LAND EAST OF HITCHIN ROAD FAIRFIELD BEDFORDSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION

Albion archaeology





LAND EAST OF HITCHIN ROAD FAIRFIELD BEDFORDSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION

Project: HR2739

HER enquiry Ref: 201516/346 Accession Number: BEDFM: 2016.19 OASIS ref.: albionar1-246826

> Document: 2016/149 Version 1.0

Compiled by	Checked by	Approved by
Richard Gregson	Wesley Keir	Drew Shotliff

Issue date: 19th August 2016

Produced for: Campbell Buchanan

On behalf of: Lochailort Fairfield Ltd



Contents

1. IN	TRODUCTION	5
1.1	Project Background	5
1.2	Site Location, Topography and Geology	5
1.3	Archaeological and Historical Background	6
1.4	Geophysical Survey	7
1.5	Project Objectives	7
2. ME	ETHODOLOGY	8
3. TR	RIAL TRENCHING RESULTS	10
3.1	Introduction	10
3.2	Overburden and Geological Deposits	10
3.3	Archaeological Features	11
4. CC	ONCLUSIONS AND HERITAGE STATEMENT	16
4.1	Summary and Significance of Results	16
4.2	Impacts upon Heritage Assets	17
5. BII	BLIOGRAPHY	18
6. AF	PPENDIX 1: ARTEFACTS AND ECOFACTS	19
6.1	Ceramics	19
6.2	Non-ceramic Finds	20
6.3	Ecofacts	21
7. AF	PPENDIX 2: TRENCH SUMMARIES	22
Q	DENDIX 3. OASIS SIIMMADV	51



LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1: Site location Figure 2: All-features plan Figure 3: Trenches 1–5 Figure 4: Trenches 6–11 Figure 5: Trenches 12–18 Figure 6: Trenches 19–24

Figure 7: Selected photographs **Figure 8:** Selected photographs

Figure 9: Transcribed enclosure map of 1848 showing medieval strip fields

The figures are bound at the back of the report.



Preface

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

Acknowledgements

The project was commissioned by Campbell Buchanan on behalf of Lochailort Fairfield Ltd and monitored on behalf of the Local Planning Authority by Martin Oake, the Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeologist.

The fieldwork was undertaken by Richard Gregson (Archaeological Supervisor), Tori Hainsworth, Catie Watts, Gary Manning, Heather White, Marcin Synus and Juha-Matti Vuorinen (Assistant Supervisors/Archaeological Technicians). This report has been prepared by Richard Gregson with contributions from Jackie Wells (Finds Officer) and Joan Lightning (CAD Technician). The project was managed by Rob Wardill (Albion Archaeology Project Manager). All Albion projects are under the overall management of Drew Shotliff (Operations Manager).

Albion Archaeology St Mary's Church St Mary's Street Bedford, MK42 0AS 2: 0300 300 8141

Fax: 0300 300 8209

E-mail: office@albion-arch.com Website: www.albion-arch.com

Version History

Version	Issue date	Reason for re-issue
1.0	19/08/2016	n/a

Key Terms

The following terms or abbreviations are used throughout this report:

CBC Central Bedfordshire Council

CBCA Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeologist CIfA Chartered Institute *for* Archaeologists

HER Central Bedfordshire and Luton Historic Environment Record

PDA Proposed development area



Non-Technical Summary

Campbell Buchanan are gathering baseline information in support of two planning applications to Central Bedfordshire Council for the construction of a school and mixed use development at Land East of Hitchin Road, Fairfield, Bedfordshire. A programme of archaeological field evaluation has been carried out in support of the application, comprising two stages of work: Stage 1 geophysical survey, followed by Stage 2 trial trenching.

The trial trenching was undertaken between 28th June and 26th July 2016 comprising 24 trenches measuring 50m x 2m. Archaeological features were identified in 21 of the 24 trenches, with only Trenches 13 to 15 being devoid of archaeological remains. These features have provided evidence of activity on the site dating from the late Bronze Age/early Iron Age to the post-medieval period. The principal features comprise a series of bedding trenches and cultivation furrows likely to date to the Roman and medieval periods respectively, as well as a number of large pits and other features appearing to date to the middle Saxon period.

The area of middle Saxon activity encompasses Trenches 1–4, 8–9 and 11–12, located on generally higher ground in the south-west of the PDA. It is likely to represent the most archaeologically significant element of the site in light of regional research objectives. Features within this area included several probable storage pits and a possible post-built structure, all suggestive of a focus for settlement-related activity.

Also of interest, though of limited archaeological significance, were two groups of Roman bedding trenches, one located in the north of the PDA and the other in the south.

The few, very small and abraded sherds of pottery dating to the late Bronze Age and Iron Age periods that were recovered are all most likely to represent residual finds deposited within later features. They do, however, indicate activity of the period within the wider vicinity. The well preserved condition of one of the two late Iron Age coins recovered from alluvial deposits within Trench 5 suggests it may have been deliberately deposited, or perhaps accidentally lost, within this location of the former course of the nearby Pix Brook.

The series of medieval cultivation furrows revealed within Trenches 1–3 and 6–10 in the south half of the PDA are of little archaeological significance beyond adding to our knowledge of the areas under ridge and furrow cultivation during the period.

The probable focus of middle Saxon settlement activities located within the south-west part of the PDA represents a heritage asset of regional significance. Development within this area of the PDA could potentially have a highly negative impact upon these remains. There would be a less significant impact upon the Roman bedding trenches and medieval cultivation furrows revealed within the PDA, which though of interest, are considered to be of less archaeological significance.

However, it will be possible to mitigate any impacts by measures designed to ensure the continued preservation in-situ of the identified sub-surface archaeological remains or, where this is not possible, by the implementation of a further programme of archaeological works.



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

Campbell Buchanan are gathering baseline information in support of two planning applications at Land East of Hitchin Road, Fairfield, Bedfordshire:

- CB/16/01454/FUL Erection of 2-form entry Lower School and Nursery with access parking sports pitch with changing facility, landscaping and associated works.
- CB/16/001455/OUT Mixed use development comprising flexible use commercial unit Use class A1, A3, D1, B1; 180 dwellings, landscaping access, parking and associated works

A programme of archaeological field evaluation has been carried out in support of that application and in accordance with *National Planning Policy Framework* – *Section 12: Conserving and enhancing the historic environment* (March 2012).

The field evaluation comprised two stages of work: Stage 1 geophysical survey, followed by Stage 2 trial trenching. The scope and methodology for the works were set out in a Written Scheme of Investigation (Albion Archaeology 2016) that was approved by the Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeologist (CBCA) prior to commencement of the fieldwork.

This report presents the findings of the trial trench evaluation and assesses the significance of any archaeological remains potentially affected by the proposed development.

1.2 Site Location, Topography and Geology

The PDA is located on the eastern side of Hitchin Road, *c.* 1.5km to the south of the town of Stotfold and 3.5km north of Letchworth town centre (Figure 1). It lies opposite the residential developments of Fairfield Hospital and Fairfield Park on the other side of Hitchin Road.

The PDA is c. 8.9ha in extent and currently consists of arable and pasture with tree-lined boundaries, separating it from the former site of the pig development units to the north, and further cultivated fields to the south and east. The eastern site boundary is formed by the Pix Brook.

Topographically the PDA lies on a gentle east-facing slope and the land falls from 65m OD at Hitchin Road in the west to c. 50m OD by the Pix Brook in the east. The underlying geology consists of superficial sand and gravel glaciofluvial deposits, laid down by the course of the Pix Brook, above West Melbury Marly Chalk Formation bedrock¹.

The site is centred on grid reference TL 2083 3521.

¹ http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain. Accessed 11th August 2016



1.3 Archaeological and Historical Background

The following summary incorporates the results of an HER enquiry (201516/346) and Heritage Statement (Albion Archaeology 2015) previously carried out in support of the planning application.

1.3.1 Prehistoric to Roman (before AD 43 to c. AD 400)

The site of a prehistoric ring ditch (HER 16817) lies c. 450m to the north of the PDA. The ring ditch was identified from aerial photographs and is most likely Bronze Age in date. It probably marks the location of a funerary monument.

Evidence for late Bronze Age occupation was revealed during archaeological investigations at Site A at Fairfield Park c. 500m south-west of the PDA (HER 16801, EBD362, 661). This consisted of an enclosure, a cluster of pits and three late Bronze Age cremation burials. Two Bronze Age cremation burials were also revealed at Site B, c. 400m to the north-west of the PDA (HER 19621).

After a possible hiatus in occupation at least two settlements were laid out in the early Iron Age, one at Site A (HER 16801) and one at Site B to the north-west of the PDA (HER 19621). Features at both settlements included small enclosures, roundhouses, four-post structures and storage pits. A rich domestic artefact assemblage was retrieved from both sites. Site B showed some limited continuity of occupation into the middle Iron Age.

Very little evidence for Roman activity was revealed at the Fairfield Park site. Site A revealed a small number of isolated features while at Site B a trackway on an east-west alignment was recorded (Webley *et al.* 2007, 53–5). Earlier evaluation (EBD 362) had identified a Roman settlement site, including several cremation burials (HER 19622), *c.* 300m to the west of the PDA. This was preserved *in situ*, although part of the site has recently been investigated in connection with works at Fairfield Lower School (Albion in prep.).

Excavations at Land South of Stotfold, *c*. 1.3km to the north-east of the PDA revealed an extensive area of late Bronze Age – middle Iron Age settlement activity, which included three distinct burial areas (Albion Archaeology 2011; Keir, in. prep.)

1.3.2 Anglo-Saxon and medieval (400–1550)

The Fairfield Hospital excavations revealed a number of early Anglo-Saxon boundary ditches (HER 19623). These lie c. 500m west of the PDA.

Excavations at Land South of Stotfold, c. 1.3km to the north-east of the PDA, have revealed an extensive late Saxon settlement dating to between the 10th and 12th centuries (Albion Archaeology 2011; Keir, in prep.). Smaller scale, middle Saxon settlement activity was also revealed.

A possible medieval boundary ditch was recorded on the Fairfield Park site (EBD362, EBD660). Stotfold and Arlesey both have medieval origins; however, their medieval cores lie more than 1.5km north and west of the PDA. It is likely that the land between the settlements, including the PDA, was used for agriculture.



The cropmark of a possible trackway (HER 1767) associated with the open field system ran north-west from Hitchin Road. If it continued south-east beyond Hitchin Road, it would cross the PDA; however, there is no cropmark on the PDA.

1.3.3 Post-medieval (1550–1900)

Fairfield Hospital (HER 659) and its landscaped grounds (HER 16866) lie to the immediate west of the PDA on the other side of Hitchin Road. The hospital was built in 1856–60 by George Fowler Jones of York as a lunatic asylum and is a Grade II listed building [DBD2379]. It was closed in 1999 and the site redeveloped for residential purposes.

Post-medieval ditches pre-dating the Fairfield Hospital site were found during the Fairfield Park archaeological investigations (EBD362, EBD660) and show that the site was used for agricultural purposes (Webley *et al* 2007, 56).

1.3.4 Modern (1900 to present)

The Pig Development Unit to the north of the PDA was established in the 1950s as a research and development station for the Pig Industry Development Authority, the forerunner of the Meat and Livestock Commission (HER20153).

1.3.5 Undated

HER 16833 represents a penannular enclosure around the head of a dry valley. It lies on the eastern side of the Pix Brook and could possibly be an enclosure around a former spring.

1.4 Geophysical Survey

A detailed gradiometry survey was carried out to assist with the archaeological evaluation of the site and help position trial trenches (Stratascan 2016).

The survey did not identify any anomalies of certain archaeological origin, other than a former post-medieval field boundary and areas of ridge and furrow cultivation.

1.5 Project Objectives

The principal purpose of the evaluation was to gather information on possible sub-surface archaeological heritage assets at the site. The archaeological trial trenching endeavoured to determine the:

- location, extent, nature, and date of any archaeological features or deposits that may be present within the proposed development site;
- integrity and state of preservation of any archaeological features or deposits that may be present at the proposed development site.
- nature of palaeo-environmental remains to determine local environmental conditions.



2. METHODOLOGY

The trial trenching was undertaken between 28th June and 26th July 2016. A layout of 24 trenches measuring 50m x 2m was agreed with the CBCA to investigate areas and features identified by the geophysical survey and to target apparently blank areas of the site.

The trenches were opened by a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, operating 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.

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

Albion Archaeology	Land East of Hitchin Road, Fairfield, Bedfordshire:
	Written Scheme of Investigation for a Programme
	of Archaeological Field Evaluation. Document:
	2016/67 (2016)
	Procedures Manual: Volume 1 Fieldwork (2nd edn,
	2001).
Bedford Museum	Preparing Archaeological Archives for Deposition
	in Bedfordshire (2010)
CIfA	Charter and by-law; Code of conduct (2014)
	Standard and Guidance for archaeological field
	evaluation (2014)
	Standard and Guidance for the collection,
	documentation, conservation and research of
	archaeological materials (2014)
EAA	Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of
	England (Gurney 2003)
Historic England	Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory
	and practice of methods, from sampling and
	recovery to post-excavation. 2nd ed. (2011)
	Geophysical Survey in Archaeological Field
	Evaluation (2008)
	Management of Research Projects in the Historic
	Environment (MoRPHE) Project Managers' Guide
	(2015)



The project archive will be deposited with Bedford Museum (Accession No. BEDFM: 2016.19). Details of the project and its findings will be submitted to the OASIS database (ref: albionar1-246826; see Appendix 3) in accordance with the guidelines issued by English Heritage and the Archaeology Data Service.

A full methodology for the project is provided in the WSI (Albion Archaeology 2016) which was approved by the CBCA prior to the commencement of the fieldwork.



3. TRIAL TRENCHING RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

The results of the trial trenching are summarised below and shown on Figures 2–8. Details of all the observed features and deposits are provided in Appendix 2, whilst detailed finds information is contained in Appendix 1.

3.2 Overburden and Geological Deposits

The thickness of overburden varied across the site, reflecting the underlying geomorphology, with greater depths of overburden generally found in the lowerlying areas. Over the whole of the PDA, it varied from 0.25–0.9m.

The underlying geological deposits generally comprised grey chalky silts and clays. Small areas of orange sandy silts and gravels had formed over the chalkier deposits within parts of Trenches 2, 4, 5, 16–20, 23 and 24.

3.2.1 Alluvial deposits

Alluvial deposits were revealed in Trenches 5, 19 and 24. The alluvial layer (1925) and (2410) in Trenches 19 and 24 occupied the area of a natural dip in the present-day landscape. The alluvium was up to 14m across, 0.22m deep and comprised mid grey silty or sandy clay. It was 40–70m west of the present course of the Pix Brook and may have been the result of deposition through rain water-ponding, hill-wash and periodic flooding of the brook.

Alluvial deposits were also found in Trench 5 covering an area of at least 33m across. Three archaeological features truncated the alluvium: a post-medieval field boundary ditch [523], another possible ditch [504] and a narrow, possible palaeochannel [508]. On excavation, the two possible features [504] and [508] had indistinct boundaries with the surrounding alluvial deposits and so may, alternatively, have been variations within the alluvium rather than distinct features in their own right.

Metal-detecting of Trench 5 produced one late Iron Age, copper alloy coin (RA10) within upper alluvial deposit (511) and another possible Iron Age coin (RA9) from the upper fill of the putative, narrow palaeochannel [508]. The well-preserved condition of coin (RA10) suggests it may have been deliberately deposited, or perhaps accidentally lost, within a former course of the nearby Pix Brook.

Following consultation with the CBCA, three sondages were hand-excavated into the alluvial deposits of Trench 5 to investigate the depositional sequences and to look for more artefacts. They were located towards the limits and middle of the spread of alluvial deposits. The latter were relatively shallow towards the limits of their extent, but in the middle extended to a depth in excess of 3m below the ground surface. This suggests that a fairly large palaeochannel [525] existed in this location and that the centrally located alluvial deposits were part of its infilling; those on the edges may have been part of the palaeochannel or overbank flood deposits.

In Trench 1, on higher ground to the west of the alluvial deposits in Trench 5,



there was a much smaller NW–SE aligned palaeochannel [119] that may join the one in Trench 5.

3.3 Archaeological Features

Archaeological features were identified in 21 of the 24 trenches; only Trenches 13–15 were devoid of archaeological remains. The features provide evidence of activity on the site dating from the late Bronze Age/early Iron Age to the post-medieval period and include a series of bedding trenches and cultivation furrows likely to date to the Roman and medieval periods respectively, as well as a number of large pits appearing to date to the middle Saxon period. Numerous undated pits and ditches were also revealed.

3.3.1 Late Bronze Age to late Iron Age activity

Evidence of the earliest activity on the site is provided by a few very small and abraded sherds of late Bronze Age/early Iron Age pottery from features in Trenches 2, 21 and 22. All, however, are likely to be residual and are indicative of activity of this date in the general vicinity rather than providing a date for the features themselves.

A small abraded sherd of late Bronze Age/early Iron Age pottery was recovered from Trench 2 pit [203] that intercut another pit [223] containing very similar deposits. The deposits were unlike those in the nearby middle Saxon pits in Trench 1 or a Roman pit [208] at the other end of Trench 2. However, the abraded nature of the pottery suggests that it was residual and that the pit was probably later, most likely Roman or Saxon in date. Some very small fragments of early-middle Iron Age pottery were also recovered from a probable Roman bedding trench [2103] and a nearby, similarly aligned ditch [2209].

Later Iron Age activity is represented by one well-preserved copper-alloy coin dating to 30–25 BC and a further possible coin fragment, deposited within alluvial or palaeochannel deposits within Trench 5.

Features pre-dating the Roman bedding trenches (see below) and which could date to the Iron Age or earlier periods comprise a substantial posthole [809] and a fairly shallow area of quarrying [811]/[815] in Trench 8 as well as three shallow ditches [410], [412] and [414] in Trench 4.

3.3.2 Roman bedding trenches and ditches

Generally ESE–WNW aligned bedding trenches were found in two distinct groups in the north and south of the PDA. Bedding trenches on archaeological sites in this part of Britain are often assumed to be related to Roman agriculture, and in particular viticulture, despite sometimes producing little or no Roman pottery. The northern group² comprised at least five parallel bedding trenches that were on average 10m apart; some lined up with linear anomalies on the geophysical survey. The southern group³ comprised at least fourteen roughly parallel bedding trenches that were on average 8.5m apart. Some of these again

_

² [2010], [2012], [2014], [2103], [2203], [2215] and [2217]

³ [205], [305], [315], [408], [603], [609], [611], [613], [615], [619], [711], [713], [715], [717], [719], [721], [813], [824], [826], [828], [915], [918], [1013] and [1111]



lined up with linear anomalies on the geophysical survey.

It was notable that at least two of the longer lengths of bedding trenches ([408] and [1111]) were slightly sinuous, rather than straight in plan.

A very small amount of early-middle Iron Age pottery was recovered from the northern group of bedding trenches. It is likely to be residual and may be the result of the bedding trench having been backfilled with a mixture of manure and soil from which the earlier pottery was derived.

Close to one of the southern group of bedding trenches was a shallow refuse pit [208]. In addition to a small amount of animal bone, it contained the curved blade of a putative Roman pruning hook (RA3). Such implements were used for cutting woody stems of plants such as grape vines which need to be pruned regularly to maintain their productiveness. Two nearby intercutting pits [235] and [237] were similar in size and contained similar deposits; they may also have been Roman in date.

In Trench 22 there was a large V-shaped ditch [2209] on a similar WSW-ENE alignment to the nearby bedding trenches [2203], [2215] and [2217]. The ditch was a re-cut of two earlier, less substantial ditches [2205] and [2207], suggesting that they all marked a boundary that had been re-established and enlarged over the course of time. A few very small Iron Age pottery sherds were recovered from the ditches. Given their abraded nature and the ditches' similar alignment to the bedding trenches, it is likely that the sherds are residual.

A small number of much-abraded Roman pottery sherds were recovered from a NE-SW aligned ditch [1903] in Trench 19. Their poor condition suggests that they too could be residual.

The overall sparseness of Roman pottery across the PDA suggests that the bedding trenches are not located particularly close to any substantial Roman settlement.

3.3.3 Focus of Saxon activity

An area in the south-west of the PDA appears to have been a focus of Saxon settlement activity; it contained several deep storage pits, a number of ditches and a possible post-built structure. Only a few of the archaeological features produced datable artefacts. However, the similarities between their form and the deposits within them suggest that they form a contemporaneous group of features. Datable artefacts comprised: middle Saxon pottery sherds and fragments of basaltic lava quern from one of the deep storage pits [103]; and middle Saxon pottery sherds from one of the ditches. A further quern fragment was recovered from pit [805] as well as a relatively large assemblage of charred plant remains, including frequent amounts of charred grain and small numbers of possible legumes. Smaller quantities of charred grain were also recovered from probable storage pit [103].

Details of all of the archaeological features interpreted to be of middle Saxon date are tabulated below. Of particular interest, in addition to the deep storage



pits, was a possible structure defined by at least five postholes arranged loosely in an arc. Although no datable artefacts were recovered from the postholes, they were close to other middle Saxon features that contained similar deposits. Another posthole was revealed 65m to the west; it contained a significant amount of charcoal, suggesting the post may have been burnt in-situ.

Trench	Feature	Type	Comments
1	103	Pit	Probable storage pit that contained middle Saxon pottery and
_	100	110	pieces of a lava quern. It truncates [108] and [131].
	108	Pit	Probable storage pit. Truncated by [103] and truncates
			[131].
	131	Pit	Possible storage pit. Truncated by [103] and [108].
	111	Posthole	One of five postholes that may form a structure.
	113	Posthole	One of five postholes that may form a structure.
	115	Posthole	One of five postholes that may form a structure.
	123	Posthole	One of five postholes that may form a structure.
	125	Posthole	One of five postholes that may form a structure.
	117	Shallow	Deposits similar to those of nearby pit [103] containing
		ditch	middle Saxon pottery.
	121	Ditch	Deposits similar to those of nearby pit [103] containing
			middle Saxon pottery.
	127	Ditch	Deposits similar to those of nearby pit [103] containing
	120	D'.	middle Saxon pottery. Similar alignment to ditch [213].
	129	Pit	Possible storage pit with deposits similar to those of nearby pit [103] containing middle Saxon pottery.
2	213	Ditch	Deposits similar to those of nearby pit [103] dated to the
2	213	Ditti	middle Saxon period. Similar alignment to ditch [127].
			Contained very small amount of Saxon / Iron Age pottery.
	229	Pit	Deposits similar to those of nearby pit [103] containing
			middle Saxon pottery.
3	303	Posthole	Possibly with post burnt in-situ.
		Ditch	Corresponds with the end of a linear geophysical anomaly.
		terminus	To the south of the terminus a related linear anomaly appears
			to match the location of ditch [213]
4	404	Pit	Probable storage pit with deposits similar to those of pit
			[103] containing middle Saxon pottery. It contained a
			fragment of intrusive post-medieval bottle glass in the upper fill.
	416	Pit	Probable storage pit with deposits similar to those of pit
	110	110	[103] containing middle Saxon pottery.
8	803	Small pit	Truncated by [805].
	805	Pit	Truncates [803]. Contained a fragment of lava quern, as also
			found in middle Saxon pit [103].
	819	Pit	Pit with deposits similar to those of pit [103] containing
			middle Saxon pottery.
	830	Pit	Pit with deposits similar to those of pit [103] containing
	022	D'4	middle Saxon pottery.
	832	Pit	Pit with deposits similar to those of pit [103] containing middle Saxon pottery.
9	903	Pit	Possible storage pit with deposits similar to those of pit [103]
		110	containing middle Saxon pottery.
			Pit with deposits similar to those of pit [103] containing
			middle Saxon pottery.
	922	Pit	Pit with deposits similar to those of pit [103] containing
			middle Saxon pottery.
11	1103	Ditch	Truncated a bedding trench and contained sherds of middle
			Saxon pottery.



Trench	Feature	Type	Comments	
	1106	Pit	Probable storage pit with deposits similar to those of pit	
			[103] containing middle Saxon pottery.	
12	1203	Pit	Probable storage pit from which animal bone was recovered, with deposits similar to those of pit [103] containing middle Saxon pottery.	
	1206	Ditch	Ditch from which a small amount of animal bone was recovered with deposits similar to nearby storage pit [1203].	

Table 1: Features within the focus of Saxon activity

3.3.4 Medieval cultivation furrows

Medieval cultivation furrows⁴ broadly aligned E–W were revealed within Trenches 1–3 and 6–10 in the southern part of the PDA. Many correspond with linear anomalies identified on the geophysical survey and with the alignments of strip fields transcribed onto an 1848 Enclosure map (Figure 9).

3.3.5 Post-medieval activity

A N–S aligned, V-shaped ditch [523] and [605], with a land drain in the base, located in Trenches 5 and 6, matched the location of a field boundary transcribed onto the 1848 Enclosure map (Figure 9). Two smaller E–W aligned ditches [1705] and [1707], one of which [1707] also had a land drain in its base, are also likely to correspond with this boundary.

3.3.6 Undated features

A number of features, tabulated below, were spread across the PDA. They could not be dated either directly from artefacts recovered from them or by association with similar, dated features in their vicinity. They included ditches, gullies, pits, and a possible posthole. Several additional features identified as possible pits were located in areas of ground prone to waterlogging; they may, therefore, have been formed through natural puddling processes.

Trench	Feature	Type	Comments	
3	307	Pit	No artefacts were recovered and there were no similar,	
			dated features nearby.	
	311	Plough	Undated, but alignment is consistent with existing field	
		marks	boundaries and nearby medieval furrows.	
	313	Possible	Possible patch of root disturbance between plough marks	
		rooting	[311]. Position seemed to suggest it might in some way be	
			related to plough marks.	
	707	Ditch	No artefacts recovered from it and alignment not similar	
			enough to nearby 19th-century field boundary ditch [605].	
9	911	Possible	No datable artefacts recovered. Truncated by [913].	
		posthole		
	913	Ditch	Undated, but truncates medieval furrow [909], as well as	
			undated, possible posthole [911].	
11	1113	Plough	Undated, although it did contain a timber nail (RA12).	
		marks	Alignment was consistent with nearby medieval furrows	
			but not with modern field boundary to the north.	
16	1603	Shallow	No datable artefacts recovered and no similar, dated	
		ditch	features nearby.	

⁴ [133], [135], [137], [221], [225], [227], [233], [239], [311], [617], [723], [725], [727], [729], [731], [822], [909], [1003], [1005], [1007], [1009] and [1011]



Trench	Feature	Type	Comments	
17	1703	Possible	No datable artefacts recovered and no similar, dated	
		pit	features nearby.	
18	1803	Gulley	No datable artefacts recovered and no similar, dated	
			features nearby.	
19	1909	Pit /	Pit / natural depression caused by puddling of waterlogged	
		puddling	ground in the vicinity of alluvial deposit (1925).	
	1914	Pit /	Pit / natural depression caused by puddling of waterlogged	
		puddling	ground in the vicinity of alluvial deposit (1925).	
	1917	Pit /	Pit / natural depression caused by puddling of waterlogged	
		puddling	ground in the vicinity of alluvial deposit (1925).	
	1919	Pit /	Pit / natural depression caused by puddling of waterlogged	
		puddling	ground in the vicinity of alluvial deposit (1925).	
	1921	Pit /	Pit / natural depression caused by puddling of waterlogged	
		puddling	ground in the vicinity of alluvial deposit (1925).	
20	2003	Ditch	No datable artefacts recovered and no similar, dated	
			features nearby. Truncates [2016] and truncated by	
			[2008].	
	2008	Ditch	No datable artefacts recovered and no similar, dated	
			features nearby. Truncates [2003].	
	2016	Ditch	No datable artefacts recovered and no similar, dated	
			features nearby. Truncated by [2003].	
23	2303	Gulley	No datable artefacts recovered and no similar dated	
			features nearby.	
24	2403	Pit /	Small pit / natural depression caused by puddling of	
		puddling	waterlogged ground in the vicinity of alluvial deposit	
			(2410).	
	2406	Pit /	Small pit / natural depression caused by puddling of	
		puddling	waterlogged ground in the vicinity of alluvial deposit	
			(2410).	
	2408	Pit	Small undated pit containing charcoal rich deposit and	
			fragment of vitrified clay.	

Table 2: Undated features



4. CONCLUSIONS AND HERITAGE STATEMENT

4.1 Summary and Significance of Results

Archaeological features were identified in 21 of the 24 trenches, with only Trenches 13–15 being devoid of archaeological remains. These features have provided evidence of activity on the site dating from the late Bronze Age/early Iron Age to the post-medieval periods. The principal features comprise a series of bedding trenches and cultivation furrows likely to date to the Roman and medieval periods respectively, as well as a number of large pits and other features that date to the middle Saxon period.

The area of middle Saxon activity encompasses Trenches 1–4, 8–9 and 11–12, located on generally higher ground in the south-west of the PDA. It is likely to represent the most archaeologically significant element of the site, although many of the features were dated by their association with (or similarity to) the few features that contained dating material. Features within this area included several probable storage pits and a possible post-built structure, all suggestive of a focus for settlement-related activity, perhaps utilising the water supply provided by the nearby Pix Brook.

Saxon settlement remains are of particular interest in light of regional research objectives for the period regarding the arrival of Christianity and its impact, changes in settlement pattern, the development of craft and agricultural specialisation and the adoption of a monetary economy (Oake 2007, 13). Any further remains revealed on the site may also have the potential to address the more geographically specific aims relating to Bedfordshire's position between East Anglia and the Midlands and the effect of the rise of Mercia at the expense of the East Anglian kingdom.

Also of interest, though of limited archaeological significance, were two groups of Roman bedding trenches, one located in the north of the PDA and the other in the south. The find of a putative Roman pruning hook from a pit near one of the southern group may be useful in informing the debate on whether Roman bedding trenches of this type were dug for cultivating grape vines or not; as the name suggests, pruning hooks were used to cut the woody stems of plants such as grape vines, which require regular pruning to maintain their productivity.

The few, very small and abraded sherds of pottery dating to the late Bronze Age and Iron Age periods that were recovered are all most likely to represent residual finds deposited within later features. They do, however, indicate activity of the period within the wider vicinity. The well preserved condition of one of the two late Iron Age coins recovered from alluvial deposits within Trench 5 suggests it may have been deliberately deposited, or perhaps accidentally lost, within this location of the former course of the nearby Pix Brook.

The series of medieval cultivation furrows revealed within Trenches 1–3 and 6–10 in the southern half of the PDA are of little archaeological significance beyond adding to our knowledge of the areas under ridge and furrow cultivation during the period.



4.2 Impacts upon Heritage Assets

Though the precise details of the mixed use development are still to be decided, details are available for the proposed school, together with its associated access roads, green spaces, play areas and sports pitch. Development of this type typically involves groundworks which could adversely affect archaeological heritage assets. The potential magnitude of this impact can be classed as *low* to *high*, depending on the nature of the groundworks.

Evaluation has identified the presence of a probable focus for middle Saxon settlement activities within the south-west part of the PDA, representing a heritage asset of regional significance. Development within this area of the PDA could potentially have a highly negative impact upon these remains. The proposed development would have a less significant impact upon the Roman bedding trenches and medieval cultivation furrows revealed within the PDA, which though of interest, are considered to be of less archaeological significance.

However, it will be possible to mitigate any significant impacts by measures designed to ensure the continued preservation *in-situ* of the identified subsurface archaeological remains or, where this is not possible, by the implementation of a further programme of archaeological works.



5. **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

- Albion Archaeology, 2001 Procedures Manual Vol. 1: Fieldwork. 2nd edition
- Albion Archaeology, 2011, Land South of Stotfold, Bedfordshire: Assessment of Potential and Updated Project Design (Unpubl. Rep. 2011/164)
- Albion Archaeology, 2015, Fairfield Park II Land south of Pig Units, Hitchin Road, Stotfold, Bedfordshire: Heritage Statement (Unpubl. Rep. 2015/140)
- Albion Archaeology, 2016, Land East of Hitchin Road, Fairfield, Bedfordshire: Written Scheme of Investigation for a Programme of Archaeological Field Evaluation (Unpubl. Rep. 2016/67)
- Albion Archaeology, in prep., Fairfield Park Lower School: Assessment of Potential and Updated project Design
- Bedford Museum, 2010, Preparing Archaeological Archives for Deposition in Bedfordshire, Bedford Museum guidelines
- Historic England, 2015, Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide
- Keir, W., in prep., Later Prehistoric and Late Saxon Settlement at Land South of Stotfold. East Anglian Archaeology Monograph
- Oake, M., 2007, 'Research Agenda and Strategy.' In: *Bedfordshire Archaeology*. *Research and Archaeology: Resource Assessment, Research Agenda and Strategy*. Bedfordshire Archaeology Monograph 9, 7-18.
- 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
- Stratascan, 2016, Geophysical Survey Report. Lower Wilbury Farm, Fairfield, Bedfordshire. Job ref. J9799
- Webley, L., Timby, J. and Wilson, M., 2007, Fairfield Park, Stotfold, Bedfordshire. Later Prehistoric Settlement in the Eastern Chilterns, Bedfordshire Archaeology Monograph 8



6. APPENDIX 1: ARTEFACTS AND ECOFACTS

Twenty-three deposits across 13 trenches yielded an assemblage comprising pottery, animal bone, oyster shell and ten non-ceramic artefacts (Table 3). Only ten features, however, contained datable finds. No artefacts were recovered from Trenches 6, 7, 10, 13–18, 20 or 23.

Tr.	Feature	Description	Fill	Date Range	Finds Summary	
1	103	Pit	105	Middle Saxon	Lava quern (RA1); animal bone (533g)	
	103	Pit	107	Middle Saxon	Pottery (279g); lava quern (RA2); animal bone (523g)	
2	203	Pit	205	LBA / EIA	Pottery (15g)	
	208	Pit	210	?Roman	Iron pruning hook (RA3)	
	208	Pit	211	Undated	Animal bone (6g)	
	208	Pit	212	Undated	Animal bone (361g)	
	213	Ditch	215	Undated	Animal bone (24g)	
	213	Ditch	219	Undated	Animal bone (7g)	
	213	Ditch	220	Iron Age	Pottery (3g); animal bone (22g)	
3	300	Topsoil	-	19th century	Metal watch winder (RA11)	
	309	Ditch	310	Undated	Animal bone (7g)	
4	404	Pit	407	Post-medieval	Vessel glass (5g); animal bone (123g)	
5	508	Palaeochannel	510	Undated	Copper alloy coin (RA9)	
	511	Alluvium	-	Iron Age	Copper alloy coin (RA10)	
8	805	Pit	808	Undated	Lava quern (RA5); animal bone (23g)	
	815	Quarry pit	816	Undated	Animal bone (63g)	
	819	Pit	821	Undated	Animal bone (56g)	
9	903	Pit	905	Undated	Animal bone (32g)	
	903	Pit	908	Undated	Animal bone (292g)	
	915	Bedding trench	917	Undated	Animal bone (14g)	
11	1103	Ditch	1105	Middle Saxon	Pottery (145g); animal bone (259g); oyster shell (20g)	
	1106	Pit	1107	Undated	Animal bone (314g)	
	1106	Pit	1108	Undated	Animal bone (137g)	
	1113	Plough marks	1114	Undated	Iron nail (RA12)	
12	1203	Pit	1205	Undated	Animal bone (747g)	
	1206	Ditch	1207	Undated	Animal bone (3g)	
19	1903	Ditch	1906	Roman	Pottery (3g); animal bone (5g)	
21	2103	Bedding trench	2104	Iron Age	Pottery (2g)	
22	2209	Ditch	2211	Iron Age	Pottery (3g)	
	2209	Ditch	2214	Iron Age	Pottery (1g)	
24	2406	Pit	2407	Undated	Animal bone (324g)	
	2408	Pit	2409	Undated	Iron strip (RA4); vitrified clay (35g)	

Table 3: Finds Summary by trench and feature

6.1 Ceramics

Twenty-seven pottery sherds (451g) representing eight vessels were collected. The assemblage displays variable date range and fragmentation, with single sherds ranging in weight from 1g to 167g (mean sherd weight 17g); most are abraded. Fabric types are identified in accordance with the Bedfordshire Ceramic Type Series (Error! Reference source not found.).

Ten abraded later prehistoric sherds (24g) are considered to be residual due to their poor condition and recovery from naturally accumulated fills. They comprise a single flint-tempered late Bronze Age/early Iron Age body sherd collected from pit [203]; and nine tiny Iron Age sherds deriving from ditches [213], [2209] and bedding trench [2103].



The redeposited backfill (1906) of ditch [1903] contained a single abraded Roman coarse ware body sherd (3g).

Fabric Code	Common name	No. Sherd	Wt. (g)	Fill/No. Sherd
Prehistoric				
F01C	Flint and quartz	1	15	(205):1
F04	Organic	5	3	(220):5
F17	Grog	2	2	(2104):2
F35	Fine micaceous	1	3	(2211):1
F	Non-specific Iron Age	1	1	(2214):1
Roman	_			
R10A	Buff gritty	1	3	(1906):1
Saxon				
A11	Maxey-type ware	16	424	(107):7, (1105):9

Table 4: Pottery Type Series and quantification

Sixteen shell-tempered sherds of hand-built middle Saxon Maxey-type ware (424g) derived from the upper fills of pit [103] and ditch [1103], respectively (107) and (1105). Dating from the *c*. mid-7th–mid 9th century AD, two sooted cooking pots are represented, including part of a characteristic bar-lug vessel.

An amorphous piece of vitrified clay (35g) was collected from undated pit [2408].

6.2 Non-ceramic Finds

The earliest finds are a late Iron Age copper alloy coin (RA10) and possible coin fragment (RA9), metal-detected respectively from alluvial layer (511) and from alluvial deposit (510), the latter within palaeochannel [508]. The former is similar to an uninscribed Trinovantian L coin, datable from 30–25 BC. The obverse depicts a Celticized head left, with pellet-in-ring motif above the brow, and hair indicated by curves; the reverse a Celticized horse, with pellet-in-ring below the horse, and pellet above (diameter 14mm). The fragmentary nature of the second coin (RA9) precludes identification.

The secondary fill (210) of pit [208] yielded a partial blade from a putative Roman pruning hook (RA3). Undatable iron objects are a timber nail (RA12) and rectangular-sectioned strip fragment (RA4), collected respectively from plough marks [1113] and pit [2408].

Amorphous fragments of continental basaltic lava rotary quern (419g) were collected from pits [103] (RA1, RA2) and [805] (RA5). Imported from north European sources during the Roman, middle Saxon and medieval periods, the association on site of at least some of the fragments with middle Saxon pottery suggests they are likely to be of this date.

A small piece of post-medieval bottle glass (5g) derived from the upper fill (407) of pit [404], and an unstratified late 19th-century copper alloy and iron watch winder (RA11) from topsoil (300).



6.3 Ecofacts

Sixteen features (Trenches 1–4, 8, 9, 11, 12, 19 and 24) yielded 283 hand-collected animal bone fragments (3.8kg), the largest assemblages occurring in pits [103] (1.1kg) and [1203] (747g). Surface condition of the material is good to fair, although the material is well fragmented, with a mean bone weight of 14g. Species identified are cattle, sheep/goat and horse. The assemblage is dominated by limb bones, with a smaller number of rib and scapula fragments, suggesting cooking or table waste. The presence of bones from parts of the carcass more commonly discarded following primary butchery (skull, mandible, loose teeth, vertebrae, pelvis, feet) suggest that this activity was also carried out on site.

A single piece of oyster shell (20g) was collected from ditch [1103].

Bulk soil samples were taken from three pits and a ditch in order to assess their potential for containing preserved botanical remains. Generally small quantities of charcoal and charred grain were recovered.

Sample <2> from middle Saxon pit [805] contained a larger assemblage of material including frequent charred grain, mostly from one species, as well as a small quantity of weed seeds; this would suggest that the grain has been cleaned to remove most of the debris. The grain was generally well preserved. Frequent flecks and small fragments of charcoal were also present, along with occasional larger lumps. Occasional possible legumes (?peas), though abraded, and occasional snail shells were also present.

Sample <4> from middle Saxon pit [103] contained frequent charcoal, which ranged in size from flecks to small lumps. The charcoal was mostly abraded indicating some reworking of the material. Small quantities of charred grain and snails were also present.



7. APPENDIX 2: TRENCH SUMMARIES



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.45 m. Max: 0.65 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20713: Northing: 35031)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (*Easting:* 20726: *Northing:* 34983)

Context:	Type:	e: Description:		Excavated: Finds Present:		
100	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey silty clay 0.2m thick	V			
101	Subsoil	Compact mid brown grey silty clay 0.45m thick	✓			
102	Natural	Friable light grey white silty chalk				
103	Pit	Sub-circular sides: near vertical base: flat dimensions: max breadth 1.45m max depth 1.m, min length 1.85m	, V			
104	Primary fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones 0.35m thick	✓			
105	Lower fill	Firm dark brown grey silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones 0.5m thick	✓	~		
106	Fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay 0.2m thick	\checkmark			
107	Upper fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones 0.45m thick	✓	✓		
108	Pit	Sub-circular sides: steep base: flat dimensions: max breadth 1.35m, max depth 0.65m, min length 1.38m	✓			
109	Primary fill	Firm light brown grey silty clay occasional small stones 0.2m thick	\checkmark			
110	Main fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay occasional small stones 0.5m thick	\checkmark			
111	Posthole	Oval sides: near vertical base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.32m, max depth 0.2m, max diameter 0.45m	✓			
112	Fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay	\checkmark			
113	Posthole	Circular sides: steep base: flat dimensions: max depth 0.05m, max diamete 0.34m	r			
114	Fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay	✓			
115	Posthole	Circular sides: steep base: flat dimensions: max depth 0.09m, max diamete 0.39m	r 🗸			
116	Fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay	✓			
117	Ditch	Linear NE-SW $$ sides: concave base: flat dimensions: max breadth 1.18m, max depth 0.1m $$	✓			
118	Fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay	✓			
119	Palaeochannel	Linear NE-SW $$ sides: assymetrical dimensions: max breadth 3.2m, min depth 0.3m $$	✓			
120	Upper fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay occasional small stones At least 0.3m thick	✓			
121	Ditch	Linear N-S dimensions: max breadth 1.2m				
122	Fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay				
123	Posthole	Circular dimensions: max diameter 0.3m				
124	Fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay				
125	Posthole	Circular dimensions: max breadth 0.35m				
126	Fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay				
127	Ditch	Linear NE-SW dimensions: max breadth 1.3m				



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.45 m. Max: 0.65 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20713: Northing: 35031)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20726: Northing: 34983)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds Present:
128	Fill	Firm mid red brown silty clay	
129	Pit	Oval dimensions: max breadth 0.85m, max length 1.25m	
130	Fill	Firm dark brown grey silty clay	
131	Pit	Sub-oval NE-SW dimensions: max breadth 0.3m	
132	Fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay	
133	Furrow	Linear ESE-WNW dimensions: max breadth 1.6m	
134	Fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay occasional small stones	
135	Furrow	Linear ESE-WNW dimensions: max breadth 1.56m	
136	Fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay occasional small stones	
137	Furrow	Linear ESE-WNW dimensions: max breadth 2.39m	
138	Fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay occasional small stones	



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.35 m. Max: 0.5 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20795: Northing: 35017)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (*Easting: 20754: Northing: 34988*)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds	Present:
200	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey clay silt 0.3m thick	V	
201	Subsoil	Firm mid brown grey clay silt occasional small stones 0.3m thick	✓	
202	Natural	Friable light grey white silty chalk		
203	Pit	Sub-circular sides: steep base: uneven dimensions: min breadth 1.27m, max depth 0.63m, max length 2.45m	✓	
204	Lower fill	Firm light brown white chalky clay occasional small-medium stones 0.31m thick	\checkmark	
205	Upper fill	Firm mid orange brown clay silt occasional small-medium stones 0.4m thick	✓	✓
206	Bedding trench	Linear E-W $$ sides: near vertical base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.7m, max depth 0.24m $$	✓	
207	Fill	Firm mid orange brown silty clay occasional small-medium stones	✓	
208	Pit	Sub-oval NE-SW sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.25m, max depth 0.23m, min length 2.55m	✓	
209	Primary fill	Firm mid orange brown silty clay occasional small-medium stones 0.09m thick	✓	
210	Fill	Firm dark brown grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones $0.1\mathrm{m}$ thick	\checkmark	✓
211	Fill	Firm dark grey clay silt moderate flecks charcoal 0.08m thick	\checkmark	✓
212	Upper fill	Firm mid grey brown clay silt occasional small stones 0.09m thick	✓	✓
213	Ditch	Linear E-W $$ sides: near vertical base: flat dimensions: max breadth 1.5m, max depth 0.97m $$	✓	
214	Primary fill	Firm light yellow grey chalky clay 0.11m thick	\checkmark	
215	Lower fill	Firm mid brown grey chalky clay occasional flecks charcoal 0.16m thick	\checkmark	✓
216	Lower fill	Firm light yellow grey chalky clay 0.17m thick	✓	
217	Fill	Firm light yellow grey chalky clay 0.16m thick	✓	
218	Fill	Firm light yellow grey chalky clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones 0.22m thick	✓	
219	Fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones 0.28m thick	✓	✓
220	Upper fill	Firm mid brown grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones 0.22m thick	✓	✓
241	Fill	Firm dark grey clay silt frequent flecks charcoal 0.1m thick.	✓	
221	Furrow	Linear E-W dimensions: min breadth 1.25m		
222	Fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay occasional small stones		
223	Pit	Sub-circular dimensions: min breadth 1.15m, min length 1.3m		
224	Fill	Firm mid orange brown clay silt occasional small stones		
225	Furrow	Linear E-W dimensions: max breadth 2.35m		
226	Fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay occasional small stones		
227	Furrow	Linear E-W dimensions: max breadth 3.1m		



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.35 m. Max: 0.5 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20795: Northing: 35017)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20754: Northing: 34988)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds Present:	
228	Fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay occasional small stones		
229	Pit	Sub-oval NE-SW dimensions: min breadth 0.6m, max length 2.m		
230	Fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay occasional small stones		
232	Natural	Firm mid yellow brown silty clay occasional small stones		
233	Furrow	Linear E-W dimensions: max breadth 1.4m		
234	Fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay occasional small stones		
235	Pit	Sub-circular dimensions: min breadth 0.7m, max length 0.75m		
236	Fill	Firm mid grey brown clay silt occasional small-medium stones		
237	Pit	Sub-oval E-W dimensions: max breadth 0.95m, max length 1.15m		
238	Fill	Firm mid grey brown clay silt occasional small-medium stones		
239	Furrow	Linear E-W dimensions: max breadth 1.4m		
240	Fill	Firm mid grey brown clay silt occasional small-medium stones		



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.34 m. Max: 0.56 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20785: Northing: 35036)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20736: Northing: 35027)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
300	Topsoil	Friable dark brown silty clay frequent small stones 0.18m thick	✓	~
301	Subsoil	Firm mid brown silty clay frequent small stones 0.24m thick	✓	
302	Natural	Firm white chalky clay		
303	Posthole	Circular sides: vertical base: flat dimensions: max depth 0.14m, max diameter $0.25 \mathrm{m}$	✓	
304	Fill	Hard brown red silty clay	✓	
305	Bedding trench	Linear ESE-WNW sides: vertical base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.9m, max depth 0.13m	✓	
306	Fill	Firm brown red silty clay occasional small-medium stones	✓	
307	Ditch	Sub-circular sides: U-shaped base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.4m, max depth 0.34m	, ✓	
308	Fill	Firm red brown silty clay frequent small-medium stones	✓	
309	Ditch	Sub-circular sides: U-shaped base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.95m, madepth 0.43m	ax 🗸	
310	Fill	Firm mid brown silty clay frequent small-medium stones	✓	\checkmark
311	Feature	Linear E-W sides: vertical base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.9m, max depth 0.16m, min length 1.m Probable plough scar	✓	
312	Fill	Firm grey silty clay	✓	
313	Feature	Sub-circular sides: U-shaped base: concave dimensions: min breadth 0.45m max depth 0.17m, max length 0.65m Possible root disturbance	, v	
314	Fill	Firm mid grey brown clay silt occasional small stones	✓	
315	Bedding trench	Linear NW-SE dimensions: max breadth 0.7m		
316	Fill	Firm brown red silty clay occasional small-medium stones		



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.42 m. Max: 0.52 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20823: Northing: 35052)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20872: Northing: 35025)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
400	Topsoil	Friable dark grey clay silt moderate small-medium stones 0.21m thick	✓	
401	Subsoil	Friable mid grey brown silty clay moderate small-medium stones 0.25m thic	ck 🗸	
402	Natural	Firm light grey white chalky clay		
403	Natural	Firm light brown orange silty clay		
404	Pit	Circular sides: steep dimensions: min breadth 1.15m, min depth 0.89m, mar length 2.3m	x 🗸	
405	Lower fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay occasional small stones 0.12m thick	✓	
406	Fill	Firm brown grey silty clay occasional small-medium stones At leasst 0.54m thic	k 🗸	
407	Upper fill	Firm mid grey silty clay moderate small-medium stones 0.4m thick	✓	✓
408	Bedding trench	Linear ESE-WNW sides: U-shaped base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.95m, max depth 0.3m	~	
409	Fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay occasional small-medium stones	✓	
410	Ditch	Linear NNE-SSW $$ sides: U-shaped base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.7m, max depth 0.18m $$	✓	
411	Fill	Firm dark brown grey silty clay occasional small-medium stones	~	
412	Ditch	Linear N-S $$ sides: U-shaped base: concave dimensions: min breadth 0.5m, max depth 0.07m $$	✓	
413	Fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay occasional small-medium stones	✓	
414	Ditch	Linear N-S $$ sides: U-shaped base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.6m, max depth 0.24m $$	✓	
415	Fill	Firm dark grey brown silty clay moderate small-medium stones	✓	
416	Pit	Sub-circular sides: steep dimensions: min breadth 1.m, min depth 0.85m, min length 2.5m	~	
417	Lower fill	Firm light grey white silty clay occasional small stones 0.46m thick	✓	
418	Fill	Firm brown grey silty clay occasional small-medium stones 0.43m thick	✓	
419	Upper fill	Firm mid brown grey clay occasional small stones 0.51m thick	✓	



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.45 m. Max: 0.84 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20918: Northing: 35037)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (*Easting: 20946: Northing: 34996*)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: F	Finds Present:
500	Topsoil	Firm mid brown grey clay silt occasional small-medium stones 0.22m thick	✓	
501	Subsoil	Firm mid grey brown clay silt occasional small stones 0.23m thick	✓	
502	Natural	Compact mid brown orange clay silt		
503	Alluvium	Firm mid grey brown clay silt occasional flecks chalk 0.24m thick	~	
504	Ditch	Linear NE-SW sides: U-shaped base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.93m, max depth 0.32m	✓	
505	Lower fill	Firm mid blue grey silty clay occasional small stones 0.19m thick	✓	
506	Upper fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay occasional small stones 0.13m thick	✓	
507	Alluvium	Firm mid grey brown clay silt moderate flecks chalk 0.17m thick	✓	
508	Palaeochannel	Irregular E-W sides: concave base: concave dimensions: min breadth 0.8m, min depth 0.24m	, ✓	
509	Primary fill	Firm mid blue grey silty clay occasional small stones 0.09m thick	✓	
510	Upper fill	Firm mid orange brown silty clay occasional small stones 0.16m thick	~	✓
511	Alluvium	Firm mid orange grey silty clay occasional small-medium stones 0.23m thic	k 🗸	✓
512	Alluvium	Firm mid blue grey silty clay occasional small stones 0.18m thick	~	
513	Alluvium	Firm light blue grey silty clay 0.06m thick	~	
514	Alluvium	Loose mid brown grey silty gravel	V	
515	Alluvium	Compact mid orange brown silty gravel frequent flecks chalk	~	
516	Alluvium	Firm grey orange silty clay moderate small stones 0.22m thick	✓	
517	Alluvium	Firm light blue grey chalky clay occasional small stones		
518	Alluvium	Firm mid yellow brown sandy clay 0.15m thick	~	
519	Alluvium	Firm dark yellow sandy clay 0.14m thick	V	
520	Alluvium	Loose mid grey clay gravel frequent large stones 0.35m thick	~	
523	Ditch	Linear N-S dimensions: max breadth 0.7m		
524	Fill	Firm mid orange brown silty clay occasional small-medium stones		
525	Palaeochannel		~	
521	Upper fill	Firm light grey chalky clay 0.26m thick	~	
522	Main fill	Firm dark grey silty clay At least 1.7m thick	\checkmark	



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.5 m. Max: 0.9 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20933: Northing: 35112)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20904: Northing: 35071)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds Pro	esent:
600	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey clay silt occasional small stones 0.3m thick	~	
601	Subsoil	Firm light grey brown silty clay occasional small stones	✓	
602	Natural	Firm light grey white chalky clay occasional small stones		
603	Bedding trench	Linear E-W $$ sides: concave base: flat dimensions: max breadth 1.m, max depth 0.22m $$	~	
604	Fill	Firm mid orange brown silty clay occasional small-medium stones	✓	
605	Ditch	Linear N-S sides: convex dimensions: max breadth 1.1m, min depth 0.68m	✓	
606	Fill	Firm light grey white chalky clay At least 0.26m thick	\checkmark	
607	Fill	Firm mid orange brown silty clay occasional small-medium stones 0.26m thick	V	
608	Fill	Friable mid grey brown clay silt occasional small stones 0.15m thick	\checkmark	
609	Bedding trench	Linear E-W dimensions: max breadth 0.57m		
610	Fill	Firm mid orange brown silty clay occasional small-medium stones		
611	Bedding trench	Linear E-W dimensions: max breadth 0.75m		
612	Fill	Firm mid orange brown silty clay occasional small-medium stones		
613	Bedding trench	Linear E-W dimensions: max breadth 0.8m		
614	Fill	Firm mid orange brown silty clay occasional small-medium stones		
615	Bedding trench	Linear E-W dimensions: max breadth 0.72m		
616	Fill	Firm mid orange brown silty clay occasional small-medium stones		
617	Furrow	Linear ENE-WSW dimensions: max breadth 1.17m		
618	Fill	Firm mid orange brown silty clay moderate small stones, occasional medium stones		
619	Bedding trench	Linear E-W dimensions: max breadth 0.7m		
620	Fill	Firm mid orange brown silty clay occasional small-medium stones		



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.36 m. Max: 0.46 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20887: Northing: 35102)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20871: Northing: 35055)

Context:	Type:	Description:	xcavated:	Finds Present:
700	Topsoil	Firm dark brown grey clay silt occasional small-medium stones 0.22m thick	✓	
701	Subsoil	Firm mid orange brown clay silt occasional small-medium stones 0.24m thick	✓	
702	Natural	Compact mid blue grey chalky silt		
703	Treethrow	Curving linear sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.11m, max depth 0.39m, min length 1.85m	✓	
704	Lower fill	Firm light blue grey chalky silt occasional small stones 0.25m thick	~	
705	Fill	Firm light orange brown clay silt occasional small stones 0.11m thick	✓	
706	Upper fill	Firm mid orange clay silt moderate small stones 0.17m thick	~	
707	Ditch	Linear NNW-SSE sides: V-shaped base: concave dimensions: min breadth 1.3m, max depth 0.54m	✓	
708	Primary fill	Firm light blue grey chalky silt occasional small stones 0.1m thick	✓	
709	Fill	Firm mid brown grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones 0.18m thick	✓	
710	Upper fill	Firm mid grey brown clay silt occasional small-medium stones 0.29m thick	✓	
711	Bedding trench	Linear E-W dimensions: max breadth 0.8m		
712	Fill	Firm mid brown orange sandy silt moderate small-medium stones		
713	Bedding trench	Linear E-W dimensions: max breadth 0.8m		
714	Fill	Firm mid brown orange sandy silt moderate small-medium stones		
715	Bedding trench	Linear E-W dimensions: max breadth 0.75m		
716	Fill	Firm mid brown orange sandy silt		
717	Bedding trench	Linear E-W dimensions: max breadth 0.75m		
718	Fill	Firm mid brown orange sandy silt moderate small-medium stones		
719	Bedding trench	Linear E-W dimensions: max breadth 0.8m		
720	Fill	Firm mid brown orange sandy silt moderate small-medium stones		
721	Bedding trench	Linear E-W dimensions: max breadth 0.8m		
722	Fill	Firm mid brown orange sandy silt moderate small-medium stones		
723	Furrow	Linear ENE-WSW dimensions: max breadth 0.85m		
724	Fill	Firm mid grey brown clay silt		
725	Furrow	Linear ENE-WSW dimensions: max breadth 1.4m		
726	Fill	Firm mid grey brown clay silt		
727	Furrow	Linear ENE-WSW dimensions: max breadth 1.2m		
728	Fill	Firm mid grey brown clay silt		
729	Furrow	Linear ENE-WSW dimensions: max breadth 0.9m		
730	Fill	Firm mid grey brown clay silt		
731	Furrow	Linear ENE-WSW dimensions: max breadth 1.65m		



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.36 m. Max: 0.46 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20887: Northing: 35102)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20871: Northing: 35055)

Reason: Assess archaeological potential

Context: Type: Description: Excavated: Finds Present:

732 Fill Firm mid grey brown clay silt



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.35 m. Max: 0.4 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20847: Northing: 35091)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20802: Northing: 35071)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
800	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey clay silt moderate small stones 0.27m thick	✓	
801	Subsoil	Friable mid brown grey clay silt moderate small stones 0.16m thick	✓	
802	Natural	Hard white clay chalk		
803	Pit	Circular $$ sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.09m, max diameter 0.55m $$	✓	
804	Fill	Firm dark grey clay silt moderate flecks chalk, occasional flecks charcoal	✓	
805	Pit	Oval N-S $$ sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.95m, madepth 0.53m, max length 1.9m	X V	
806	Primary fill	Firm mid brown orange silty clay $$ moderate small chalk, moderate small stones $0.23m$ thick	✓	
807	Fill	Firm grey brown silty clay occasional small chalk, moderate flecks charcoal, occasional small stones 0.2m thick	✓	
808	Upper fill	Firm dark grey clay silt frequent flecks charcoal, occasional small fired clay, occasional small stones 0.3m thick	✓	✓
809	Posthole	Circular sides: near vertical dimensions: min depth 0.57m, max diameter 0.39m	✓	
810	Fill	Firm mid brown silty clay	✓	
811	Quarry	Irregular sides: concave base: uneven dimensions: min breadth 1.8m, max depth 0.18m, max length 4.9m Same feature as [815]	✓	
812	Fill	Firm light orange brown silty clay frequent small chalk, occasional small stones	✓	
813	Bedding trench	Linear E-W $$ sides: steep base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.78m, madepth 0.34m $$	x 🗸	
814	Fill	Firm light grey brown silty clay moderate small-medium chalk	✓	
815	Quarry	Irregular sides: concave base: uneven dimensions: min breadth 1.8m, max depth 0.36m, max length 4.9m Same feature as [811]	✓	
816	Fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay frequent small-medium chalk, moderate small-medium stones	✓	✓
817	Natural interface	Irregular sides: irregular base: uneven dimensions: max breadth 1.m, max depth 0.39m, max length 1.85m	✓	
818	Fill	Firm mid brown orange silty clay occasional small chalk, occasional small stone	s 🗸	
819	Pit	Sub-oval E-W sides: assymetrical base: flat dimensions: max breadth 1.45n max depth 0.4m, max length 1.62m	n, 🗸	
820	Primary fill	Firm light orange brown chalky clay occasional small stones 0.22m thick	✓	
821	Upper fill	Firm light grey brown chalky clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones 0.19m thick	✓	✓
822	Furrow	Linear ENE-WSW dimensions: max breadth 1.m		
823	Fill	Friable mid grey brown silty clay occasional small chalk, occasional small stones	s 🗆	
824	Bedding trench	Linear E-W dimensions: max breadth 0.95m		
825	Fill	Firm light grey brown silty clay moderate small-medium chalk		



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.35 m. Max: 0.4 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20847: Northing: 35091)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20802: Northing: 35071)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds P	resent:
826	Bedding trench	Linear E-W dimensions: max breadth 0.55m		
827	Fill	Firm light grey brown silty clay moderate small-medium chalk		
828	Bedding trench	Linear E-W dimensions: max breadth 0.5m		
829	Fill	Firm light grey brown silty clay moderate small-medium chalk		
830	Pit	Circular dimensions: max diameter 1.85m		
831	Fill	Friable mid grey brown silty clay occasional small chalk, occasional small stone	es \square	
832	Pit	Circular dimensions: max diameter 1.8m		
833	Fill	Friable mid grey brown silty clay occasional small chalk, occasional small stone	es \square	



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.31 m. Max: 0.34 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20747: Northing: 35106)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20759: Northing: 35058)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
900	Topsoil	Firm dark brown grey sandy silt occasional flecks charcoal, moderate small stones 0.17m thick	V	
901	Subsoil	Firm mid grey brown sandy silt occasional small stones 0.19m thick	V	
902	Natural	Compact light yellow grey chalky silt		
903	Pit	Sub-circular sides: assymetrical base: flat dimensions: min breadth 1.71m, max depth 0.67m, max length 2.25m	✓	
904	Lower fill	Firm light blue grey silty chalk 0.36m thick	✓	
905	Fill	Firm mid blue brown clay silt occasional small stones 0.2m thick	✓	\checkmark
906	Backfill	Firm mid brown grey chalky silt 0.41m thick	✓	
907	Fill	Firm light brown grey silty chalk occasional small chalk, occasional small stones 0.16m thick	✓	
908	Upper fill	Firm mid grey brown clay silt occasional small stones 0.31m thick	✓	✓
909	Furrow	Linear N-S $$ sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.95m, max depth 0.19m $$	✓	
910	Fill	Firm light orange brown sandy silt occasional small stones	✓	
911	Posthole	Circular sides: near vertical base: concave dimensions: min breadth 0.2m, max depth 0.16m, max length 0.43m	✓	
912	Fill	Firm light brown grey chalky silt	✓	
913	Ditch	Linear N-S $$ sides: concave base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.76m, max depth 0.24m $$	✓	
914	Fill	Firm mid brown grey clay silt moderate small-medium stones	✓	
915	Bedding trench	Linear N-S $$ sides: near vertical base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.92m, max depth 0.34m $$	✓	
916	Fill	Firm mid brown orange clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, moderate small stones 0.31m thick	✓	
917	Fill	Firm mid brown orange clay silt frequent flecks chalk, occasional small stones 0.22m thick	✓	\checkmark
918	Bedding trench	Linear N-S dimensions: max breadth 0.9m		
919	Fill	Firm mid brown orange clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, moderate small stone	es \square	
920	Pit	Sub-circular dimensions: min breadth 0.45m, max length 1.7m		
921	Fill	Firm mid grey brown clay silt occasional small stones		
922	Pit	Sub-circular dimensions: min breadth 0.25m, max length 2.m		
923	Fill	Firm mid grey brown clay silt occasional small stones		



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.35 m. Max: 0.4 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20729: Northing: 35125)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20718: Northing: 35076)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds Present:
1000	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey silty clay 0.2m thick	
1001	Subsoil	Firm mid grey brown silty clay 0.2m thick	V
1002	Natural	Firm light grey clay	
1003	Furrow	Linear E-W dimensions: max breadth 1.45m	
1004	Fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay occasional small stones	
1005	Furrow	Linear E-W dimensions: max breadth 1.25m	
1006	Fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay occasional small stones	
1007	Furrow	Linear E-W dimensions: max breadth 2.25m	
1008	Fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay occasional small stones	
1009	Furrow	Linear E-W dimensions: max breadth 2.m	
1010	Fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay occasional small stones	
1011	Furrow	Linear E-W dimensions: max breadth 1.8m	
1012	Fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay occasional small stones	
1013	Bedding trench	Linear ESE-WNW dimensions: max breadth 0.75m	
1014	Fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay	



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.45 m. Max: 0.45 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20817: Northing: 35114)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20767: Northing: 35121)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1100	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey silty clay 0.2m thick	✓	
1101	Subsoil	Firm mid grey brown silty clay occasional small stones 0.25m thick	✓	
1102	Natural	Firm light brown grey clay		
1103	Ditch	Linear NNE-SSW sides: 45 degrees base: concave dimensions: max breadth 2.8m, max depth 0.55m	h 🗸	
1104	Main fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones 0.4m thick	✓	
1105	Upper fill	Firm dark brown grey silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones 0.15m thick	✓	✓
1106	Pit	Oval E-W sides: near vertical dimensions: max breadth 1.33m, min depth 1.2m, max length 2.m	✓	
1107	Lower fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones At least 0.3m thick	✓	\checkmark
1108	Main fill	Firm dark brown grey silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones 0.9m thick	✓	\checkmark
1109	Fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay occasional flecks charcoal At least 1.2m thick	~	
1110	Fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay occasional flecks charcoal At least 1.2m thick	✓	
1111	Bedding trench	Linear ESE-WNW sides: near vertical base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.75m, max depth 0.23m $$	✓	
1112	Fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay occasional small stones	✓	
1113	Feature	Linear ENE-WSW Probable plough scar		
1114	Fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay		\checkmark



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.3 m. Max: 0.55 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20741: Northing: 35212)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20729: Northing: 35164)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1200	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey clay 0.3m thick	✓	
1201	Subsoil	Firm mid grey brown silty clay moderate small stones 0.25m thick	✓	
1202	Natural	Firm light brown grey clay		
1203	Pit	Oval NNE-SSW sides: steep dimensions: min breadth 1.2m, min depth 0.68m, max length 3.3m	✓	
1204	Lower fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay moderate small stones At least 0.5m thick	\checkmark	
1205	Upper fill	Firm dark brown grey silty clay moderate small stones 0.45m thick	✓	\checkmark
1206	Ditch	Linear ESE-WNW sides: steep base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.6m, max depth 0.85m	✓	
1207	Fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay frequent small stones	✓	✓



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: m. Max: m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20754: Northing: 35164)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20803: Northing: 35153)

Context:	Type:	: Description: Excavated: Finds Prese		
1300	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey silty clay 0.25m thick	V	
1301	Subsoil	Firm mid brown grey silty clay 0.3m thick	V	
1302	Natural	Firm mid red brown clay		



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: m. Max: m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20771: Northing: 35203)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20813: Northing: 35177)

Context:			Excavated: Finds Present:
1400	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey silty clay 0.15m thick	V
1401	Subsoil	Firm mid brown grey silty clay 0.4m thick	V
1402	Natural	Firm light grey clay	



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: m. Max: m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20826: Northing: 35159)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20874: Northing: 35144)

Context:	Type:	Description: Excavated: Finds F		
1500	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey silty clay 0.25m thick	V	
1501	Subsoil	Firm mid grey brown silty clay 0.35m thick	✓	
1502	Natural	Firm mid red brown gravel		



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.56 m. Max: 0.6 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20843: Northing: 35205)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20881: Northing: 35172)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Find	s Present:	
1600	Topsoil	Friable dark brown silty clay frequent small stones 0.22m thick	V		
1601	Subsoil	Friable dark yellow sandy clay occasional small stones 0.4m thick	✓		
1602	Natural	Firm light brown sandy clay occasional small stones			
1603	Ditch	Linear NNE-SSW sides: concave base: flat dimensions: max breadth 1.1m, max depth 0.12m	✓		
1604	Fill	Firm dark yellow sandy clay frequent small stones	\checkmark		
1605	Land drain	Linear NNE-SSW sides: concave base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.45n max depth 0.4m	n, 🗸		
1606	Backfill	Firm mid brown silty clay frequent small stones	✓		



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.58 m. Max: 0.77 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20906: Northing: 35176)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20942: Northing: 35141)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1700	Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown silty clay moderate small stones 0.3m thick	V	
1701	Subsoil	Friable mid grey brown silty clay moderate small stones 0.35m thick	✓	
1702	Natural	Firm light brown orange sandy gravel frequent small stones		
1703	Pit	Oval NW-SE sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.4m, max depth 0.3m, max length 1.95m	V	
1704	Fill	Friable mid brown grey sandy clay occasional small stones	✓	
1705	Ditch	Linear E-W $$ sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.7m, max depth 0.2m $$	✓	
1706	Fill	Friable mid grey brown sandy clay moderate small stones	✓	
1707	Ditch	Linear E-W $$ sides: 45 degrees dimensions: max breadth 0.65m, min depth 0.4m $$	✓	
1708	Fill	Friable mid grey brown sandy clay moderate small stones	✓	



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.46 m. Max: 0.52 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20899: Northing: 35206)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20948: Northing: 35199)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds I	Present:
1800	Topsoil	Firm dark grey brown sandy silt moderate small CBM, occasional small stones 0.25m thick	V	
1801	Subsoil	Firm mid orange brown sandy silt $$ moderate small-medium stones $$ 0.27m thick	V	
1802	Natural	Firm mid brown orange sandy silt		
1803	Gulley	Linear NNE-SSW sides: 45 degrees base: v-shaped dimensions: max bread 0.29m, max depth 0.18m	th 🗸	
1804	Fill	Firm mid orange grey sandy silt occasional small stones	\checkmark	



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.53 m. Max: 0.65 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20922: Northing: 35242)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (*Easting: 20965: Northing: 35216*)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds I	Present:
1900	Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown silty clay moderate small stones 0.35m thick	✓	
1901	Subsoil	Friable mid grey brown silty clay moderate small stones 0.3m thick	✓	
1902	Natural	Firm light brown orange sandy gravel frequent small stones		
1903	Ditch	Linear NE-SW sides: concave base: flat dimensions: max breadth 1.79m, max depth 0.58m	✓	
1904	Primary fill	Friable mid brown grey silty clay occasional small stones 0.28m thick	\checkmark	
1905	Fill	Friable mid brown orange sandy gravel frequent small stones 0.33m thick	✓	
1906	Upper fill	Friable mid brown grey silty clay occasional small stones 0.36m thick	✓	~
1909	Pit	Sub-circular sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.47m, max diameter 1.m	✓	
1910	Primary fill	Friable light grey silty clay occasional small stones 0.22m thick	✓	
1911	Fill	Friable mid brown orange silty clay moderate small stones 0.15m thick	✓	
1912	Upper fill	Friable mid brown grey silty clay moderate small-medium stones 0.31m thick	✓	
1914	Pit	Oval NW-SE $$ sides: concave base: concave dimensions: min breadth 0.7m, max depth 0.5m, max length 2.7m	✓	
1915	Fill	Friable mid yellow grey silty clay occasional small stones	\checkmark	
1917	Pit	Oval N-S sides: concave base: uneven	✓	
1918	Fill	Friable mid brown grey silty clay occasional small stones	\checkmark	
1919	Pit	Sub-oval ESE-WNW sides: concave base: uneven dimensions: max breadth 0.9m, max depth 0.15m, max length 1.4m	✓	
1920	Fill	Friable mid brown grey sandy clay occasional small stones	✓	
1921	Pit	Sub-circular sides: concave base: uneven dimensions: max depth 0.42m, madiameter 1.2m	X V	
1922	Fill	Friable mid brown grey silty clay occasional small stones	✓	
1925	Alluvium	Friable mid brown grey sandy clay occasional small stones 0.22m thick	✓	



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.54 m. Max: 0.65 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20895: Northing: 35257)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20868: Northing: 35214)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds Pre	esent:
2000	Topsoil	Friable dark brown clay silt occasional small stones 0.22m thick	✓	
2001	Subsoil	Friable mid brown grey silty clay $\ $ occasional small-medium stones $\ $ 0.44m thick	✓	
2002	Natural	Firm mid orange brown silty clay frequent small-medium stones		
2003	Ditch	Linear E-W $$ sides: steep base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.4m, mir depth 0.63m $$	V	
2004	Lower fill	Firm mid grey chalky clay frequent flecks chalk, occasional small stones 0.12m thick		
2005	Fill	Firm mid brown orange chalky clay occasional small stones 0.38m thick	\checkmark	
2006	Fill	Firm light brown grey chalky clay frequent flecks chalk 0.36m thick	✓	
2007	Upper fill	Friable mid brown grey clay silt occasional small stones 0.18m thick	\checkmark	
2008	Ditch	Linear E-W sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.95m, max depth 0.44m	✓	
2009	Fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay occasional small stones	\checkmark	
2010	Bedding trench	Linear ESE-WNW dimensions: max breadth 0.9m		
2011	Fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay occasional small stones		
2012	Bedding trench	Linear ESE-WNW dimensions: max breadth 1.m		
2013	Fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay occasional small stones		
2014	Bedding trench	Linear ESE-WNW dimensions: max breadth 0.6m		
2015	Fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay occasional small stones		
2016	Ditch	Linear E-W $$ sides: concave base: concave dimensions: min breadth 0.25m, min depth 0.31m $$	✓	
2017	Fill	Firm mid pinkish brown silty clay moderate small chalk, occasional small stone	s 🗸	



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.25 m. Max: 0.4 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20760: Northing: 35246)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20807: Northing: 35231)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds Present:	
2100	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey clay 0.25m thick	~	
2101	Subsoil	Firm mid grey brown silty clay 0.15m thick	V	
2102	Natural	Firm light brown grey clay		
2103	Bedding trench	Linear ESE-WNW sides: steep base: flat dimensions: max breadth 1.m, madepth 0.25m	ax 🗸	
2104	Fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay occasional small stones	✓	✓



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.5 m. Max: 0.5 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20846: Northing: 35289)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (*Easting: 20846: Northing: 25239*)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds Pr	esent:
2200	Topsoil	Friable dark grey clay silt occasional small stones 0.3m thick	✓	
2201	Subsoil	Friable mid grey brown clay silt occasional small stones 0.25m thick	✓	
2202	Natural	Firm light grey white chalky clay occasional small-medium stones		
2203	Bedding trench	Linear ESE-WNW sides: steep base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.9m, max depth 0.3m	~	
2204	Fill	Firm mid orange brown silty clay occasional small-medium stones	✓	
2205	Ditch	Linear ESE-WNW sides: 45 degrees base: concave dimensions: min breadt 0.5m, min depth 0.21m	th 🗸	
2206	Fill	Firm light orange grey silty clay occasional small stones	\checkmark	
2207	Ditch	Linear ESE-WNW sides: convex base: concave dimensions: min breadth 0.75m, max depth 0.43m	~	
2208	Fill	Firm mid orange brown silty clay occasional small-medium stones	\checkmark	
2209	Ditch	Linear ESE-WNW sides: convex base: v-shaped dimensions: max breadth 3.5m, max depth 1.1m	~	
2210	Primary fill	Firm light grey white chalky clay 0.29m thick	\checkmark	
2211	Lower fill	Firm light orange grey silty clay 0.21m thick	\checkmark	✓
2212	Fill	Firm mid grey orange silty clay occasional small stones 0.32m thick	\checkmark	
2213	Fill	Firm mid brown orange clay silt occasional small-medium stones 0.32m thick	\checkmark	
2214	Upper fill	Friable mid orange brown clay silt occasional small-medium stones 0.18m thick	✓	✓
2215	Bedding trench	Linear ESE-WNW dimensions: max breadth 0.65m		
2216	Fill	Firm mid orange brown silty clay occasional small-medium stones		
2217	Bedding trench	Linear ESE-WNW dimensions: max breadth 0.85m		
2218	Fill	Firm mid orange brown silty clay occasional small-medium stones		



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.75 m. Max: 0.84 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20887: Northing: 35279)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20937: Northing: 35279)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
2300	Topsoil	Friable dark brown silty clay 0.3m thick	✓	
2301	Subsoil	Firm mid brown silty clay 0.41m thick	✓	
2302	Natural	Firm dark yellow sandy clay		
2303	Gulley	Linear N-S dimensions: max breadth 0.5m, max depth 0.14m	✓	
2304	Fill	Friable light grey silty sand frequent small stones	✓	
2305	Treethrow	Sub-oval E-W $$ sides: assymetrical base: uneven dimensions: max breadth 0.45m, max length 0.98m $$	✓	
2306	Fill	Friable light grey silty sand frequent small stones	✓	
2307	Land drain	Linear ESE-WNW sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.3m, max depth 0.15m	V	
2308	Backfill	Friable light grey silty sand frequent small stones	✓	



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.42 m. Max: 0.57 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20995: Northing: 35279)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 20952: Northing: 35253)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: I	Finds Present:
2400	Topsoil	Firm dark grey brown sandy silt moderate small stones 0.27m thick	✓	
2401	Subsoil	Firm mid orange grey silty sand occasional small stones 0.29m thick	✓	
2402	Natural	Compact mid brown orange sandy silt		
2403	Pit	Circular sides: 45 degrees base: flat dimensions: max depth 0.19m, max diameter 0.69m	~	
2404	Primary fill	Firm light grey brown sandy silt	✓	
2405	Main fill	Firm mid brown grey silty sand occasional small-medium stones	✓	
2406	Pit	Sub-oval NW-SE sides: concave base: uneven dimensions: max breadth 0.5m, max depth 0.18m, max length 0.85m	✓	
2407	Fill	Firm dark brown grey sandy silt moderate flecks charcoal	✓	✓
2408	Pit	Circular sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.15m, max diameter 0.54m	✓	
2409	Fill	Firm dark brown grey clay silt frequent flecks charcoal, moderate small stones	✓	✓
2410	Alluvium	Firm mid blue grey sandy silt occasional small stones 0.21m thick	~	



8. APPENDIX 3: OASIS SUMMARY

OASIS ID: albionar1-246826

Project details

Land East of Hitchin Road, Fairfield, Beds. Project name

Short description of the project

Campbell Buchanan are gathering baseline information in support of a planning application to Central Bedfordshire Council for the construction of a residential development at Land east of Hitchin Road, Fairfield, Bedfordshire. A programme of archaeological field evaluation was carried out in support of the application, comprising two stages of work: Stage 1 geophysical survey, followed by Stage 2 trial trenching. Archaeological features were identified in 21 of the 24 trenches, with only Trenches 13 to 15 being devoid of archaeological remains. The features have provided evidence of activity on the site dating from the late Bronze Age/early Iron Age to the post-medieval period. The principal features comprise a series of bedding trenches and cultivation furrows likely to date to the Roman and medieval periods respectively, as well as a number of large pits and other features appearing to be associated with a focus of middle Saxon settlement.

Start: 28-06-2016 End: 26-07-2016 Project dates

Previous/future

work

No / Not known

Any associated project reference

codes

Type of project Field evaluation

Current Land use Cultivated Land 4 - Character Undetermined

HR2739 - Contracting Unit No.

Monument type RIDGE AND FURROW Medieval **BEDDING TRENCHES Roman** Monument type

Monument type PITS Early Medieval

Monument type **DITCHES Early Medieval** Significant Finds POTTERY Early Medieval Significant Finds ANIMAL BONE Early Medieval

Methods & techniques "Geophysical Survey", "Sample Trenches"

Development type Rural residential

Prompt National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF

Position in the planning process Pre-application

Project location

England Country

BEDFORDSHIRE MID BEDFORDSHIRE STOTFOLD Land East of Site location

Hitchin Road, Fairfield, Beds

Study area 8.9 Hectares

Site coordinates TL 2083 3521 52.0017266755 -0.239622012067 52 00 06 N 000 14

22 W Point

Project creators



Name of

Albion Archaeology

Organisation

Project brief originator

none

Project design originator

Albion Archaeology

Project

Robert Wardill

director/manager

Project supervisor Richard Gregson

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient

Bedford Museum

Physical Contents

"Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "other"

Physical Archive

notes

Museum and landowner to be consulted re. transfer policy

Digital Archive

recipient

Bedford Museum

Digital Contents

"other"

Digital Media

available

"Images raster / digital photography"

Paper Archive

recipient

Bedford Museum

Paper Contents

"other" "Context

Paper Media available

sheet","Correspondence","Drawing","Microfilm","Miscellaneous

Material","Photograph","Report"

Project

Title

bibliography 1

Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Publication type

Land East of Hitchin Road, Fairfield, Bedfordshire. Archaeological Field Evaluation

Author(s)/Editor(s) Gregson, R.

Other bibliographic

2016/149

details

2016 Date

Issuer or publisher Albion Archaeology

Place of issue or

publication

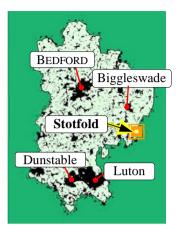
Bedford

Description

A4 comb bound report







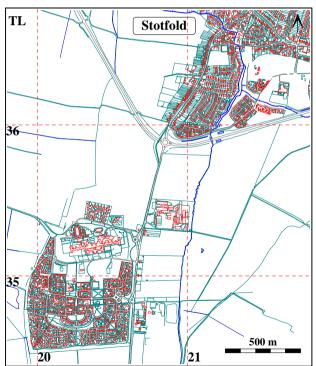




Figure 1: Site location

This map is based upon Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright.

Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Central Bedfordshire Council. Licence No. 100049029 (2011)



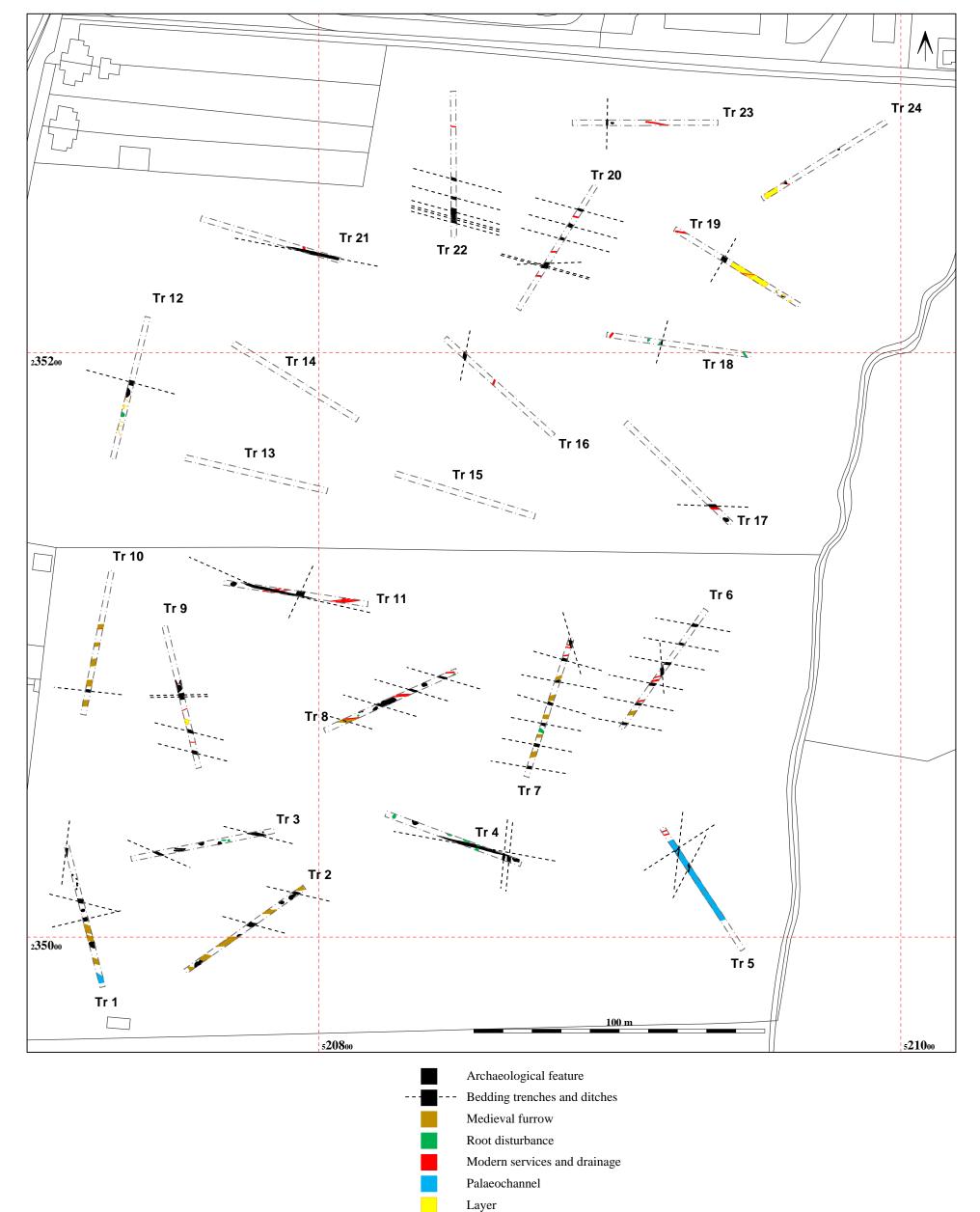


Figure 2: All-features plan

This map is based upon Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright.

Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Central Bedfordshire Council. Licence No. 100049029 (2011)



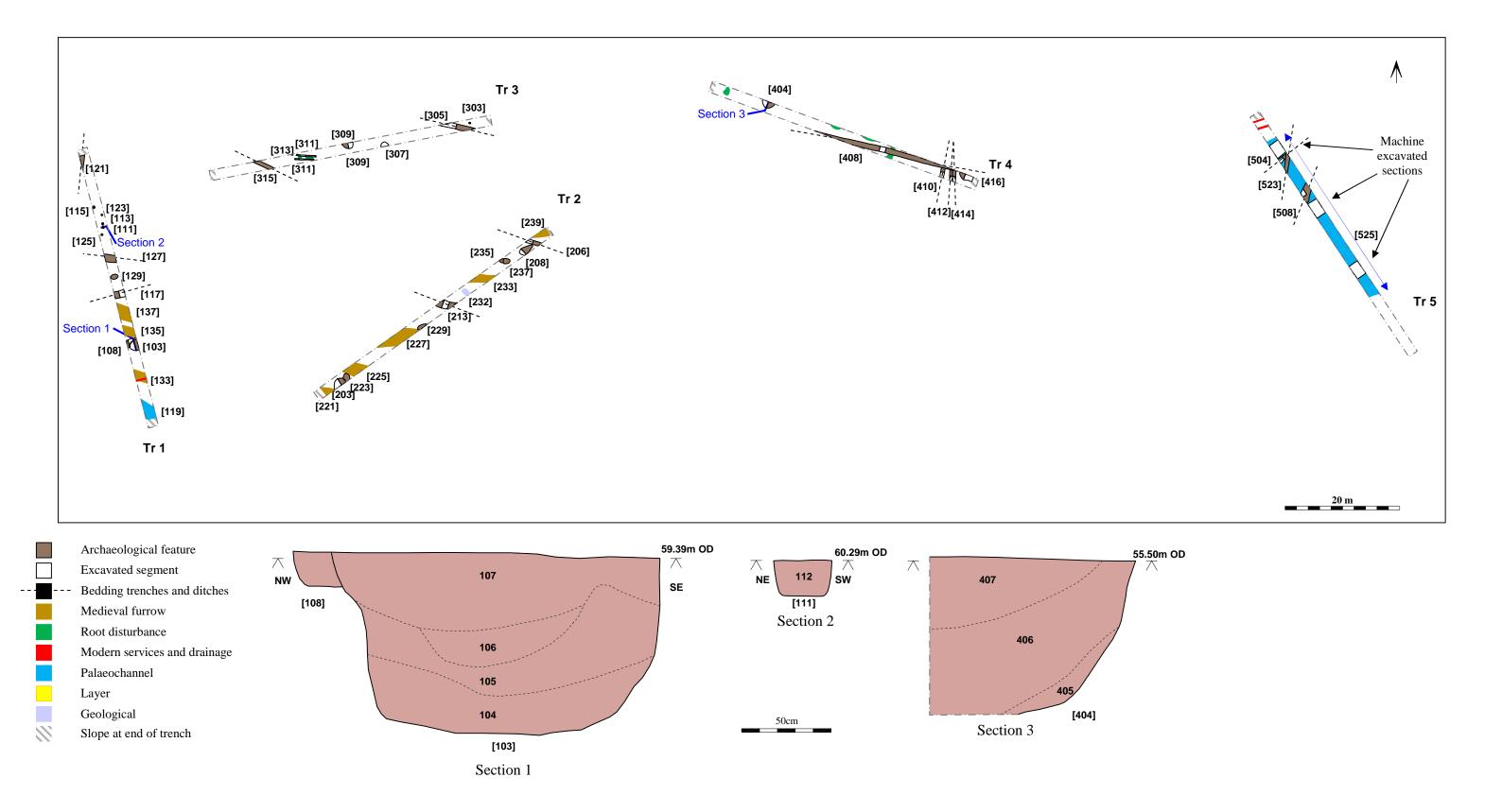
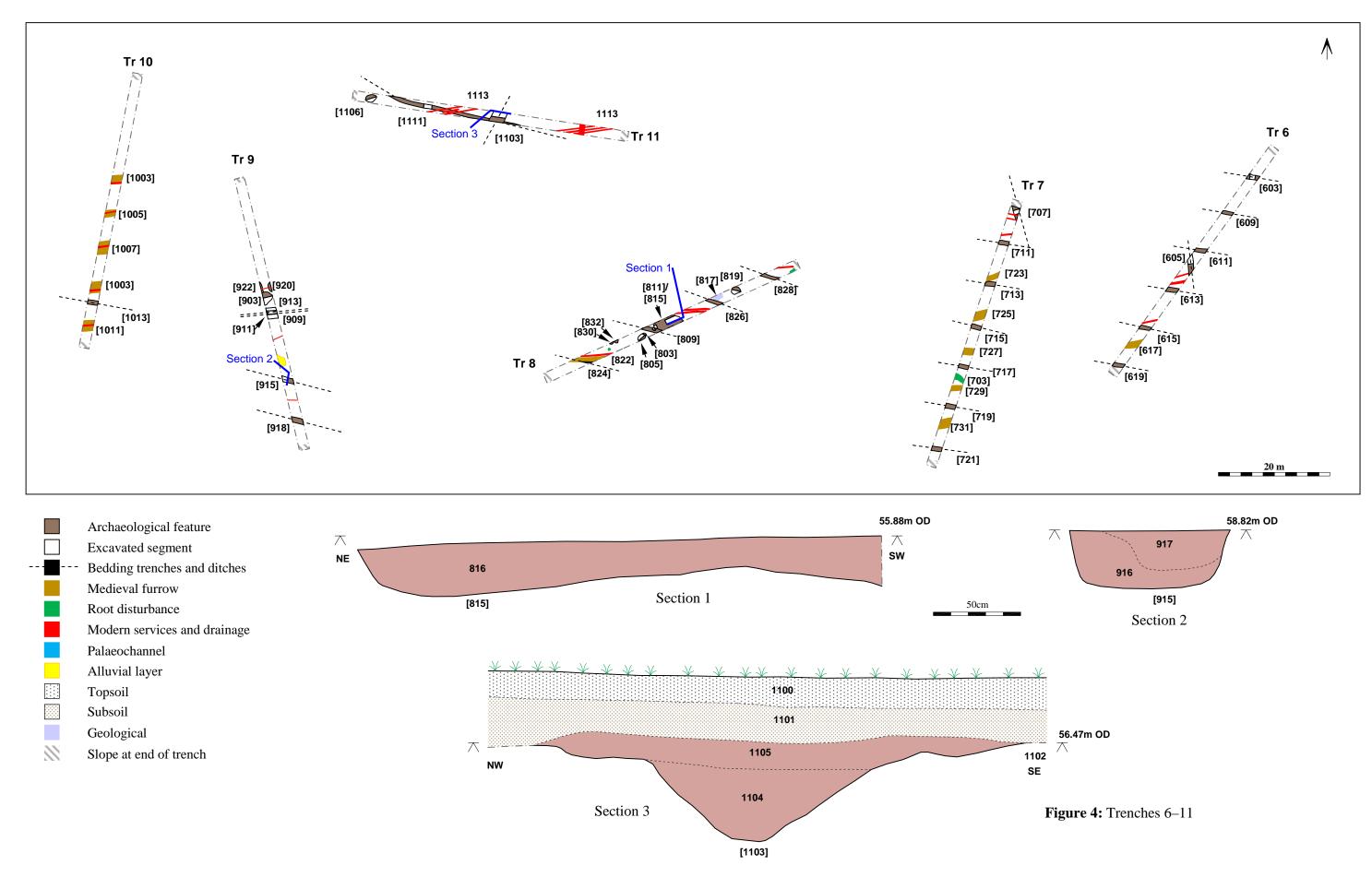
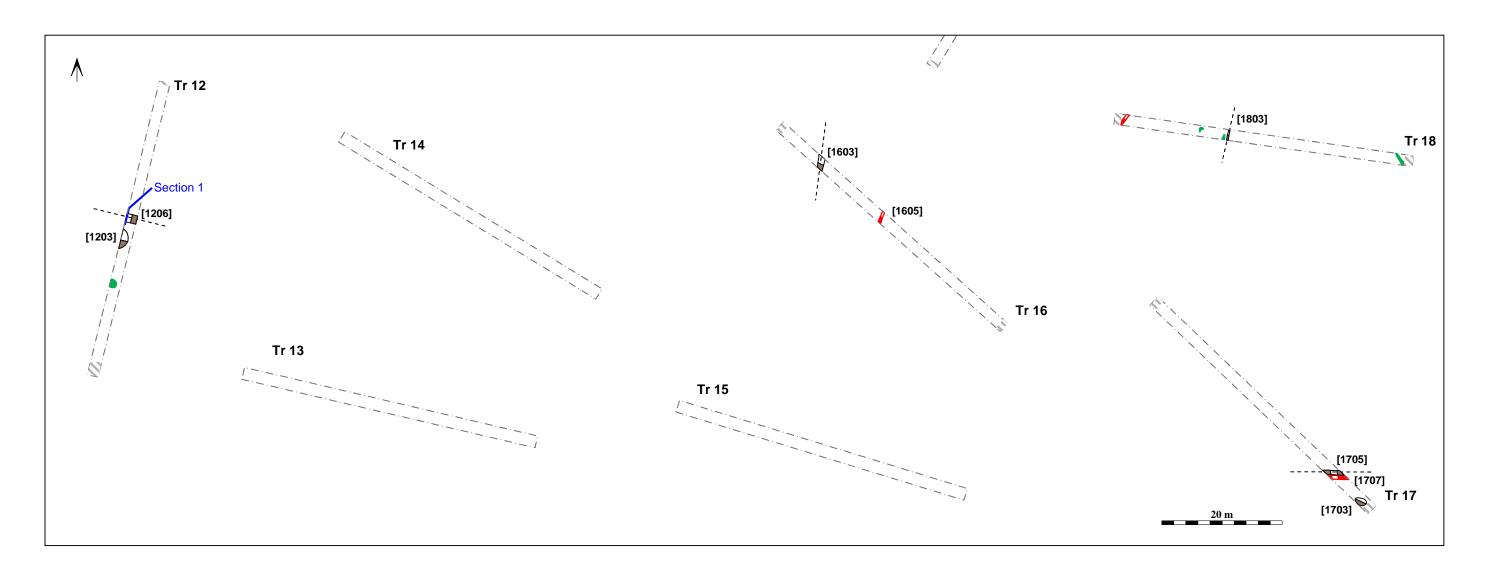


Figure 3: Trenches 1–5









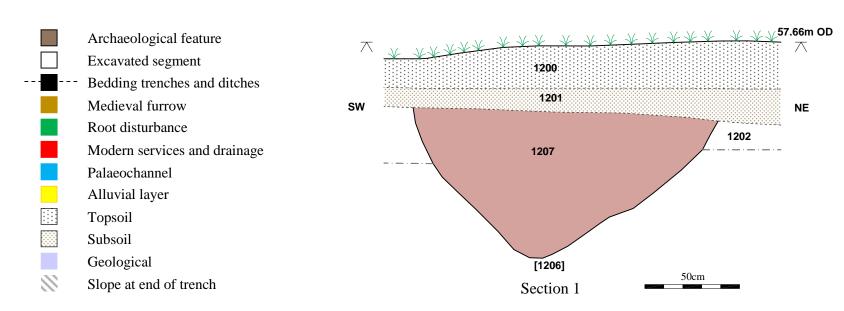
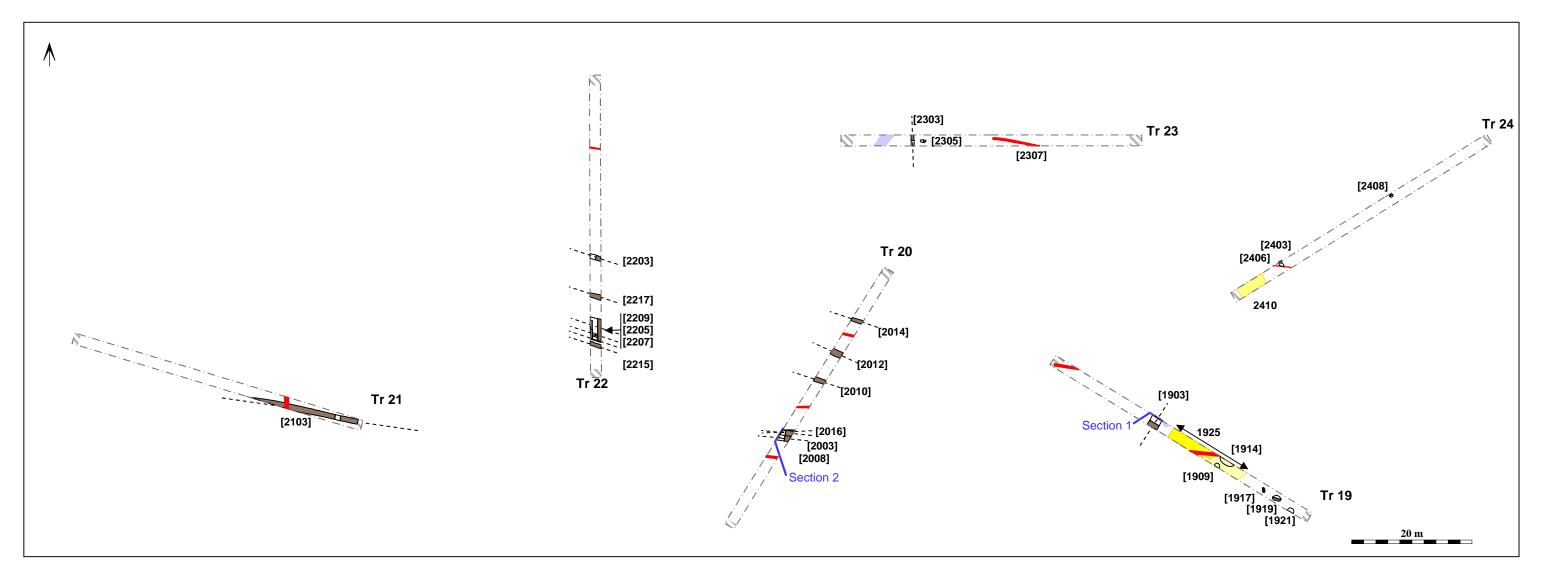


Figure 5: Trenches 12–18





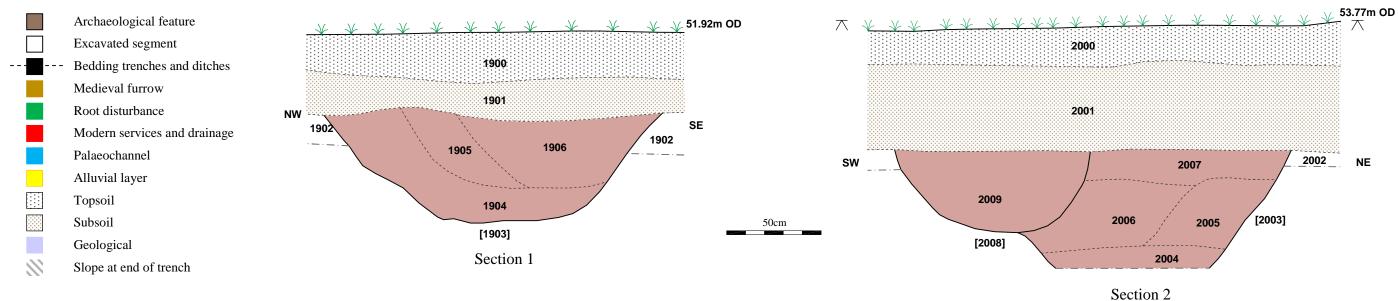


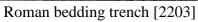
Figure 6: Trenches 19–24





Middle Saxon pit [103]







Middle Saxon ditch [213]

Figure 7: Selected photographs





Machine excavated sondage into palaeochannel [525]



Grey alluvial deposit [1925]



Post-medieval boundary ditch [605]

Figure 8: Selected photographs





Figure 9: Transcribed enclosure map of 1848 showing medieval strip fields



Albion archaeology



Albion Archaeology St Mary's Church St Mary's Street Bedford MK42 0AS **Telephone** 01234 294000 **Email** office@albion-arch.com www.albion-arch.com

