

**LAND OFF STATION ROAD  
LOWER STONDON  
BEDFORDSHIRE**

**STRAGE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AND  
STAGE 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION**

**Albion**  
archaeology





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STAGE 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION**

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## Preface

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

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*Albion Archaeology would like to thank Mohammed Rob (Senior Design and Technical Coordinator, Bovis Homes – Northern Home Counties) for commissioning and facilitating the work. We are also grateful for the advice and assistance of Alexandra Gillard and Chris Harrison of CgMs Consulting Ltd, archaeological consultants to Bovis Homes, and Hannah Firth (Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeologist), who monitored the work on behalf of the Local Planning Authority.*

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## Version History

<i>Version</i>	<i>Issue date</i>	<i>Reason for re-issue</i>
<i>2.0</i>	<i>30/06/2020</i>	<i>Amended following CBCA comments</i>
<i>1.1</i>	<i>31/07/2017</i>	<i>n/a</i>

## Key Terms

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

CBCA	Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeologist
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
Client	Bovis Homes Northern Home Counties
HER	Historic Environment Record
OD	Ordnance Datum
PDA	Permitted development area
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation



## **Non-Technical Summary**

*Planning permission (CB/16/02314/FULL) was granted for the erection of 80 residential dwellings, associated access and landscaping on land off Station Road, Lower Stondon, Bedfordshire, LU5 6DE.*

*The permitted development area (PDA) lies at the western side of Lower Stondon village, adjacent to an area of known early-middle Iron Age remains, comprising a conglomeration of enclosures with associated ditches, pits and postholes (HER 16793) and a late Bronze Age / early Iron Age water pit (HER 20309).*

*Due to the high archaeological potential of the site a condition (no. 11) was attached to the planning consent requiring a programme of archaeological investigation in accordance with the guidelines provided in the National Planning Policy Framework.*

*The Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeologist (CBCA) confirmed that the first stage of the work would comprise an archaeological field evaluation. The strategy comprised the excavation of 10 trenches, which were evenly spread across the PDA in order to assess its archaeological potential. (Previous geophysical survey had not identified any significant archaeological features). During monitoring of the evaluation by the CBCA, an extension to Trench 3 was agreed in order to further expose and investigate an archaeological feature. This work represented Stage 2 of the archaeological investigation.*

*The isolated early-middle Iron Age features in Trench 3, and the extended area around it, comprised a possible windbreak, a pit and two relatively ephemeral postholes. A small quantity of pottery, animal bone and charcoal was recovered from the features. No further evidence for contemporary settlement was found within the PDA and, given the paucity of the recovered artefacts and ecofacts, it is assumed that the features lie at some distance from any domestic focus.*

*There was no evidence within the PDA for the type of Iron Age enclosures identified on adjacent land (HER 16793) or further evidence of late Bronze Age / early Iron Age activity (HER 20309). The previous investigations concluded that the Iron Age enclosures were not a permanent settlement but went through phases of occupation and re-occupation. Such periodic activity may explain the dispersed and ephemeral nature of the Iron Age remains encountered within the PDA.*

*The other archaeological features present comprised medieval or post-medieval furrows within Trenches 7 and 10 and undated ditches within Trenches 2, 7 and 10. A slightly raised bank that was just discernible crossing the PDA is interpreted as a headland associated with the pre-Inclosure field system.*

*Trenches 1, 4, 5, 6, 8 and 9 did not contain any archaeological features, only modern land drains that might have been laid on the line of medieval furrows.*

*The discovery of the early-middle Iron Age features has contributed to our understanding of the distribution of settlement at this period in the Lower Stondon area. Otherwise the remains within the PDA are few; they are assessed as of no*

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*Land off Station Road, Lower Stondon, Bedfordshire:*

*Stage 1 Archaeological Evaluation and Stage 2 Archaeological Investigation*





*more than low significance and no further analysis beyond that presented in this report is warranted. Similarly, the medieval and post-medieval features add to our understanding of the wider contemporary landscape but the features themselves are of low heritage significance.*



## 1. INTRODUCTION

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### 1.1 **Planning Background**

Planning permission (CB/16/02314/FULL) was granted for the erection of 80 residential dwellings, associated access and landscaping on land off Station Road, Lower Stondon, Bedfordshire, LU5 6DE.

The permitted development area (PDA) lies at the western side of Lower Stondon village, adjacent to an area of known early-middle Iron Age remains — a conglomeration of enclosures with associated ditches, pits and postholes (HER 16793) situated c.40m to the east of the PDA (Albion 2013). Further remains of early-middle Iron Age and late Bronze Age date were investigated c.50m to the south on Mount Pleasant Gold Course land (Albion 2015).

Due to the high archaeological potential of the site a condition (no. 11) was attached to the planning consent requiring a programme of archaeological investigation in accordance with the guidelines provided in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF). The condition is as follows:

*No development shall take place until a written scheme of archaeological investigation; that adopts a staged approach and includes post excavation analysis and publication, has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The said development shall only be implemented in full accordance with the approved archaeological scheme.*

*Reason: This condition is pre-commencement as a failure to secure appropriate archaeological investigation in advance of development would be contrary to paragraph 141 of the NPPF (2012) that requires developers to record and advance of understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) as a consequence of the development.*

The Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeologist (CBCA) confirmed that the first stage of the work would comprise an archaeological field evaluation.

Albion Archaeology was commissioned to produce a Written Scheme of Investigation for the Stage 1 Evaluation (Albion Archaeology 2017b) and to undertake the fieldwork.

The trial trenching took place between 21st June and 3rd July 2017. The strategy comprised the excavation of 10 trenches which were evenly spread in order to assess the archaeological potential across the PDA as the geophysical survey had not revealed any archaeological features.

During monitoring of the evaluation by the CBCA, an extension to Trench 3 was agreed in order to further expose and investigate an archaeological feature. This work was the subject of a Stage 2 Method Statement (Albion Archaeology 2017a).



The results of the Stage 1 archaeological evaluation and the Stage 2 archaeological investigation are combined in this report.

## **1.2 Site Location**

Lower Stondon is a small village situated in the southern part of Central Bedfordshire, 2km north of the Bedfordshire/Hertfordshire border. The market town of Biggleswade lies 10km to the north-west and Shefford is situated 4km to the north.

The PDA is situated on the western side of the village, south of Station Road, 500m west of the junction of the A600, Hitchin Road and Station Road. It comprised a field and a number of paddocks that were cleared prior to the commencement of fieldwork. It is bordered by residential housing to the north and east and the Mount Pleasant Golf Course to the south and west.

The boundary of three different types of bedrock forms the underlying solid geology of the PDA: Gault Formation mudstone, Woburn Sands Formation sandstone and West Melbury Marly Chalk Formation. Overlying these is Lowestoft Formation Diamicton, formerly known as boulder clay<sup>1</sup>. The PDA is centred on grid reference TL 160286 354366 and is relatively flat, lying just below 60m OD.

## **1.3 Archaeological Background**

As part of the preparation of the planning application, a geophysical survey (Stratascan 2016) and desk-based heritage assessment (CgMs 2016) were carried out. In preparation of the WSI for the Stage 1 evaluation a search of the Central Bedfordshire and Luton Historic Environment Record (HER) was made to identify any new archaeological or historical assets, find-spots and archaeological events within a 500m-radius study area around the PDA (search ref. 201617/333B). The most salient information from these reports and updated HER search are reproduced below.

The earliest archaeological evidence within the study area dates to the early-middle Iron Age and comprises a conglomeration of enclosures with associated ditches, pits and postholes (HER 16793) situated c.40m to the east of the PDA (Albion 2013). An extension of this activity was investigated c.50m to the south on Mount Pleasant Gold Course land (Albion 2015). Here a late Bronze Age-early Iron Age water pit was also identified (HER 20309). Geophysical survey of the PDA did not reveal any definitive continuation of this activity (Stratascan 2016), although several linear geophysical anomalies were identified. However, it should be noted that some of the features found to the south on the golf course were not recorded on the geophysical survey and, therefore, the results of the Stratascan survey of the PDA did not necessarily indicate the absence of prehistoric (or indeed other) archaeological remains.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>



Further enclosures have been identified from crop-marks within 580m of the PDA (HER 402, HER 403, HER 16790 and HER16792). These have not been subjected to archaeological investigation and might date from the Bronze Age to the Roman period. In an area adjacent to some of these crop-marks, c.500m north-west of the PDA, the Portable Antiquities Scheme has recorded stray finds comprising late Iron Age coins, brooches and a Roman bracelet (HER 16791).

Other Roman activity within the study area is represented by the postulated route of a Roman road (HER 10480), situated c.500m east of the PDA. This road, identified by the Viatores (road 210), was recorded as following the course of the present day A600 between Bedford and Ickleford. So far no archaeological investigations have been able to confirm its existence and the evidence for it is mainly conjectural.

A settlement at Stondon was recorded in the Domesday Survey of 1086 as 'Standone'. It is likely to have had origins in the late Saxon period, but the only physical evidence for Saxon activity in the study area relate to a pin and brooch recorded by the Portable Antiquities Scheme.

The medieval settlement of Lower Stondon (HER 17117) is situated c.600m south-west of the PDA and the shrunken medieval village of Upper Stondon (HER387) lies c.800m to the north-west. A medieval moated site and associated earthworks, known as Holwellbury Farm (HER419), also lies c.700m to the south of the PDA. Linear anomalies identified by geophysical survey indicate that the PDA formed part of the open field system associated with Lower Stondon. Ridge and furrow have also been identified in the areas immediately to the east (HER 19583) and west (HER 20310) of the site.

Very few post-medieval heritage assets lie within the study area and these mostly comprise a defensive ring of WWII pill boxes around RAF Henlow (HER 9294, HER 9290 and 17993). The modern Greyhound Stadium (HER12942) and The Bird in The Hand PH (HER 16424) are situated c.300m and c.400m to the north-east, respectively. Just beyond the study area, to the east, lies the former Bedford to Hitchin railway line (HER 11832). It operated between 1857 and 1964 and also served RAF Henlow (HER 9265).

The PDA has remained undeveloped since at least 1814 when it was depicted on the Stondon Inclosure map as a field.

#### **1.4 Project Objectives**

The relevant research frameworks for the area are: *Bedfordshire Archaeology. Research and Archaeology: Resource Assessment, Research Agenda and Strategy* (Oake *et al.* 2007) and *A Revised Framework for the East of England* (Medlycott 2011).



Potential heritage assets on the PDA were most likely to date to the late Bronze Age and early-middle Iron Age and comprise further enclosures, pits and postholes. Such evidence would fit into a number of broad research aims that are identified in the regional agendas.

The research framework for Bedfordshire states that little detailed work has been carried out on the characterisation of rural settlements in the Bronze Age period. The ephemeral nature of Bronze Age settlement means that ‘they are usually encountered as adjuncts to the investigation of sites of other periods...’ (Oake 2007, 9). A principal objective is to locate and investigate Bronze Age settlement, which will bolster opportunities to compare and characterise settlement of this period (Oake 2007, 10).

The framework for the eastern counties identifies the need for further study into the density, distribution and dynamics of settlement in the Iron Age periods (Medlycott 2011, 31) — in particular, how settlement patterns changed around the Bronze Age/Iron Age transition (Medlycott 2011, 29).

Dependent on the nature of any remains that were revealed, specific research aims would be derived from regional research frameworks (*e.g.* Brown and Glazebrook 2007; Oake *et al.* 2007; Medlycott 2011).

In summary, the specific research objectives of the evaluation were:

- To determine if evidence for prehistoric activity was present within the PDA.
- To obtain further evidence on the nature and date of any potential settlement evidence relating to adjacent archaeological investigations.
- To assess if any heritage assets relating to other periods were present within the PDA.

The general purpose of the evaluation was to recover information on the:

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



## 2. METHODOLOGY

The methodological approach to the project is summarised below and detailed in Appendix 1.

### 2.1 Methodological Standards

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

• Albion Archaeology	<i>Procedures Manual: Volume 1 Fieldwork</i> (2nd ed., 2003)
• ALGAO East	<i>Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England</i> (2003)
• CIfA	<i>Charter and by-law; Code of conduct</i> (2014)
	<i>Standard and guidance for archaeological evaluation</i> (2014)
	<i>Standard and guidance for archaeological excavation</i> (2014)
	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i> (2014)
• Historic England/English Heritage	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) Project Managers' Guide</i> (2015)
	<i>Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation</i> , (2nd edn, 2011)
• Luton Culture	<i>Procedures for preparing archaeological archives for deposition with Luton Culture</i> (2013)

The project archive will be deposited at Luton Culture (accession number: LUTNM: 2018/5). Details of the project and its findings will be submitted to the OASIS database (reference no.: albionar1-279065) in accordance with the guidelines issued by Historic England and the Archaeology Data Service.

### 2.2 Stage 1 Trial Trenching

The trial trenching took place between 21st June and 3rd July 2017 after a prolonged dry and hot period that produced exceptionally dry, hard ground conditions. The strategy comprised the excavation of 10 trenches measuring 2m wide and 25 or 50m long. The trenches (Figures 1 and 2) were evenly spread with a view to assessing the archaeological potential across the PDA as the geophysical survey had not revealed any archaeological features, other than furrows. Trenches 4 and 5 were 'split' in order to avoid a known sewer pipe which crossed the PDA. Trenches 3 and 10 were moved slightly during setting out to avoid a mound of dumped material and a small stable / hut.

The trenches (and the subsequent open-area excavation) were opened using a mechanical excavator fitted with a flat-edged bucket, operated by an



experienced driver under close archaeological supervision. The exposed surface and spoil from each trench was scanned for artefacts. All hand excavation and recording was carried out by Albion Archaeology staff.

Any potential archaeological features were cleaned, excavated by hand and recorded using Albion Archaeology's *pro forma* sheets. All deposits were assigned a unique context number commencing at 100 for Trench 1, and 200 for Trench 2 etc. In this report, context numbers in square brackets refer to cuts [\*\*\*] and round brackets to fills or layers (\*\*\*). Each trench was subsequently drawn and photographed as appropriate.

A full methodology is provided in the Stage 1 WSI (Albion Archaeology 2017b).

### **2.3 Stage 2 Archaeological Investigation**

During the Stage 1 evaluation, the edge of a linear feature was revealed under the north baulk of Trench 3. The side of the trench was cut back by c.1m to expose the eastern end of the feature and allow excavation of the terminus (Figure 5). Pottery recovered from this initial segment suggested that the feature dated from the Iron Age.

At a monitoring meeting on 23rd June 2017, the CBCA indicated that further investigation would be required in the area north of Trench 3. It was agreed that this could be undertaken straight away, subject to the approval of a written method statement. The latter (Albion Archaeology 2017a) was approved by the CBCA and Trench 3 was extended northwards to reveal an open area measuring 10m x 20m. This work comprised the Stage 2 archaeological investigation within the PDA.



### 3. FIELDWORK RESULTS

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#### 3.1 Introduction

All features and deposits found within the trial trenches are described chronologically below and shown on Figures 2–4; selected photographs are presented in Figures 5–11. Detailed information on features and deposits can be found in Appendix 1. The few recovered artefacts and ecofacts are described in this section, and tabulated in Appendices 2 and 3.

#### 3.2 Overburden and Geological Deposits

Topsoil comprised dark orange-brown clayey silt, 0.24–0.36m thick.

The subsoil comprised mid orange-brown silty clay with occasional chalk flecks. This deposit varied in thickness from 0.12–0.24m, except at the south-east end of Trench 10 where it deepened, following a natural depression in the ground, to a thickness of 0.46m. Also, at the south-east end of Trench 10 only, a second lower subsoil (1005) of light orange clay, 0.10m thick, was encountered. This subsoil contained no artefacts and was clearly a natural variation in the soil profile resulting from the thickness of the deposits in this part of the site.

The undisturbed geological deposit was light orange-grey or light grey-orange silty clay with moderate chalk flecks and lenses/patches of light orange silty sand.

#### 3.3 Archaeological Features and Deposits

Of the ten trenches, four contained archaeological features (Figure 2). Trenches 2, 7 and 10 only contained features of negligible archaeological significance, but Trench 3 (and its extension) contained a curving linear structural feature and a pit (both dated to the early-middle iron Age) and two undated postholes.

The features and deposits are discussed below in date order from earliest to latest.

##### 3.3.1 Early-middle Iron Age structural feature (Trench 3)

The south edge of this broadly E–W aligned feature was initially exposed under the north baulk of Trench 3 and its full extent was revealed after stripping of a small open-area extension (Figure 3).

Slightly curving feature [325]<sup>2</sup> was 6.25m long, up to 1.20m wide and 0.60m deep; it contained mid-brown-orange silty clay. Associated fills (304) and (314) produced 27 sand-tempered early-middle Iron Age pottery body sherds (245g: fabric types F28, F29<sup>3</sup>), representing four vessels. These fills also

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<sup>2</sup> Also recorded as [303], [313], [322].

<sup>3</sup> Fabric types identified in accordance with the Bedfordshire Ceramic Type Series.





yielded a total of 61 highly eroded fragments of animal bone (215g), which included pieces of limb, pelvis(?) and a sheep/goat molar.

Excavated sections towards the east end of the feature revealed a vertical, central, slot-like feature [305]<sup>4</sup>, visible at the base of the larger feature, which was c.1.8m long and contained a darker fill (Figure 3, Sections 2 and 6; and Figures 5–8). This slot-like feature is interpreted as a form of post-pipe, created by the rotting or removal of substantial vertical timbers that would originally have been packed into place by deposits (304), (314) and (315). In places, some of the packing material (304) lay beneath the base of the post-pipe [305] (Figure 3, Section 2); this is likely to have been caused either by taphonomic soil movement or by wiggling of the timber during its placement. It was not clear from the shape of the central slot whether it had held a number of close-packed posts or fewer, wider board-like timbers.

Finds from the fill (318) of postpipe [316] comprised 16 sand-tempered early-middle Iron Age pottery body sherds (89g: fabric F29 — representing one vessel) and a single abraded sheep/goat molar (4g). The interpretation of the feature as a whole suggests that deposit (318) relates to the disuse of the structure but these finds may have derived from the packing material when the timbers were removed.

An environmental sample taken from the dark fill (306) of postpipe [305] contained a small quantity of charcoal, occasional snail shells and occasional fragments of animal bone. No charred grain was present. The charcoal has very limited analytical potential (Appendix 3).

The function of structural feature [325] is uncertain. It might have had a purely practical purpose — short, curving linear features have been previously interpreted as windbreaks for shielding fires or cooking activity, for example. However, the feature could have had other uses, perhaps more symbolic or ceremonial. It is clear, however, that the pottery from the fills reliably dates the structure to the early-middle Iron Age.

### 3.3.2 Early-middle Iron Age pit and adjacent postholes (Trench 3)

A circular pit [307] was located 3m north-east of structural feature [325].

The pit had a concave profile and contained a charcoal-rich lower fill of dark brown-grey silty clay and an upper fill of mid orange-brown silty clay with charcoal flecks (Figure 3, Section 4; and Figures 9–10). The lower fill (309) yielded two crumbs (4g) of early-middle Iron Age pottery (fabric F19).

An environmental sample taken from the lower, charcoal-rich fill (309) contained abundant charcoal but no charred grain. A sample taken from the upper fill (310) of the pit contained a smaller quantity of charcoal and no charred grain. A very small quantity of hammer scale was also recovered from

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<sup>4</sup> Also recorded as [316].



the sample but may be intrusive. The charcoal from both samples has very limited analytical potential (Appendix 3).

The function of the pit is uncertain. Although the lower fill was charcoal-rich, no evidence of *in-situ* burning was present. The pit might have been used to discard hearth debris from a nearby open fire that left no sub-surface trace. The presence of animal bone and pottery might indicate cooking of food in the area. The hammerscale — if contemporary — might indicate small-scale ironworking. The pottery indicates that the feature is broadly contemporary with structure [325] and it is likely that the two are related.

Two possible postholes [311] and [320] (Figure 3, Sections 5 and 7) contained no artefacts; they are likely to be early-middle Iron Age in date because of their proximity to the better dated pit [307] and structure [325]. Both were circular with a flat base but were relatively shallow: posthole [311] was 0.17m deep and posthole [320] was only 0.06m deep.

### 3.3.3 Medieval furrows

The furrows were in some cases visible during machining as slightly darker-coloured, linear features towards the base of the subsoil. However, most were not deep enough to appear as features below the subsoil. They could not be seen in section. The few furrows that penetrated the subsoil through to the geological horizon were investigated in Trenches 7 and 10: [704] and [1006] were shallow and on a broadly ENE–WSW alignment (Figure 4). The example in Trench 10 contained a later land drain on the same alignment.

### 3.3.4 Modern land drains

Across the PDA many of the trenches contained terracotta land drains, most on an ENE–WSW alignment, which probably reflects the orientation of earlier furrows (Figure 2). The placement of land drains in medieval furrows was attested during the evaluation of the adjacent land (Albion Archaeology 2013).

### 3.3.5 Undated ditches

In Trench 7 at the eastern edge of the PDA, N–S aligned ditch [703] had concave sides and a flat base (Figure 4, Section 1). It was 1m wide and 0.32m deep. Its light orange-brown silty clay fill produced no artefacts. It was truncated on its east side by a later parallel re-cut [707], which had asymmetric sides, a concave base and contained mid grey-brown silty clay (708). The latter contained tiny fragments of amorphous fired clay (2g) and a highly abraded pottery rim sherd (2g: fabric R05B) of possible Roman date.

These ditches were cut from relatively high in the section, truncating the subsoil and barely penetrating the underlying geological horizon. They are probably post-medieval or modern in date, with the Roman pottery being residual.

Shallow NW–SE aligned ditches [203], [1003], were present in Trenches 2 and 10; projected across the PDA, they could possibly be part of the same ditch



(Figures 2–4). They had concave profiles and were 0.4–0.72m wide and 0.09–0.20m deep. Their fills of mid orange to grey-brown silty clay produced no finds.

The ditches are on a similar alignment to a very slight bank that can be observed crossing the extant field surface on an NW-SE alignment (Figures 2 and 12). They are also parallel to an angled paddock boundary indicated on the OS Landline map of 2006 (CgMs 2016, fig. 8) and visible via Google maps (image date 1/1/2002). Neither the boundary nor the bank appears on earlier OS maps or the Inclosure award map. The alignment contrasts markedly with the post-Inclosure boundaries in the vicinity, which suggests that the bank might be a remnant of a medieval headland. If that is so, ditches [203] and [1003] could represent an early attempt at enclosure, based on the medieval furlongs.



## 4. CONCLUSIONS

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### 4.1 Summary of Results

Apart from the early-middle Iron Age features in Trench 3, the results of the investigations generally confirmed the results of the geophysical survey (Stratascan 2016), which did not detect any archaeological features apart from medieval furrows.

The early-middle Iron Age features in Trench 3 comprised a short, structural trench [325] etc., a pit [307] and two relatively ephemeral postholes [311] and [320]. The structural cut was only c.6m long, but there was clear evidence that its eastern end had held upright posts or boards. Its function is unclear but similar Iron Age features are often interpreted as windbreaks. No further evidence for contemporary settlement was found within the PDA and, given the paucity of the recovered artefacts and ecofacts, it is assumed that the features lie at some distance from any domestic focus.

There was no evidence within the PDA for the type of Iron Age enclosures identified on adjacent land (HER 16793) or further evidence of late Bronze Age / early Iron Age activity (HER 20309). The previous investigations concluded that the Iron Age enclosures were not a permanent settlement but went through phases of occupation and re-occupation (Albion Archaeology 2013). Such periodic activity may explain the dispersed and ephemeral nature of the Iron Age remains encountered within the PDA.

The other archaeological features present comprised medieval or post-medieval furrows within Trenches 7 and 10 and undated ditches within Trenches 2, 7 and 10. A slightly raised bank that was just discernible crossing the PDA is interpreted as a headland associated with the pre-Inclosure field system.

Trenches 1, 4, 5, 6, 8 and 9 did not contain any archaeological features, only modern land drains that might have been laid on the line of medieval furrows.

### 4.2 Significance of Results

The discovery of the early-middle Iron Age features has contributed to our understanding of the distribution of settlement of this period in the Lower Stondon area. Otherwise the remains within the PDA are few; they are assessed as of no more than *low* significance and no further analysis beyond that presented in this report is warranted. (See Appendix 4 for definition of the criteria used for assessing significance).

Similarly, the medieval and post-medieval features add to our understanding of the wider contemporary landscape but the features themselves are of *low* heritage significance.



## 5. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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## 6. APPENDIX 1: TRENCH SUMMARY

### Trench: 1

Max Dimensions: Length: 25.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.52 m. Max: 0.58 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL

OS Grid Ref.: TL

Reason: Asses archaeological potential

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
100	Topsoil	Firm dark orange brown clay silt occasional small-medium stones C. 0.28m thick.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
101	Subsoil	Firm mid orange brown silty clay occasional flecks chalk, occasional small-medium stones C. 0.14m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
102	Natural	Firm light grey orange silty clay moderate flecks chalk, moderate small-medium stones With patches and linear seams of mid orange silty sand.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Trench: 2

Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.56 m. Max: 0.62 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL

OS Grid Ref.: TL

Reason: Asses archaeological potential

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
200	Topsoil	Firm dark orange brown clay silt occasional small-medium stones C. 0.28m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
201	Subsoil	Firm mid orange brown silty clay occasional flecks chalk, occasional small-medium stones 0.12m to 0.19m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
202	Natural	Firm light grey orange silty clay moderate flecks chalk, moderate small-medium stones With patches and linear seams of mid orange silty sand.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
203	Ditch	Linear NW-SE sides: concave base: concave dimensions: min breadth 0.4m, min depth 0.09m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
204	Fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay occasional small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>


**Trench: 3**
**Max Dimensions:** Length: 50.00 m. Width: 22.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.47 m. Max: 0.52 m.

**Co-ordinates:** OS Grid Ref.: TL

**Easting:** 16031 **Northing:** 35492

**Reason:** Asses archaeological potential. Part of this Trench was enlarged by 10m x 20m in order to facilitate the further investigation of a feature containing pottery of Iron Age date and to ascertain if other features were present in the immediate area

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
300	Topsoil	Firm dark orange brown clay silt occasional small-medium stones C. 0.28m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
301	Subsoil	Firm mid orange brown silty clay occasional flecks chalk, occasional small-medium stones C. 0.14m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
302	Natural	Firm light grey orange silty clay moderate flecks chalk, moderate small-medium stones With patches and linear seams of mid orange silty sand.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
303	Feature	Curving linear ESE-WNW sides: concave base: concave dimensions: min breadth 1.1m, min depth 0.57m A structural cut containing post-pipes [305], [316], located centrally within the sections excavated to the east of the feature. This feature was also recorded as [313], [322] and under general number [325].	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
304	Fill	Mid brown orange sandy clay occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
305	Postpipe	sides: vertical base: concave dimensions: min breadth 0.27m, min depth 0.59m This post pipe is located centrally within the structural cut [303].	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
306	Fill	Firm mid orange grey sandy clay frequent flecks charcoal Fill of post-pipe.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
307	Pit	Circular sides: concave base: concave dimensions: min depth 0.23m, min diameter 1m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
308	Primary fill	Firm light orange brown silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
309	Secondary fill	Firm dark brown grey silty clay frequent flecks charcoal, moderate small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
310	Upper fill	Firm mid orange brown silty clay moderate flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
311	Posthole	Circular sides: near vertical base: flat dimensions: min depth 0.17m, min diameter 0.3m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
312	Fill	Compact light brown silty clay frequent small stones, occasional large stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
313	Feature	Curving linear E-W sides: steep base: v-shaped dimensions: min breadth 1.2m, min depth 0.6m A structural cut containing post-pipes [305], [316], located centrally within the sections excavated to the east of the feature. This feature was also recorded as [303], [322] and under general number [325].	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
314	Backfill	Compact light orange brown silty clay moderate small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
315	Backfill	Compact light orange brown silty clay moderate small stones Same as (314).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
319	Upper fill	Firm mid orange brown silty clay moderate small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
316	Postpipe	sides: vertical base: v-shaped dimensions: min breadth 0.16m, min depth 0.47m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
317	Primary fill	Firm dark grey brown silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
318	Secondary fill	Firm light orange grey silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
320	Posthole	Circular sides: concave base: flat dimensions: min depth 0.06m, min diameter 0.46m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
321	Fill	Firm light orange brown silty clay moderate small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Continued...



**Trench: 3**

**Max Dimensions:** Length: 50.00 m. Width: 22.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.47 m. Max: 0.52 m.

**Co-ordinates:** OS Grid Ref.: TL

**Easting:** 16031; **Northing:** 35492

**Reason:** Asses archaeological potential. Part of this Trench was enlarged by 10m x 20m in order to facilitate the further investigation of a feature containing pottery of Iron Age date and to ascertain if other features were present in the immediate area

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
322	Feature	Curving linear E-W sides: concave base: concave dimensions: min breadth 1m, min depth 0.28m A structural cut containing post-pipes [305], [316], located centrally within the sections excavated to the east of the feature. This feature was also recorded as [303], [313] and under general number [325].	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
323	Primary fill	Firm light orange grey silty clay moderate small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
324	Secondary fill	Firm mid orange brown silty clay moderate small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
325	Feature	Curving linear E-W sides: steep base: v-shaped dimensions: min breadth 1.2m, min depth 0.6m, min length 6.35m General number for a structural cut also recorded as [303], [313], [322] which contained post pipes at its east end, recorded as [305], [316].	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
326	Upper fill	Compact mid orange brown silty clay moderate small stones General number for upper deposit within structural cut.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Trench: 4**

**Max Dimensions:** Length: 30.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.62 m. Max: 0.66 m.

**Co-ordinates:** OS Grid Ref.: TL

**OS Grid Ref.:** TL

**Reason:** Asses archaeological potential. Part of the trench was not excavated due to the presence of a sewer service pipe.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
400	Topsoil	Firm dark orange brown clay silt occasional small-medium stones C. 0.28m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
401	Subsoil	Firm mid orange brown silty clay occasional flecks chalk, occasional small-medium stones 0.18m to 0.24m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
402	Natural	Firm light grey orange silty clay moderate flecks chalk, moderate small-medium stones With patches and linear seams of mid orange silty sand.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Trench: 5**

**Max Dimensions:** Length: 33.70 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.56 m. Max: 0.72 m.

**Co-ordinates:** OS Grid Ref.: TL

**OS Grid Ref.:** TL

**Reason:** Asses archaeological potential. Part of the trench was not excavated due to the presence of a sewer service pipe.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
500	Topsoil	Firm dark orange brown clay silt occasional small-medium stones C. 0.28m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
501	Subsoil	Firm mid orange brown silty clay occasional flecks chalk, occasional small-medium stones 0.17m to 0.27m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
502	Natural	Firm light grey orange silty clay moderate flecks chalk, moderate small-medium stones With patches and linear seams of mid orange silty sand.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



**Trench: 6**

**Max Dimensions:** Length: 25.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.6 m. Max: 0.6 m.

**Co-ordinates:** OS Grid Ref.: TL

OS Grid Ref.: TL

**Reason:** Asses archaeological potential

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
600	Topsoil	Firm dark orange brown clay silt occasional small-medium stones C. 0.35m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
601	Subsoil	Firm mid orange brown silty clay occasional flecks chalk, occasional small-medium stones C. 0.18m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
602	Natural	Firm light grey orange silty clay moderate flecks chalk, moderate small-medium stones With patches and linear seams of mid orange silty sand.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Trench: 7**

**Max Dimensions:** Length: 25.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.51 m. Max: 0.67 m.

**Co-ordinates:** OS Grid Ref.: TL

OS Grid Ref.: TL

**Reason:** Asses archaeological potential

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
700	Topsoil	Firm dark orange brown clay silt occasional small-medium stones 0.25m to 0.36m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
701	Subsoil	Firm mid orange brown silty clay occasional flecks chalk, occasional small-medium stones C. 0.22m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
702	Natural	Firm light grey orange silty clay moderate flecks chalk, moderate small-medium stones With patches and linear seams of mid orange silty sand and occasional patches of gravel.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
703	Ditch	Linear N-S sides: steep base: flat dimensions: min breadth 1m, min depth 0.32m Feature could be identified truncating the subsoil and only penetrated the natural to a depth of 0.04m.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
704	Fill	Firm light orange brown silty clay occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
705	Furrow	Linear NE-SW sides: concave base: flat dimensions: min breadth 0.5m, min depth 0.05m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
706	Fill	Firm light orange grey silty clay occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
707	Ditch	Linear N-S sides: asymmetrical base: concave dimensions: min breadth 0.9m, min depth 0.35m A re-cut of earlier parallel ditch [703]. This ditch could also be identified truncating the subsoil and only penetrated the natural to a depth of 0.07m.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
708	Fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**Trench: 8**

**Max Dimensions:** Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.62 m. Max: 0.64 m.

**Co-ordinates:** OS Grid Ref.: TL

OS Grid Ref.: TL

**Reason:** Asses archaeological potential

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
800	Topsoil	Firm dark orange brown clay silt occasional small-medium stones C. 0.28m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
801	Subsoil	Firm mid orange brown silty clay occasional flecks chalk, occasional small-medium stones C. 0.24m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
802	Natural	Firm light grey orange silty clay moderate flecks chalk, moderate small-medium stones With patches and linear seams of mid orange silty sand.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Trench: 9**

**Max Dimensions:** Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.48 m. Max: 0.65 m.

**Co-ordinates:** OS Grid Ref.: TL

OS Grid Ref.: TL

**Reason:** Asses archaeological potential

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
900	Topsoil	Firm dark orange brown clay silt occasional small-medium stones C. 0.28m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
901	Subsoil	Firm mid orange brown silty clay occasional flecks chalk, occasional small-medium stones 0.14m to 0.28m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
902	Natural	Firm light grey orange silty clay moderate flecks chalk, moderate small-medium stones With patches and linear seams of mid orange silty sand.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Trench: 10**

**Max Dimensions:** Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.62 m. Max: 1. m.

**Co-ordinates:** OS Grid Ref.: TL

OS Grid Ref.: TL

**Reason:** Asses archaeological potential

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1000	Topsoil	Firm dark orange brown clay silt occasional small-medium stones C. 0.34m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1001	Subsoil	Firm mid orange brown silty clay occasional flecks chalk, occasional small-medium stones 0.22m to 0.46m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1002	Natural	Firm light grey orange silty clay moderate flecks chalk, moderate small-medium stones With patches and linear seams of mid orange silty sand.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1003	Ditch	Linear NW-SE sides: concave base: concave dimensions: min breadth 0.72m, min depth 0.2m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1004	Fill	Firm mid orange brown silty clay occasional flecks chalk, occasional small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1005	Subsoil	Firm light orange silty clay occasional small stones C. 0.10m thick. An additional subsoil layer overlying the natural, present at the east end of trench 10 only, where the trench was 1m deep.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1006	Furrow	Linear NE-SW sides: concave base: uneven dimensions; min breadth 1m, min depth 0.08m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1007	Fill	Firm light orange grey silty clay occasional small stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



## 7. APPENDIX 2: FINDS SUMMARY

Finds were collected from four features in Trench 3 and a single ditch in Trench 7 (Table 1). They mainly comprise poorly preserved pottery (46 sherds: 340g) and animal bone (62 fragments: 222g) with low mean sherd / fragment weights (respectively 7g and 4g). Despite the presence within postpipe [316] of a number of pottery sherds from a single vessel (89g), the uniformly abraded and highly fragmented condition of this material, and of the overall assemblage suggests none represent primary deposits.

Trace hammerscale was recovered from a soil sample in Trench 3 (see Appendix 3).

The assemblage has no potential for further analysis

Tr.	Feature	Description	Fill	Date range	Finds summary
3	303	Structural slot	304	Early-middle Iron Age	Pottery (109g); animal bone (58g)
	307	Pit	309	Early-middle Iron Age	Pottery (4g)
			310	n/a	Hammerscale (<1g)
	313	Structural slot	314	Early-middle Iron Age	Pottery (136g); animal bone (157g)
	316	Postpipe	318	Early-middle Iron Age	Pottery (89g); animal bone (4g)
7	707	Ditch	708	Roman?	Pottery (2g); fired clay (2g)

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



## **8. APPENDIX 3: ECOFACT SUMMARY**

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### **8.1 Introduction**

Three samples were taken — two from pit [307] (samples <1> and <2> and a third from postpipe [305], which was associated with a larger structural feature (sample <3>). In all approximately 34 litres of soil were processed.

### **8.2 Results of Identification**

#### **8.2.1 Pit [307]**

The lower charcoal-rich fill (309) of the pit (sample <1>) contained abundant charcoal, comprising occasional larger lumps (*c.* 10mm max.), as well as smaller lumps and fragments and flecks (mostly elongated in form), but no charred grain. The charcoal showed variable evidence of abrasion, with the elongated fragments generally having limited abrasion. Occasional snail shells were also recovered from the deposit.

The upper fill (310) of the pit (sample <2>) contained a smaller quantity of charcoal, including a few larger lumps that had evidence of limited abrasion. There were larger numbers of very small lumps and flecks, which tended to have more evidence of abrasion. Occasional whole and fragmentary snail shells were also present. A very small quantity (<1g) of hammerscale was also recovered from the sample; it was corroded and may be intrusive.

#### **8.2.2 Postpipe [305] in structural cut [303]**

Sample <3> from the lower part of the fill (306) of postpipe [305] contained a small quantity of charcoal, comprising several small lumps (most of which showed evidence of abrasion) and larger numbers of very small abraded lumps and charcoal flecks. Occasional snail shells were also present, as well as occasional unidentifiable fragments of animal bone.

### **8.3 Potential for Further Study**

No charred grain was present in the samples.

Charcoal is present in the samples. It derives from two isolated early-middle Iron Age features. Charcoal can potentially indicate the use of woodland resources (English Heritage 2011, 20), but the analytical potential of the material from this site is negligible and would not contribute to the project objectives.

Species identification of the charcoal from pit [307] was not attempted for the following reasons:

- The pit's function could not be ascertained from its form or context, and there was no evidence of burning having taken place within the pit. There was no way of knowing whether or not the charcoal present in the fills was related to the use of the pit or not, it might represent a general background scatter of charcoal of various origin incorporated in the backfill (which is possibly corroborated by the abraded state of some of the fragments).



- There was no evidence from the context of the purpose for which the wood had been collected and burnt. The material might have been burnt deliberately for any number of reasons—cooking, heating, or craft/manufacturing purposes. Alternatively, it might have been derived from a bonfire to dispose of unwanted material from scrub clearance, or hedge cutting, or stripping of branches. Equally, it might have been a completely accidental fire.
- There is no way of knowing whether or not the material is representative of the general woodland present in the vicinity or whether the material had been selectively gathered for an unknown purpose and imported to the site. It might be possible to determine this by comparative analysis of material from a number of contexts across a large site, but not from a single feature.

The charred fragments from post-pipe [305] were not selected for identification, either. Although it might seem obvious to assume that they were the remains of the post, this is unlikely. In normal circumstances, the buried portion of a ground-fast timber will not burn easily, because the soil excludes oxygen and insulates against heat. It is plausible that the charred wood fell into the void left by the removal or rotting down of the timber, but it does not follow that it was part of the structure or that the structure itself was burnt. Identification of the species of the charcoal would tell us nothing about the nature of the structure. Furthermore, the charcoal has negligible potential to inform us of about the general environment, for the reasons set out above for the material from pit [307].

Small fragments of charcoal may also be used for dating by radiocarbon analysis. However, the features are dated by pottery. Radiocarbon dating would not be sufficiently secure, given that a) the origin of the charcoal is unknown, and b) there is no sequence of stratigraphically linked samples that would improve the precision of the dating (Alex Bayliss, Head of Scientific Dating, Historic England, pers. comm.). Radiocarbon dating would not contribute to the objectives of the project.

Snail shells are also potentially useful indicators of past environments (English Heritage 2011, 22–3). However, the snail shells from this site were too sparse to provide any reliable information on the Iron Age landscape. Mollusc studies for reconstructing land-use and environmental change are best undertaken where it is possible to take specialist samples in vertical columns, e.g. from deep features such as substantial ditches or deep pits that have silted up over a long period (ibid).

The snails from pit 307 or post-pipe [305] were not identified by species. Whilst the snail species might potentially indicate the type of habitat pertaining in the Iron Age, the tiny quantity represented would have no statistical validity. Furthermore, it would be impossible to say whether or not the snails were a) living in a micro-habitat in the vicinity of the archaeological features or b) were endemic to the local area, thus evincing the general



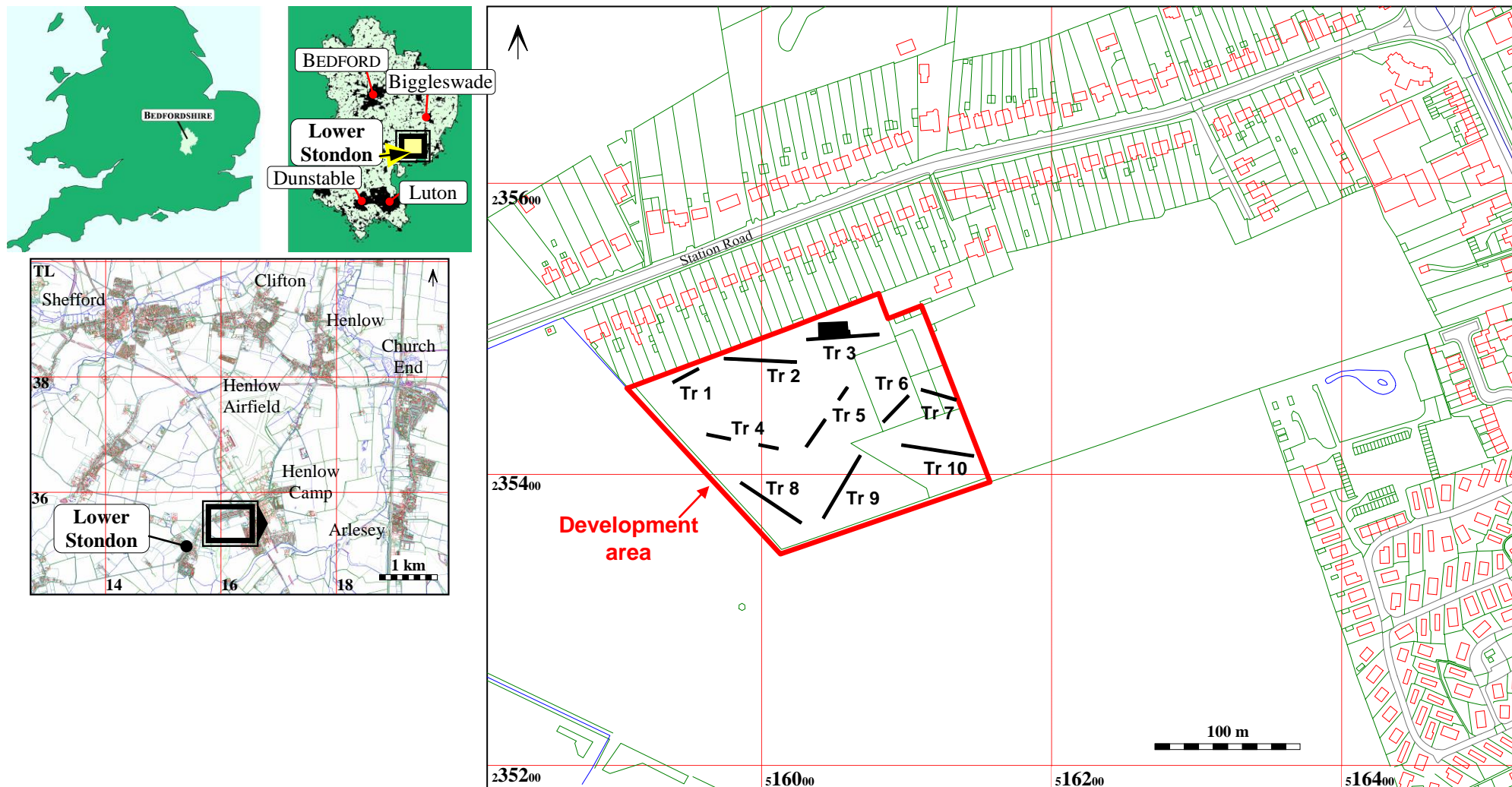
environment of the site. Analysis of the snails would not contribute to the objectives of the project.

The charcoal and snail shell samples will be retained with the site archive and will be available for identification and further study if the need is identified in the future.



## 9. APPENDIX 4: SIGNIFICANCE CRITERIA

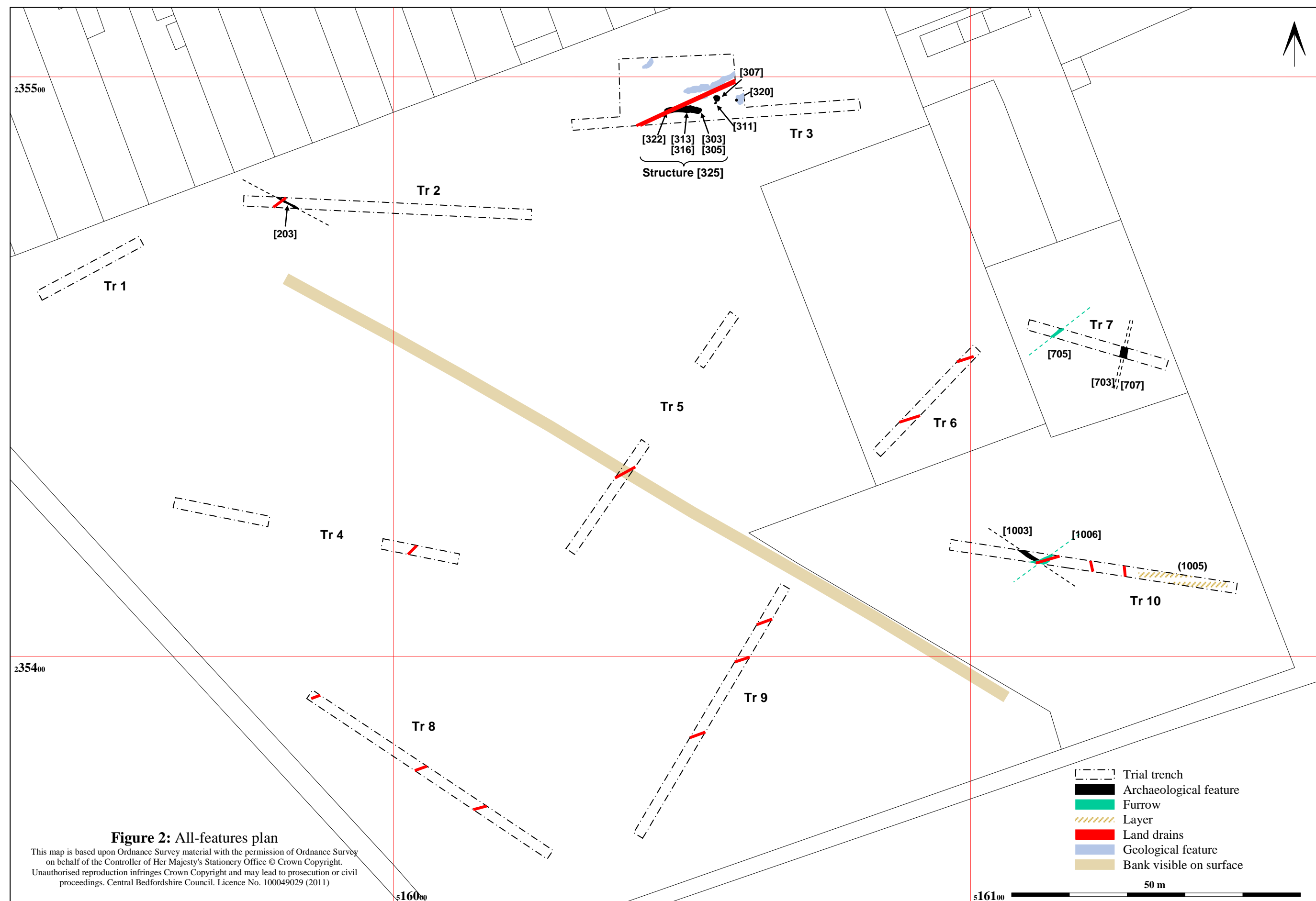
Importance of Asset	Designation of Assets	Definition of Importance
<i>High</i>	Inscribed World Heritage Sites	Places of international importance due to their 'outstanding universal value'
	Scheduled monuments Listed buildings (Grade I or II*) Registered parks/gardens (Grade I or II*) Battlefields	Places or structures of national importance. Undesignated heritage assets and archaeological remains of potentially equivalent value. This includes assets which: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• are rare in the historic environment record or</li> <li>• are a good example of a type site or</li> <li>• have a high potential to add to regional and national research criteria</li> </ul>
<i>Moderate</i>	Listed buildings (Grade II) Registered parks and gardens (Grade II) Conservation areas Undesignated	Places or buildings of regional or high local importance. This includes assets which: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• are more commonly found in the historic environment record or</li> <li>• have particular regional associations or may have important associations on a local or parish level (e.g. they have meaning to local population or embody something of the special identity of a locality)</li> <li>• have moderate potential to add to local and regional research criteria</li> </ul>
<i>Low</i>	Undesignated	Assets which: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• are relatively poorly preserved or</li> <li>• have limited significance on a local level</li> <li>• have a low potential to add to local and regional research criteria</li> </ul>
<i>Negligible</i>	Undesignated	Places or buildings that have no known archaeological, historical or cultural importance. Sufficient investigation must have been undertaken to demonstrate that there is a low risk that any as yet unknown heritage assets might survive, or where any potential surviving remains have no value within the context of the current study.

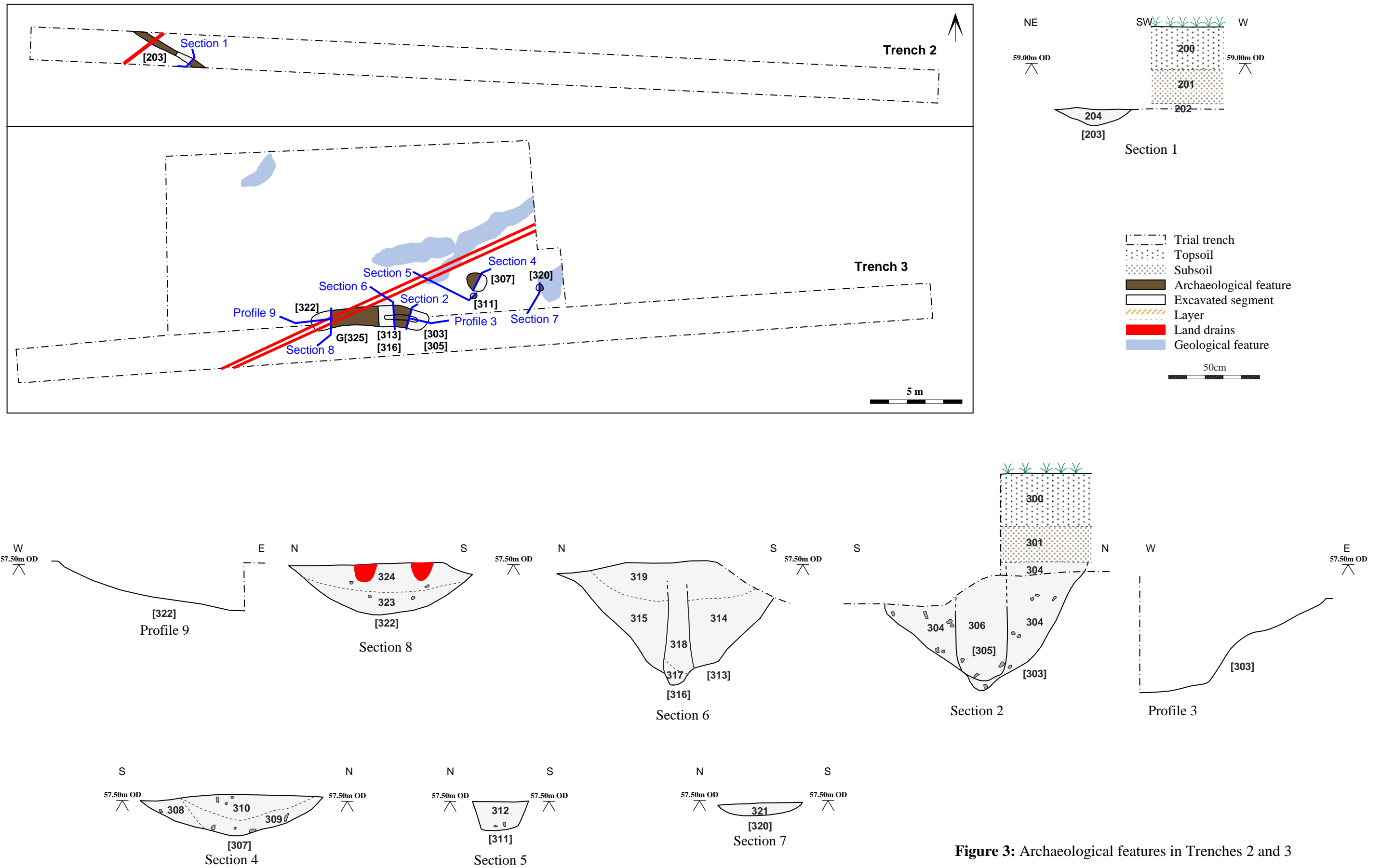


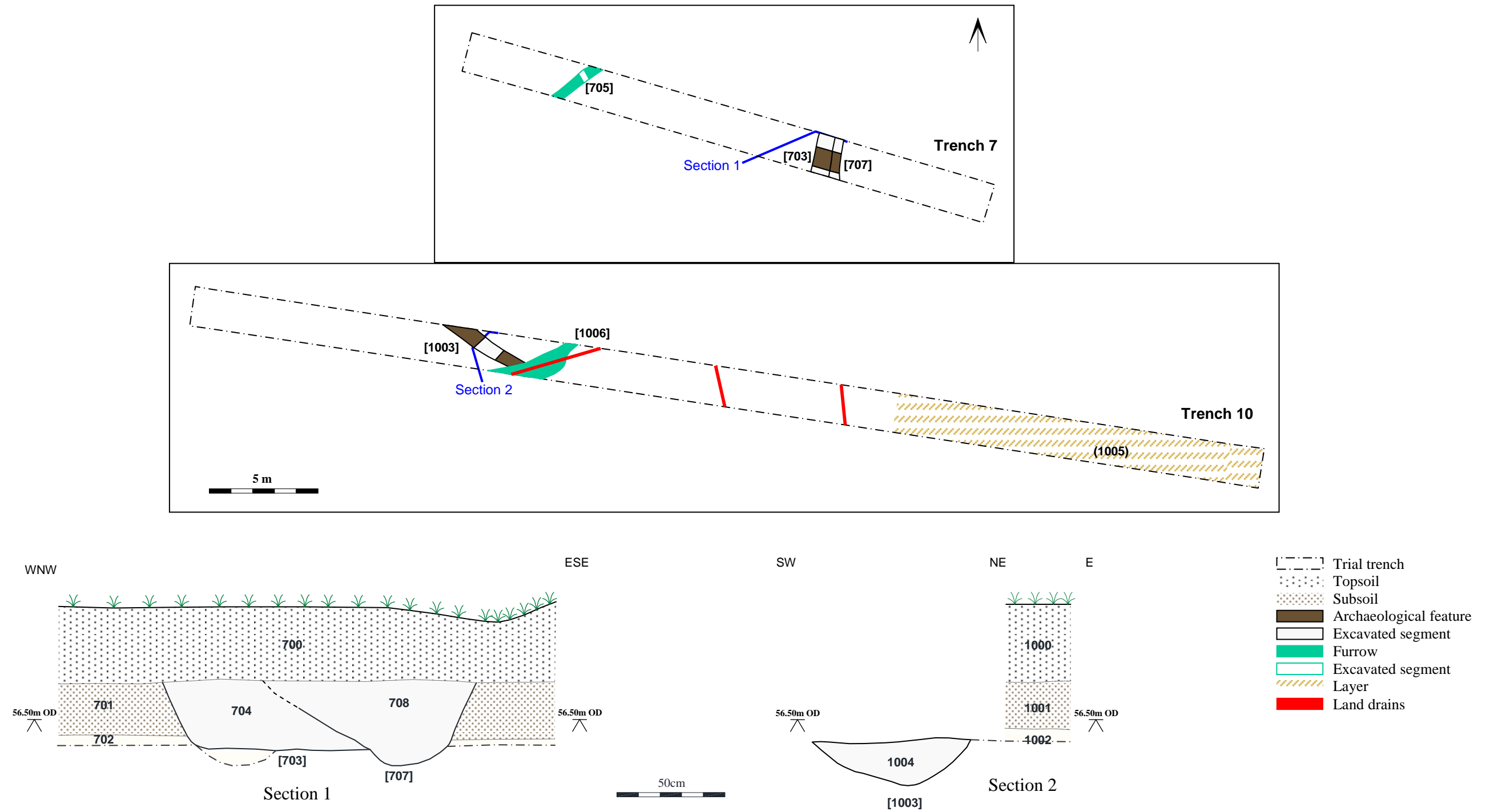
**Figure 1: Site location plan and trial trench layout**

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**Figure 4:** Archaeological features in Trenches 7 and 10





**Figure 5:** Photograph of the initial extension of Trench 3 and excavated eastern terminus of the linear feature (with cut [303]) (1m scale)





**Figure 6:** Photograph of the east end of cut [303] with postpipe [305] (1m scale)



**Figure 7:** Photograph of Section 6 (cut [313] and postpipe [316]) (1m scale)





**Figure 8:** General photograph of structural cut [325]/[303]/[313] (1m scale)





**Figure 9:** Photograph of pit [307] with charcoal-rich deposit (309) (1m scale)



**Figure 10:** Photograph of pit [307] with adjacent posthole [311] (1m and 20cm scales)





**Figure 11:** Photograph of shallow ditch [203] (40cm scale)





**Figure 12:** Photograph looking south-east along the line of the slight bank, May 2017

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