friable mid brown grey silty clay C. 0.20m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
502	Natural	Firm light brown grey clay	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



**Trench: 6**

**Max Dimensions: Length: 25.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.28 m. Max: 0.3 m.**

**Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL** (Easting: 12567: Northing: 34174)

**OS Grid Ref.: TL** (Easting: 12582: Northing: 34153)

**Reason: Evaluate archaeological potential**

<b>Context:</b>	<b>Type:</b>	<b>Description:</b>	<b>Excavated:</b>	<b>Finds Present:</b>
600	Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown clay silt C. 0.20m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
601	Subsoil	Friable mid brown grey clay silt C. 0.08m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
602	Natural	Firm light brown grey clay	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
603	Furrow	Linear ESE-WNW sides: concave base: flat dimensions: min breadth 0.5m, min depth 0.1m General number for a furrow present in Trench 6. This feature was uniformly straight and may be a modern furrow created by deep ploughing.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



**Trench:** 7

**Max Dimensions:** Length: 25.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.31 m. Max: 0.4 m.

**Co-ordinates:** OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 12605: Northing: 34192)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 12580: Northing: 34191)

**Reason:** Evaluate archaeological potential

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
700	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey silty clay 0.23m to 0.29m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
701	Subsoil	Firm mid brown grey silty clay 0.08m to 0.11m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
702	Natural	Firm light grey clay	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
703	Furrow	Linear N-S sides: asymmetrical base: concave dimensions: min breadth 1.15m, min depth 0.2m General number for two furrows present in Trench 7.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
704	Fill	Firm light grey silty clay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
705	Furrow	Linear NNW-SSE sides: concave base: concave dimensions: min breadth 1.m, min depth 0.11m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
706	Fill	Firm light grey silty clay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>





**Trench: 8**

**Max Dimensions: Length: 25.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.31 m. Max: 0.37 m.**

**Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL** (Easting: 12637: Northing: 34196)

**OS Grid Ref.: TL** (Easting: 12627: Northing: 24173)

**Reason: Evaluate archaeological potential**

<b>Context:</b>	<b>Type:</b>	<b>Description:</b>	<b>Excavated:</b>	<b>Finds Present:</b>
800	Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown clay silt 0.21m to 0.25m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
801	Subsoil	Friable mid grey brown silty clay C. 0.10m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
802	Natural	Firm light brown grey clay	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
803	Furrow	Linear ESE-WNW sides: concave base: flat dimensions: min breadth 2.4m, min depth 0.28m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
804	Fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



**Trench: 9**

**Max Dimensions: Length: 25.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.3 m. Max: 0.3 m.**

**Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL** (Easting: 12643: Northing: 34165)

**OS Grid Ref.: TL** (Easting: 12637: Northing: 34140)

**Reason: Targeted on field boundary identified on 1st ed OS map. Evaluate archaeological potential**

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
900	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey clay silt 0.15m to 0.20m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
901	Subsoil	Friable mid grey brown silty clay 0.10m to 0.15m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
902	Natural	Firm mid grey clay	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
903	Ditch	Linear NE-SW sides: 45 degrees base: concave dimensions: min breadth 1.17m, min depth 0.36m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
904	Fill	Firm mid grey silty clay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
905	Layer	Firm mid brown grey silty clay Up to 0.20m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
906	Ditch	Linear ENE-WSW sides: concave base: flat dimensions: min breadth 1.3m, min depth 0.07m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
907	Fill	Firm mid grey silty clay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



**Trench: 10**

**Max Dimensions: Length: 25.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.35 m. Max: 0.4 m.**

**Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL** (Easting: 12609: Northing: 34148)

**OS Grid Ref.: TL** (Easting: 12613: Northing: 34123)

**Reason: Targeted on field boundary identified on 1st ed OS map. Evaluate archaeological potential**

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1000	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey clay silt 0.15m to 0.24m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1001	Subsoil	Firm mid grey silty clay 0.16m to 0.20m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1002	Natural	Firm mid grey clay	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1003	Ditch	Linear NE-SW sides: concave base: flat dimensions: min breadth 1.15m, min depth 0.15m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1004	Fill	Friable mid grey silty clay occasional flecks charcoal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1006	Pit	Irregular sides: assymetrical base: flat dimensions: min breadth 2.1m, min depth 0.22m, min length 2.5m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1005	Primary fill	Friable dark grey black silty clay frequent flecks charcoal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1007	Secondary fill	Firm dark brown grey silty clay Re-deposited natural	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1008	Ditch	Linear NNE-SSW sides: concave base: flat dimensions: min breadth 1.5m, min depth 0.32m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1009	Fill	Friable mid grey silty clay occasional flecks charcoal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1010	Furrow	Linear E-W sides: concave base: flat dimensions: min breadth 1.65m, min depth 0.17m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1011	Fill	Friable mid grey silty clay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



**Trench:** 11

**Max Dimensions:** Length: 25.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.3 m. Max: 0.32 m.

**Co-ordinates:** OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 12589; Northing: 34112)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 12571; Northing: 34093)

**Reason:** Evaluate archaeological potential

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1100	Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown clay silt 0.20m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1101	Subsoil	Friable mid brown grey silty clay 0.09m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1102	Natural	Firm light brown grey clay	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1103	Furrow	Linear NNW-SSE sides: concave base: flat dimensions: min breadth 1.66m, min depth 0.15m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1104	Fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay occasional small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1105	Furrow	General number for other furrows in Trench 11.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



## 8. APPENDIX 3: IMPACT ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

### 8.1 Significance and Impact Criteria

Criteria used for Assessing the Significance of Assets	
<i>Significance of Asset</i>	<i>Definition</i>
<i>International (or very high)</i>	A designated World Heritage Site or place of equivalent 'outstanding universal value' and international significance
<i>National or high</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"> <li>• rare in the heritage environment record or</li> <li>• are a good example of a type site or</li> <li>• have a high potential to add to regional and national research criteria</li> </ul>
<i>Regional (or moderate)</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"> <li>• more commonly found in the heritage environment record or</li> <li>• 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)</li> <li>• have moderate potential to add to local and regional research criteria</li> </ul>
<i>Local (or low)</i>	Assets which are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• are relatively poorly preserved or</li> <li>• have limited significance on a local level</li> <li>• have a low potential to add to local and regional research criteria</li> </ul>
<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 by 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.

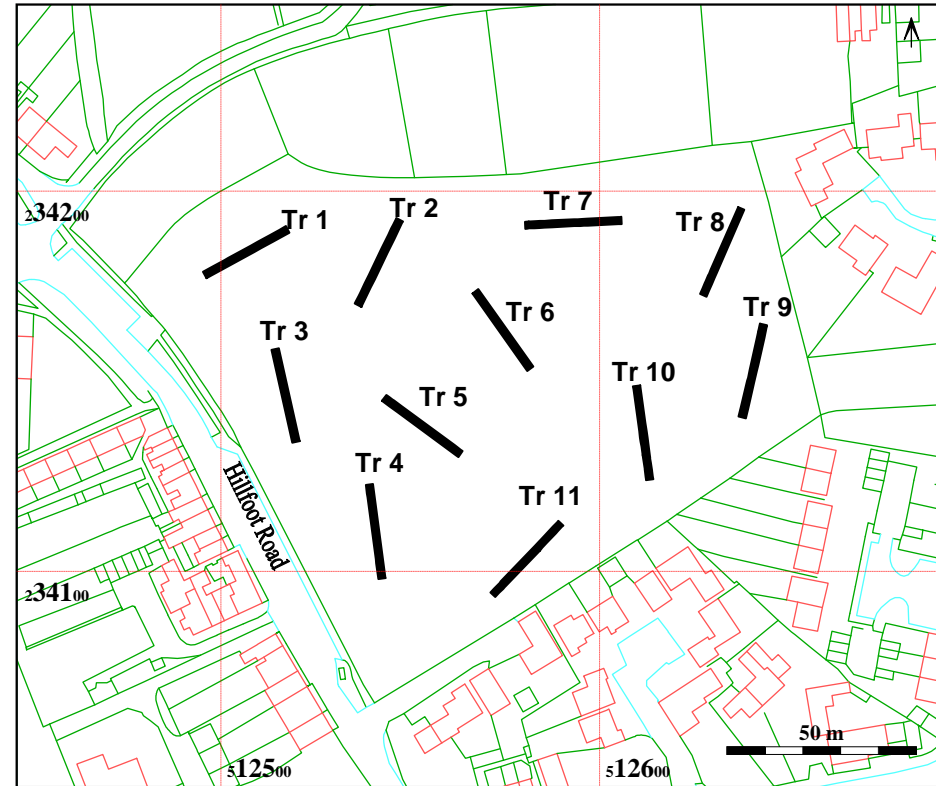
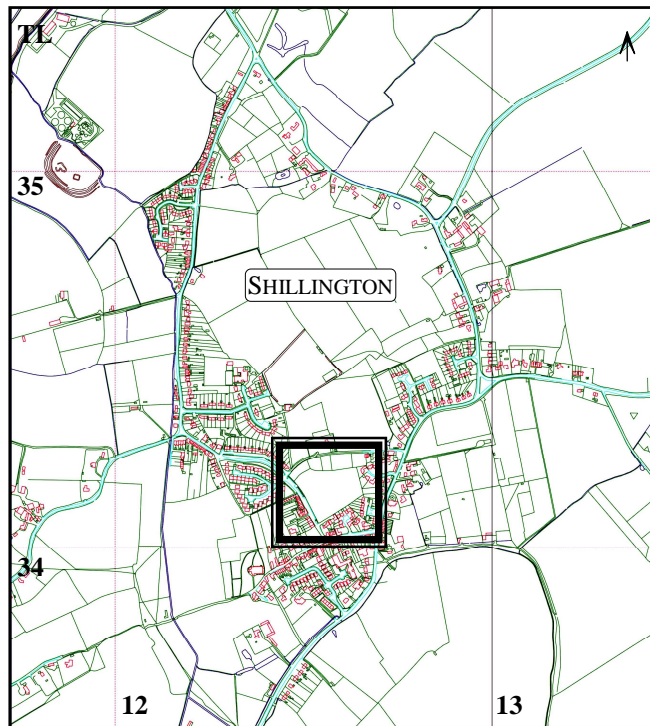
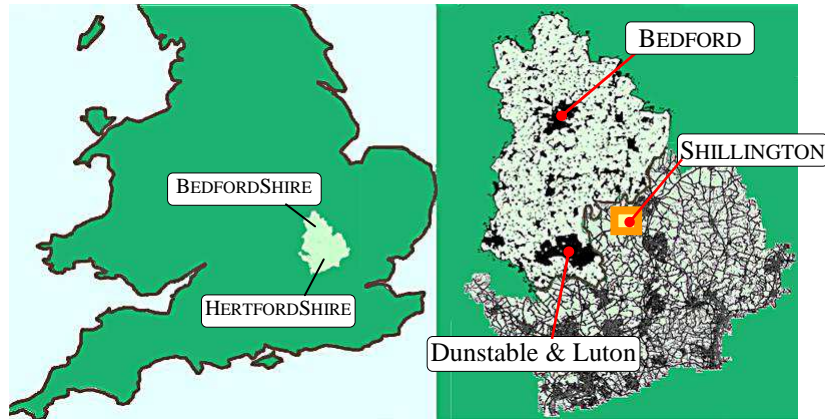


<b>Criteria used for Assessing the Magnitude of Development Impacts</b>	
<b><i>Magnitude of Impact</i></b>	<b><i>Effect of Impact</i></b>
High	Causes total destruction of or permanent change to most key elements of the asset that results in major loss of integrity and reduction in significance. Substantial 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.
Moderate	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.
Low	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.
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.

<b>Significance of Impact Matrix: Direct Effects on Heritage Assets</b>						
<b><i>Significance of Asset</i></b>	<i>International or National</i>	Neutral	Slight	Moderate	Large	Very Large
	<i>Regional</i>	Neutral	Neutral / Slight	Slight	Moderate	Large
	<i>Local</i>	Neutral	Neutral / Slight	Neutral / Slight	Slight	Moderate
	<i>Negligible</i>	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral / Slight	Slight
		<i>No change</i>	<i>Negligible</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>Moderate</i>	<i>High</i>
		<b><i>Magnitude of Impact</i></b>				



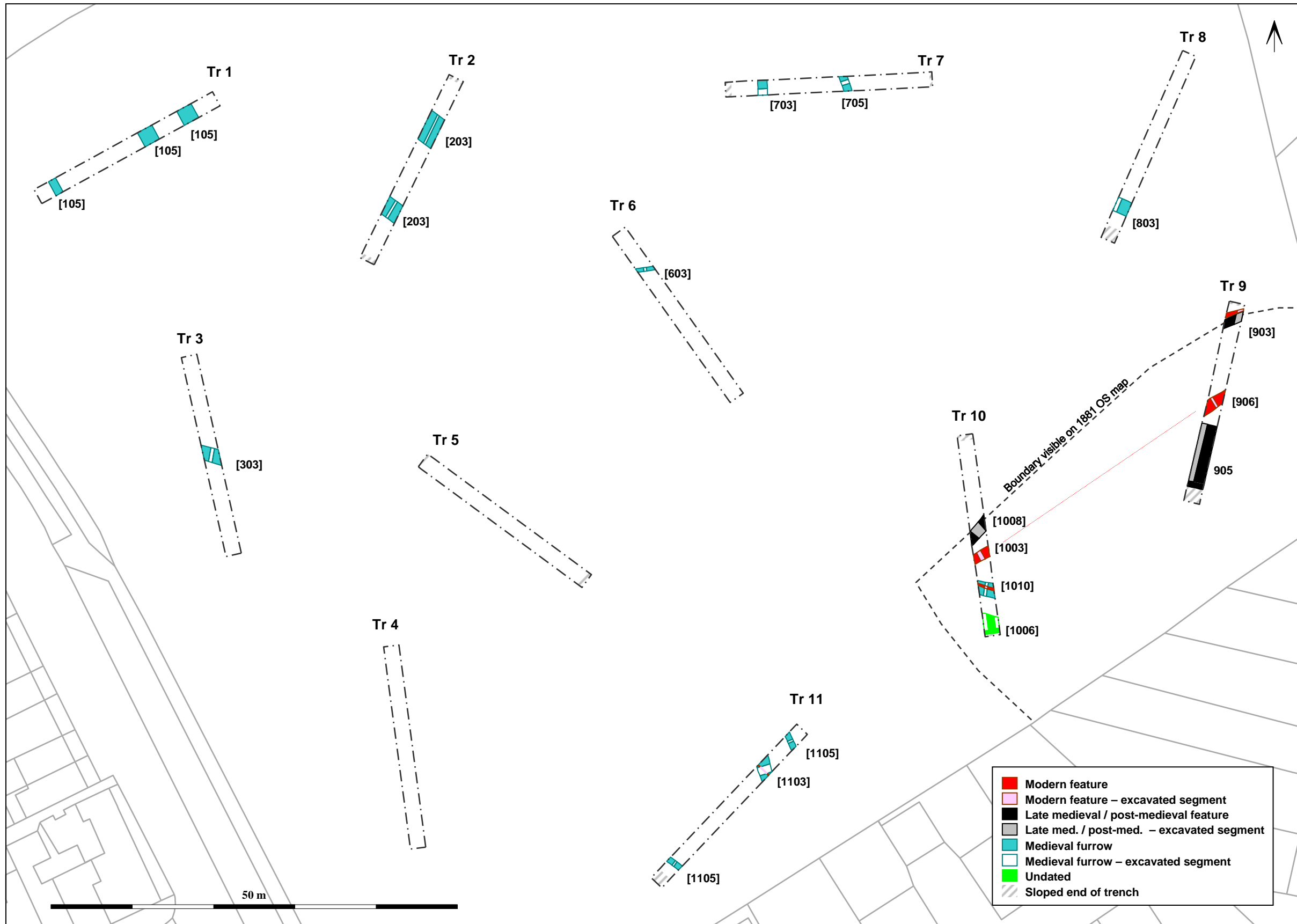
<b>Magnitude of Impact Matrix: Effects on Assets Setting</b>						
<b>Value of Attribute</b>	<i>High</i>	No change	Negligible	Low	Moderate	High
	<i>Moderate</i>	No change	No change / Negligible	Negligible	Low	Moderate
	<i>Low</i>	No change	No change / Negligible	No change / Negligible	Negligible	Low
	<i>Neutral</i>	No change	No change	No change	No change / Negligible	Negligible
		<i>No change</i>	<i>Negligible</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>Moderate</i>	<i>High</i>
		<b>Magnitude of Impact</b>				



**Figure 1: Site location plan**

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





**Figure 2: All features**

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

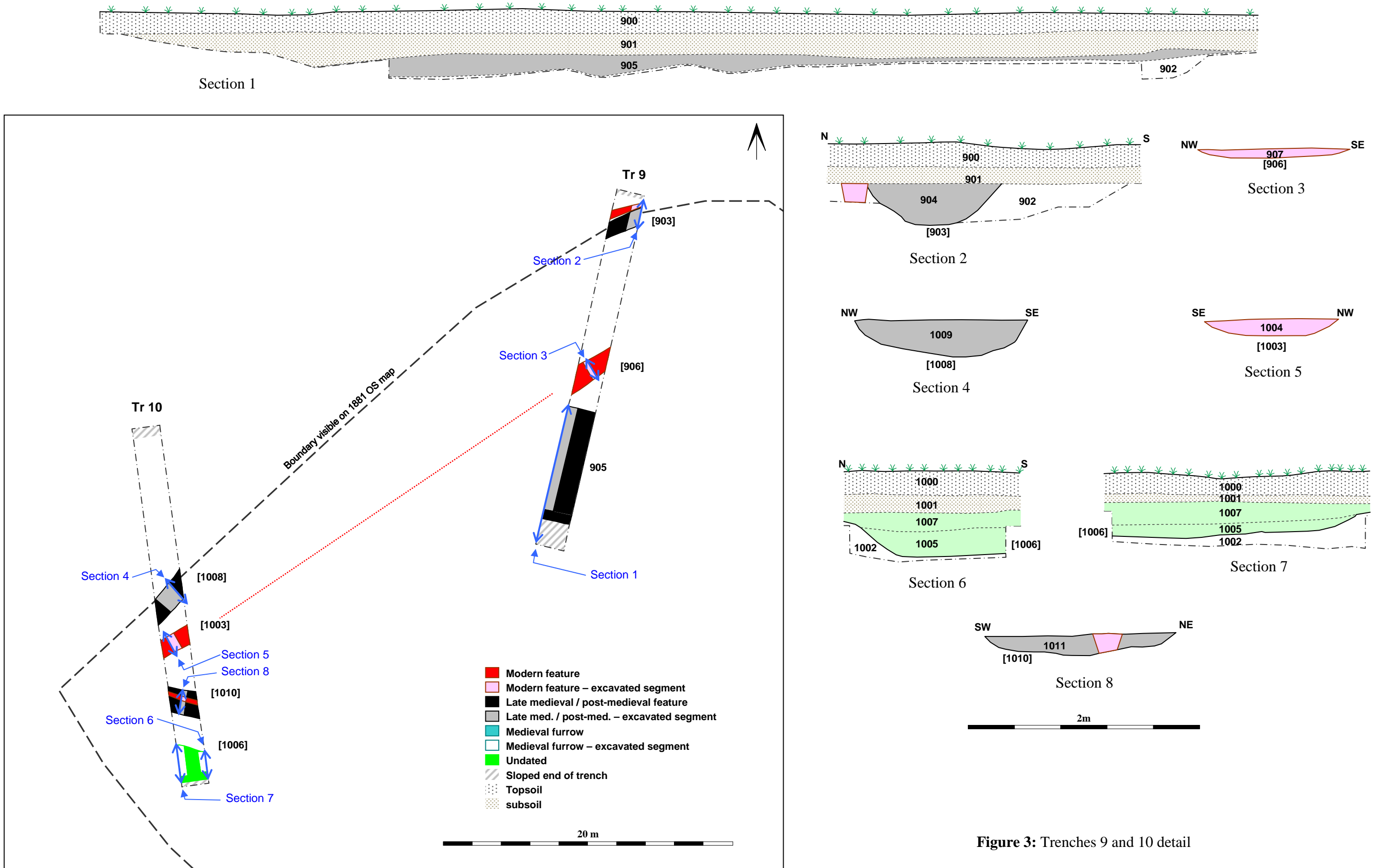
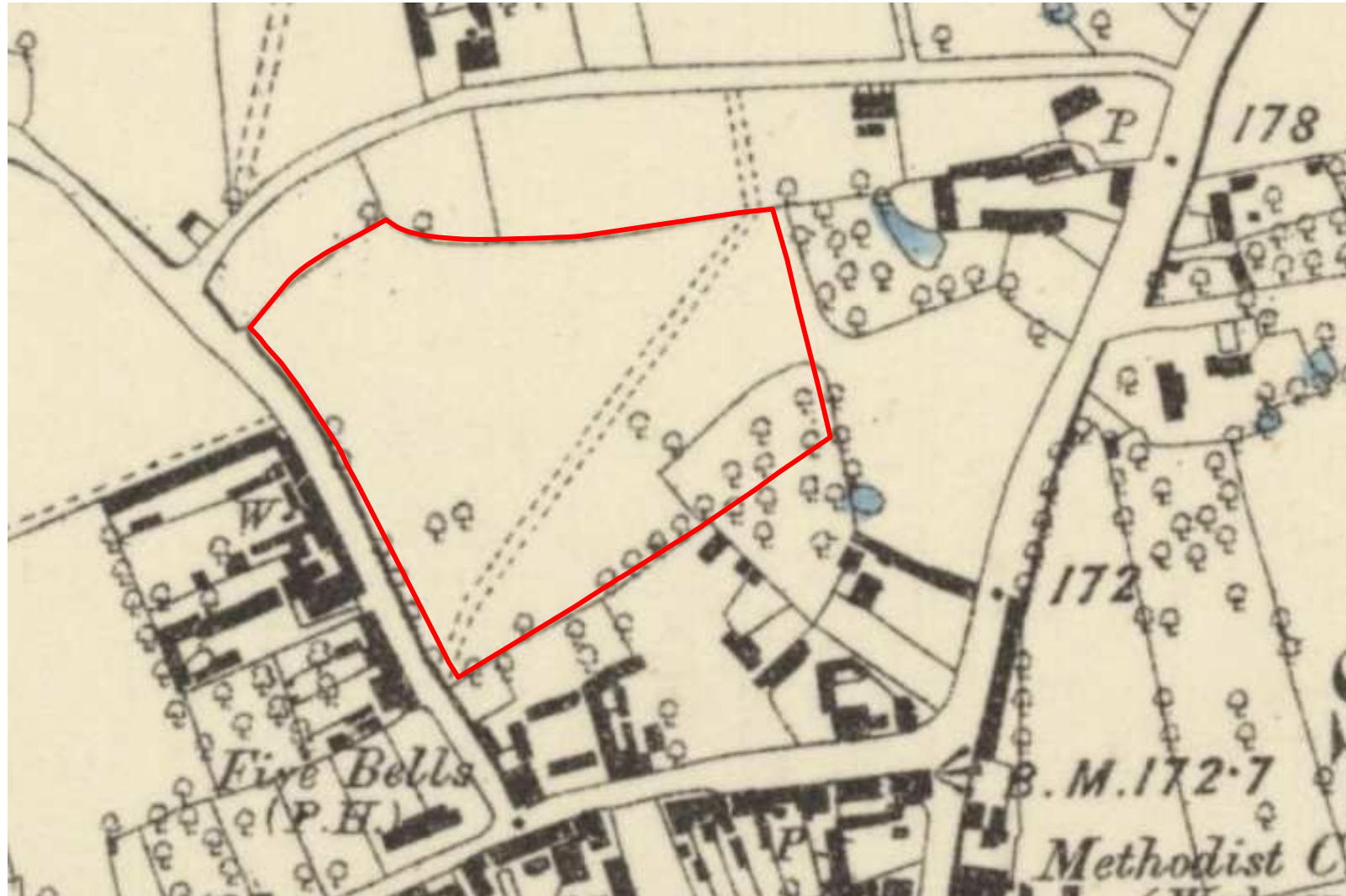


Figure 3: Trenches 9 and 10 detail



**Figure 4:** First edition OS map 1881



**Plate 1:** Medieval furrow [303] (Trench 3) (Scale 1m)



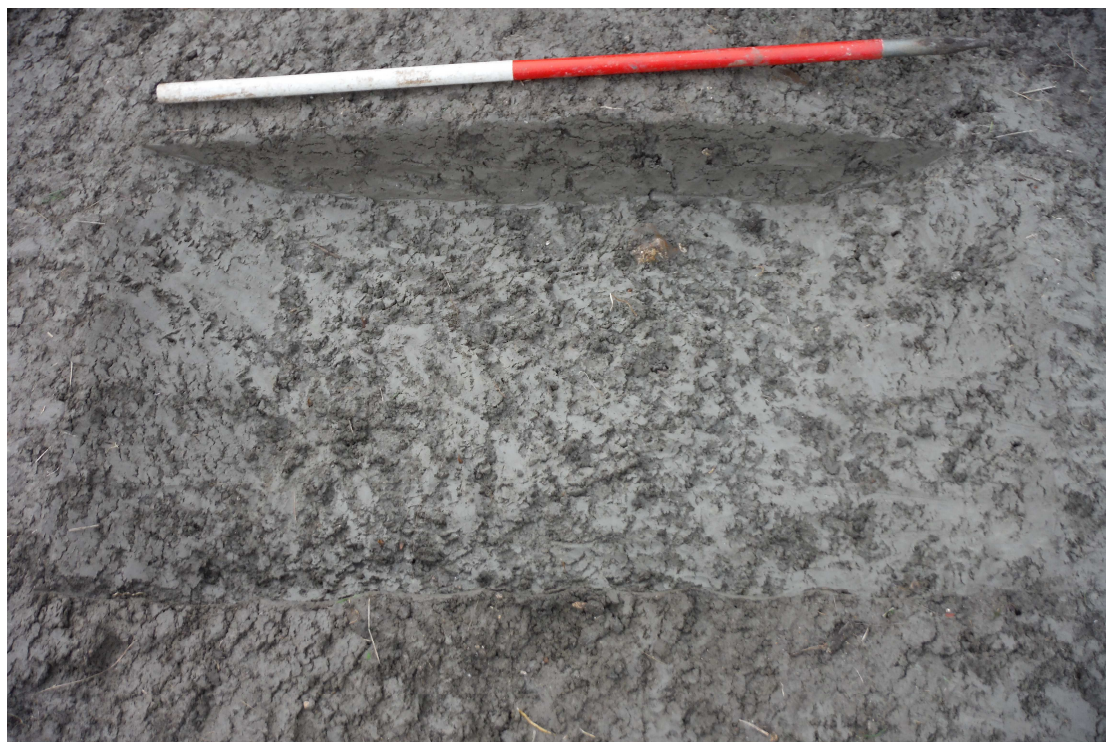
**Plate 2:** Medieval furrow [1103] and land-drain (Trench 11) (Scale 1m)



**Plate 3:** Ditch [903] (Trench 9, looking east) (Scale 1m)



**Plate 4:** Layer (905) (Trench 9, looking west) (Scale 1m)



**Plate 5:** Ditch [1003] (Trench 10) (Scale 1m)



**Plate 6:** Pit [1006] (Trench 10, looking east) (Scale 1m)



**Plate 7:** Ditch [1008] (Trench 10) (Scale 1m)



**Plate 8:** Ditches [1003] and [1008] (Trench 10, looking north-east) (Scales 1m)

Central  
Bedfordshire

**Albion**  
archaeology



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

**Telephone** 0300 300 8141  
**Email** [office@albion-arch.com](mailto:office@albion-arch.com)  
[www.albion-arch.com](http://www.albion-arch.com)

