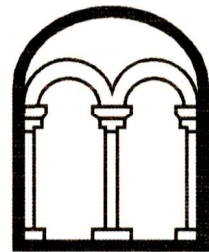


**SITE 17B
GROVEBURY FARM
LEIGHTON BUZZARD
BEDFORDSHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL STRIP, MAP,
INVESTIGATION, RECORDING, ANALYSIS
AND PUBLICATION**

Albion
archaeology



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GROVEBURY FARM
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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL STRIP, MAP,
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Produced for:
CgMs Consulting Ltd

On behalf of:
Persimmon Homes



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Preface

All statements and opinions in this document are offered in good faith. This document has been prepared for the titled project or named part thereof and was prepared solely for the benefit of the client. The material contained in this document does not necessarily stand on its own and should not be relied upon by any third party. This document should not be used for any other purpose without an independent check being carried out as to its suitability and the prior written authority of Albion Archaeology (a trading unit of Central Bedfordshire Council). Any person/party relying on the document for such other purposes agrees and will by such use or reliance be taken to confirm their agreement to indemnify Albion Archaeology for all loss or damage resulting therefrom. Albion Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for this document to any party other than the persons/party by whom it was commissioned. This document is limited by the state of knowledge at the time it was written.

Acknowledgements

The project was monitored on behalf of the Local Planning Authority by Hannah Firth, Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeologist. The fieldwork was undertaken by Tori Guy (Archaeological Supervisor). This report has been prepared by Tori Guy with contributions from Jackie Wells (Finds Officer), Jill Eyres (Petrology specialist) and Joan Lightning (CAD Technician). All Albion projects are under the overall management of Drew Shotliff (Operations Manager).

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Key Terms

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

| | |
|------------|--|
| CBC | Central Bedfordshire Council |
| CBCA | Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeologist |
| CifA | Chartered Institute for Archaeologists |
| Consultant | Duncan Hawkins, CgMs Consulting Ltd |
| EBD | Events Bedfordshire |



| | |
|-------------------|--|
| HER | Central Bedfordshire and Luton Historic Environment Record |
| OD | Ordnance Datum |
| PDA | Permitted development area |
| Procedures Manual | <i>Procedures Manual Volume 1 Fieldwork</i> , 3rd edition 2017 Albion Archaeology |
| WSI | Written Scheme of Investigation |



Non-Technical Summary

In 2012, outline planning permission was granted by Central Bedfordshire Council for the construction of 125 dwellings with associated play space, landscaping, parking and access (CB/12/02889/REN) on Site 17B, Grovebury Farm, Leighton Buzzard. As the proposed development had the potential to impact heritage assets with archaeological interest, a condition (no. 18) was attached to the planning consent, requiring the implementation of a programme of archaeological works.

An archaeological field evaluation was undertaken within the permitted development area (PDA) in 2006 and Trenches 15–20 were excavated within Site 17B. Trench 15 in the south-west corner of the PDA produced an assemblage of abraded Roman pottery.

A strip, map and record investigation was undertaken within the PDA between 8th and 19th January 2018. Trench 15 provided the initial focus for the investigation and the site was stripped to the north and east until a 10m buffer from all archaeological features was established. The final extent of the excavation area was c. 1950m².

Residual Iron Age pottery and a saddle quern fragment hint at prehistoric activity. However, the earliest identified features — six pits — within the excavation area dated to the early Roman period. Pottery was recovered from over half of them, which together with two rotary quern fragments suggests an association with domestic-related activity. However, in the absence of any other settlement-related features it is presumed that the pits represent peripheral settlement activity, with the main settlement focus situated elsewhere. No continuation of the contemporary bedding trenches seen on Site 17A to the west was found within the excavation area; nor was there any evidence for later Roman activity.

The presence of two furrows indicates that in the medieval period the PDA formed part of an open-field system.

The archaeological investigation on the PDA confirmed the presence of evidence for low-level, early Roman activity to the east of the bedding trench arrays seen on Site 17A. The results are limited in significance but do provide further evidence for early Roman and medieval land-use in this part of Leighton Buzzard, close to the Theedway.

No further analysis of the results of the fieldwork beyond that presented in this report is required. This report will be uploaded to the OASIS website (ref. no. albionar1-300581) and the project archive will be deposited with Luton Culture (entry no. LTNMG 1317).



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

In 2012, outline planning permission was granted by Central Bedfordshire Council for the construction of 125 dwellings with associated play space, landscaping, parking and access (CB/12/02889/REN) on Site 17B, Grovebury Farm, Leighton Buzzard.

Persimmon Homes made a reserved matters application (CB/17/04379/RM) for the construction of 116 dwellings, landscaping, parking and access on Site 17B.

An archaeological field evaluation was undertaken within the permitted development area (PDA) in 2006 and Trenches 15–20 were excavated within Site 17B. One trench in the south-west corner of the PDA exposed a soil layer containing an assemblage of abraded Roman pottery (Albion Archaeology 2006).

As the proposed development had the potential to impact heritage assets with archaeological interest, a condition (no. 18) was attached to the 2012 planning consent, requiring the implementation of a programme of archaeological works in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI), approved in writing by the local planning authority. This was in accordance with national planning guidelines in the form of the *National Planning Policy Framework – Section 12: Conserving and enhancing the historic environment*, which was published on 27 March 2012¹.

Albion Archaeology was commissioned to prepare the WSI (Albion Archaeology 2017a) required by condition no. 18 and to implement the programme of archaeological works, which are reported on in this document.

1.2 Site Location and Description

Leighton Buzzard is situated in the south-eastern area of Central Bedfordshire Council Authority, close to the Bedfordshire-Buckinghamshire border. It lies c. 9.5km north-west of Dunstable and Houghton Regis and 11km south-east of Bletchley.

The PDA is situated at the southern extent of Leighton Buzzard, just north-east of the junction of the A505, A4146 and Billington Road. It comprises a c. 2.8ha sub-rectangular area of pasture on the west side of Billington Road, centred on grid reference SP 92862 23564.

¹ National Planning Policy Framework, published by the Department for Communities and Local Government (2012). Available at:

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/nppf>.



The recently built road known as ‘Theedway’ forms the northern boundary of the PDA. Much of the PDA is bounded by mature hedgerows and a hedgerow also crosses the middle of the site on a NE-SW alignment. An electricity pylon is located in the north-east corner of the PDA; the power line crosses the top of the PDA on an east-west alignment. The ground is relatively level and lies at *c.* 90–95m OD.

The underlying geology comprises Gault Formation Mudstone. No superficial deposits have been recorded for the area of the PDA, but those in the vicinity vary between glaciofluvial deposits of sand and gravel and Oadby Member Diamicton (brownish-grey silty clay with chalk and flint fragments and lenses of sand and gravel)².

1.3 Archaeological and Historical Background

1.3.1 Evidence from the vicinity of the PDA

The PDA lies in a landscape that contains settlement evidence spanning the Bronze Age to the Roman period, as well as an extensive agricultural medieval hinterland. In preparation of this report a search of the Central Bedfordshire and Luton Historic Environment Record was undertaken (search reference: 201819/052) and the following section provides a summary of all known heritage assets and previous archaeological investigations within a 500m-radius search area of the PDA, referred to here as the ‘study area’.

Prehistoric and Roman activity have been identified during archaeological investigations on Site 17A Grovebury Farm, *c.* 100m to the west of the PDA (EBD 1129, EBD 528, EBD 1232, EBD 1624, HER 18306 and HER 19685; Albion Archaeology 2014). The earliest evidence of human activity comprised residual late Neolithic-early Bronze Age flint artefacts. No known early prehistoric settlement activity has so far been found in the study area, but residual flint artefacts have also been recovered from two other locations: a flint and sand pit *c.* 400m to the north-east of the PDA (HER 8355) and *c.* 560m to the south-east (EBD 638).

The first definitive settlement activity on Site 17A was dated to the late Bronze Age-early Iron Age and comprised several irregular field boundaries and associated clusters of pits and postholes (HER 18306). The area of investigation was probably peripheral to a contemporary farmstead, located further north.

By the early-middle Iron Age the investigated area at Site 17A was more intensively exploited and the site contained a greater number of ditches, pits and postholes, in addition to a water pit, an animal burial and two human graves. The recorded evidence represents traces of agricultural and limited domestic activity on the perimeter of a nearby farmstead.

²<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html?location=leighton+buzzard&gobBtn=go>



Evidence for early Roman activity covered more than 90% of the investigated Site 17A Grovebury Farm and extended beyond its limits. It comprised eleven separate arrays (fields) of bedding trenches and associated features (HER 19685). All of the fields are likely to have been broadly contemporary, but were probably some distance from a settlement focus as only four sherds (49g) of Roman pottery were recovered. Very little activity occurred from the mid-2nd century onwards with only a cremation burial and two isolated ditches dated to the phase.

Sherds of Roman pottery have also been recovered during trial trench evaluation on the PDA (HER 12482) and *c.* 100m to the north of the PDA (HER 1405).

The ancient routeway known as The Theedway, or Thiodweg, (HER 10843) lies 200m to the north of the PDA. The first documentary evidence for this route dates to the 10th century, although it is possible that its origins are prehistoric. During the medieval period The Theedway was important for the transportation of produce from East Anglia and the route survives in various locations in southern Bedfordshire as parish boundaries and footpaths.

The medieval period is represented by evidence for ridge and furrow cultivation (HER5206), preserved in areas to the south and east of the PDA. It is also evidenced by the site of the former Grove Priory (La Grava) *c.* 400m to the south-west of the PDA (HER 1870).

The post-medieval to modern period is mainly represented by former buildings and industrial heritage assets in form of sand-pits (HER 8355, HER 11141), brickworks (HER 10767) and the narrow-gauge railway (HER 2436).

A number of archaeological investigations were undertaken in conjunction with the construction of Leighton Buzzard Bypass (EBD 1530), the pipeline for RAF Stanbridge (EBD 771) and within Pratts Quarry (EBD 225, 575, 638 and 644), all to the south of the PDA. These produced an array of evidence dating from the late Bronze Age to the post-medieval period.

1.3.2 Archaeological investigations on the PDA

An evaluation comprising geophysical survey (EBD 1129) and trial trenching (EBD 528) was carried out on the PDA between 2005 and 2006 (Albion Archaeology 2006). The geophysical survey identified a series of magnetic anomalies indicative of agricultural activity. The majority of the trial trenches within the PDA did not contain significant archaeological remains. However, in the south-west corner Trench 15 produce an assemblage of small and extensively abraded early Roman pottery (HER 12482) (114 sherds, weighing 755g).

The assemblage included a number of vessels represented by more than one sherd, notably sixty-two sherds (295g) of a lid-seated jar and ten sherds (65g) of a developed lid-seated vessel, both in a shell-tempered fabric. Other fabric



types were locally manufactured reduced sand-tempered coarsewares. Regional imports were represented by a sherd of 2nd-century whiteware from Verulamium (St Albans). One sherd of samian ware, a continental fineware import from Gaul (France), was also identified.



2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

2.1 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).

The principal purpose of the archaeological excavation was to establish whether any Roman settlement features relating to the assemblage of early Roman pottery recovered from Trench 15 were present on the PDA. Furthermore, archaeological investigations within Site 17A Grovebury Farm to the west suggested that early Roman bedding trenches and associated activity could extend onto the PDA (Albion Archaeology 2014). So far no domestic core has been identified within the study area, but find-spots of Roman pottery indicates that one must exist in the vicinity.

The research framework for Bedfordshire states that little detailed work has been carried out on the characterisation of rural settlement in the Roman period. Patterns of settlement nucleation or dispersal are areas of considerable significance, but are little understood (Oake 2007, 11). More work is also needed to understand the inter-relationship between Roman towns and their hinterlands (Medlycott 2011, 47–8). Of particular relevance to the study area is the need to establish the relation between available infrastructure and location of farming practices and understand the Roman agricultural ‘norm’, against which evidence from individual sites can be compared (Medlycott 2011, 46–7).

In summary, the specific research objectives of the archaeological works were:

- To determine if Roman settlement evidence existed in the south-west corner of the PDA or if the pottery recovered from Trench 15 was the result of natural agency.
- To establish the relationship between any settlement activity on the PDA and the adjacent bedding trenches.
- To determine whether evidence for later Roman activity was present on the PDA.
- To assess if any heritage assets relating to earlier periods were present on the PDA.

The general purpose of the archaeological works was to recover information on the:

1. the date, nature and extent of any activity or occupation within the PDA;
2. the relationship of any remains found to the surrounding contemporary landscapes;



3. the local environmental conditions (through the recovery of palaeo-environmental remains).



3. METHOD STATEMENTS

3.1 Standards

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

- CIfA's *Code of conduct and Standard and guidance for archaeological excavation* (2014);
- *Standards for the Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003)
- Historic England's *The MoRPHE Project Managers Guide* (2015);
- Historic England Archaeology Guidelines and Standards³;
- Albion Archaeology *Procedures Manual 3rd edition* (2017b);
- Luton Culture (2013) *Procedures for preparing archaeological archives for deposition with Luton Culture*;

3.2 Strip, Map and Investigate Methodology

A strip, map and record investigation was undertaken between 8th and 19th January 2018 (Figure 1).

During the archaeological trial-trench evaluation a layer containing Roman pottery was recorded in Trench 15 situated in the south-west corner of the PDA (Albion Archaeology 2006). This provided the initial focus for the strip, map and investigation and removal of overburden continued to the north and east until a 10m buffer from all archaeological features was established, in line with the WSI (Albion Archaeology 2017a). The final extent of the excavation area was c. 1950m².

The strip was carried out by a mechanical excavator fitted with a flat-edged bucket, operated by an experienced driver under close archaeological supervision. Overburden was removed down to the top of the archaeological deposits or undisturbed geological deposits, whichever were encountered first. All excavation and recording was carried out by experienced Albion staff with internal specialists also consulted. Any potential archaeological features were investigated by hand and recorded using Albion Archaeology's *pro formae* sheets. The features were subsequently drawn and photographed as appropriate

Options for environmental sampling were discussed on site with the CBCA. However, on excavation, none of the features displayed any environmental potential and accordingly no sampling was undertaken.

The project archive will be deposited at Luton Culture (entry no. LUTNM: 2018/7). Details of the project and its findings will be submitted to the OASIS

³ Historic England guidelines on a number of specialist fields and materials, including environmental archaeology, are available at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/advice-and-guidance/>
Site 17B, Grovebury Farm, Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire:
Archaeological Strip, Map, Investigation, Recording, Analysis and Publication



database (reference no. albionar1-300581) in accordance with the guidelines issued by Historic England and the Archaeology Data Service.



4. RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

All significant deposits and features revealed within the excavation area are described below by chronological period and shown on Figure 2. Context numbers in square brackets refer to the cuts [***] and round brackets to fills or layers (***).

A detailed context summary can be found in Appendix 1.

4.2 Overburden and Geological Stratum

The excavation area was reduced to the archaeological horizon, which lay *c.* 0.3m below ground level. The overburden comprised brown- grey clay topsoil (*c.* 0.15–0.2m thick) and orange-grey clay subsoil (*c.* 0.15m thick). The geological stratum comprised grey-blue clay with orange-yellow clay lenses. These deposits were consistent across the entire excavation area.

4.3 Roman Pits

Six pits, forming two clusters spaced *c.* 30m apart, were identified (Figure 2).

The south-eastern cluster contained pits [11] and [15]. They were 1.1m in diameter and 0.25m deep and 0.7m in diameter and 0.12m deep, respectively (Plates 1 and 2). The pits contained up to three fills that generally consisted of grey-brown clay.

The north-eastern cluster contained four pits [6], [9], [17] and [19] of varying sizes (0.4–2m in diameter and *c.* 0.15–0.3m deep). All four pits, however, contained a similar brown-grey silty clay fill.

Four of the pits contained 1st–2nd-century Roman pottery, although the majority of the assemblage was recovered from pit [17] (848g). Residual sherds of late Iron Age grog-tempered pottery were also recovered from this pit, although no corresponding settlement activity was encountered. The location of pit [17] corresponded to the soil layer previously excavated in Trench 15, which also produced early Roman pottery (Albion Archaeology 2006).

An assemblage of Roman *tegula* (437g) and two fragments of rotary quern were recovered from pit [6] (Plate 3), as well as a spherical stone object, most likely a rubber or sling stone. Earlier activity in the vicinity was attested by the recovery of a fragment of saddle quern from pit [6], dated somewhere between the Neolithic and Iron Age periods.

4.4 Medieval and Modern Features

Two NW-SE aligned furrows [4] were identified within the excavation area. Both extended beyond the limit of investigation. They were *c.* 1.8m wide and



c. 0.2m deep. The more northerly furrow contained a sherd of medieval glazed pottery.

A number of modern land drains were identified across the excavation area on a similar alignment to the medieval furrows.

4.5 Artefacts

4.5.1 Introduction

Four pits yielded a small assemblage, comprising pottery, ceramic roof tile and stone objects (Table 1).

| Feature | Type | Fill | Date range | Finds summary |
|---------|------|------|-------------|--|
| 6 | Pit | 8 | Early Roman | Pottery (11g); ceramic roof tile (437g); quern stones x3 (RA1, 3, 4); stone object (RA2) |
| 11 | Pit | 14 | Early Roman | Pottery (115g) |
| 17 | Pit | 18 | Early Roman | Pottery (848g) |
| 19 | Pit | 20 | Early Roman | Pottery (7g) |

Table 1: Finds summary by feature

4.5.2 Ceramics

A total of 119 sherds (981g) representing 19 vessels was recovered, the majority deriving from the fill of pit [17]. The material is well-fragmented (mean sherd weight 8g) and abraded. Eight fabric types were defined in accordance with the Bedfordshire Ceramic Type Series (Table 2).

| Fabric type | Common name | Sherd | Wt. (g) | Fill / sherd |
|----------------------|-------------------|-------|---------|------------------------|
| <i>Late Iron Age</i> | | | | |
| F09 | Sand and grog | 16 | 100 | (18):16 |
| <i>Roman</i> | | | | |
| R03B | Gritty white ware | 2 | 15 | (14):1, (18):1 |
| R03E | Fine white ware | 63 | 351 | (14):1, (18):62 |
| R06B | Coarse grey ware | 17 | 314 | (8):1, (14):3, (18):13 |
| R07B | Sandy black ware | 1 | 2 | (14):1 |
| R10A | Gritty buff ware | 1 | 8 | (18):1 |
| R13 | Shelly ware | 15 | 128 | (18):14, (20):1 |
| R14 | Sandy ware | 4 | 63 | (14):1, (18):3 |

Table 2: Pottery quantification by type

The majority of the pottery dates to the 1st–2nd centuries AD and comprises locally manufactured, reduced, sand-tempered and shelly coarse wares, with white wares from further afield, including the Verulamium region. Forms are a lid-seated vessel and jars with simple everted rims, one with a shoulder cordon. Sixteen sherds (100g) from two late Iron Age (c. 50 BC–AD 100) grog-tempered vessels derived from pit [17]. Two joining pieces of sand-tempered *tegula* (437g) derived from pit [6].

The pottery compares well with the early Roman assemblage (755g) recovered from evaluation Trench 15 (Albion Archaeology 2006) (summarised in Section 1.3.2, above) and from bedding trenches (226g) excavated during



archaeological investigations at Site 17A Grovebury Farm (Albion Archaeology 2014).

4.5.3 Worked stone

The upper fill (8) of pit [6] contained four stone objects. Their petrological character, notable features and source area are summarised in Table 3. A full petrological description for each item appears as an individual recording sheet in Appendix 2.

Specimens were examined with the aid of a x20 hand lens and a binocular microscope (x40) but not by thin section. Colours were determined using the Munsell Color Chart (2000) on fresh surfaces unless otherwise stated.

| RA | Find type | Lithology | Source |
|----|--------------------------------|---|-------------------|
| 1 | Rotary quern, upper stone | Quartz conglomerate | Devon, Wye Valley |
| 2 | Possible rubber or sling stone | Lower Greensand, ferruginous 'carstone' | Bedfordshire |
| 3 | Rotary quern, upper stone | Quartz conglomerate | Devon, Wye Valley |
| 4 | Saddle quern | Lower Greensand, ferruginous 'carstone' | Bedfordshire |

Table 3: Summary of worked stone from pit [6]

The stone artefacts included two worn portions of upper stone from coarse quartz conglomerate rotary querns (RA1 and RA3) with an estimated diameter of 400mm; and a ferruginous sandstone saddle quern (RA4), with a dished upper surface and convex profile. The rotary querns are likely to be Roman in origin, while the saddle quern spans the Neolithic to Iron Age.

A roughly spherical piece of sandstone (RA2) derived from the same feature as the quern fragments. Measuring 64.8 x 62.4mm (323g), the object has variably worn surfaces, slight flattening to one side, and evidence of pecking/use damage; it has been identified as a possible rubber or sling stone.



5. CONCLUSIONS

5.1 *Summary of Results*

The archaeological investigations in the south-west corner of the PDA revealed two phases of discontinuous land-use.

Residual Iron Age pottery and a saddle quern fragment hint at prehistoric activity. However, the earliest identified features — six pits — within the excavation area dated to the early Roman period. Pottery was recovered from over half of them, which together with two rotary quern fragments suggests an association with domestic-related activity. However, in the absence of any other settlement-related features it is presumed that the pits represent peripheral settlement activity, with the main settlement focus situated elsewhere. No continuation of the contemporary bedding trenches seen on Site 17A was found within the excavation area; nor was there any evidence for later Roman activity.

The excavation area was not utilised again until the medieval period when it was subject to ridge and furrow cultivation. The furrows represent part of an open field system associated with medieval settlement; numerous, better-preserved examples of ridge and furrow have been recorded to the south and south-east of the PDA (HER 5206).

5.2 *Significance of Results*

The archaeological investigation on the PDA confirmed the presence of evidence for low-level, early Roman activity to the east of the bedding trench arrays seen on Site 17A (Albion 2014).

The results are limited in significance but do provide further evidence for early Roman and medieval land-use in this part of Leighton Buzzard, close to the Theedway.

No further analysis of the results of the fieldwork beyond that presented in this report is required. This report will be uploaded to the OASIS website (ref. no. albionar1-300581) and the project archive will be deposited with Luton Culture (entry no. LTNMG 1317).



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7. APPENDICES

7.1 Appendix 1: Context Details

| Context: | Type: | Description: | Excavated: | Finds Present: |
|----------|---------|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 | Topsoil | Firm dark brown grey clay silt moderate small-medium stones. 0.17m thick. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 | Subsoil | Firm mid orange grey silty clay occasional medium stones. 0.16m thick. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 | Natural | Compact mid blue orange clay occasional medium stones | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 | Furrow | Linear NW-SE sides: concave base: concave dimensions: min breadth 1.m, max depth 0.18m, min length 20.m | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 | Fill | Compact mid brown grey silty clay occasional small-medium stones | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6 | Pit | Oval sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.17m, max diameter 0.85m | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7 | Fill | Compact mid grey brown silty clay occasional small stones. 0.08m thick. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8 | Fill | Compact mid blue grey silty clay moderate flecks charcoal, occasional small stones. 0.14m thick. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 9 | Pit | Circular sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.16m, max diameter 0.4m | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10 | Fill | Compact mid blue grey silty clay occasional small stones. 0.16m thick. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11 | Pit | Circular sides: near vertical base: uneven dimensions: max depth 0.25m, max diameter 1.08m | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12 | Fill | Compact mid grey brown silty clay occasional small stones. 0.06m thick. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 13 | Fill | Compact mid blue grey clay silt moderate flecks charcoal, occasional small stones. 0.17m thick. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 14 | Fill | Compact mid grey brown silty clay occasional small stones | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 15 | Pit | Circular sides: steep base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.12m, max diameter 0.68m | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 16 | Fill | Compact mid brown grey silty clay . 0.12m thick. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 17 | Pit | Oval sides: 45 degrees base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.2m, max depth 0.3m, max length 2.36m | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 18 | Fill | Compact mid blue grey silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones. 0.3m thick. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 19 | Pit | Circular sides: steep base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.16m, max diameter 1.1m | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 20 | Fill | Compact mid blue grey silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones. 0.15m thick. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 21 | Fill | Compact mid blue grey silty clay occasional small stones. 0.09m thick. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |



7.2 Appendix 2: Petrological Recording Sheets

Rotary quern RA1

Context: (8)

General description

Find type: Rotary quern, upper stone

Specimen size: skirt 48 mm thick, thinning to 32 mm inwards

Comments: Fragment including part of the skirt, thinning inwards, concave grinding surface. Skirt and upper surface pecked. Concentric grooves on the grinding surface.

Petrological description:

Colour: pinkish-grey 5YR 7/2 to 6/2

Grain size: Average 500 µm (course sand), range 375 µm to pebbles of 4 cm

Grain sorting: poorly sorted

Grain roundness: rounded

Grain sphericity: variable

Grain surface texture (Quartz): glassy

Fabric: grain

Minerals (clasts and bioclasts) present and proportions (%):

Quartz 100% as sand and quartz/quartzite pebbles.

Cement: calcite?

Bioclasts: none

Interpretive comments based on observations: highly turbulent water flow

Rock type (general and/or specific name): Quartz conglomerate

Source area(s): Devon, Wye Valley, Forest of Dean



Rubber or sling stone? RA2

Context: (8)

General description

Find type: rubber or sling stone

Specimen size: 64 mm diameter

Comments: circular

Petrological description:

Colour: dark reddish-grey 5YR 4/2 to 3/2

Grain size: 750 µm coarse sand

Grain sorting: well sorted

Grain roundness: rounded

Grain sphericity: high to moderate

Grain surface texture (Quartz): glassy

Fabric: grain contact

Minerals (clasts and bioclasts) present and proportions (%):

Quartz 90%

Rock fragments (iron oxide) 10%

Cement: iron oxide? (hematite) and/or quartz?

Bioclasts: none

Interpretive comments based on observations: moderate energy, nearshore or channel deposit.

Rock type (general and/or specific name): Ferruginous sandstone, Lower Greensand, from horizon formerly known as 'carstone'.

Source area(s): Bedfordshire



Rotary quern RA3

Context: (8)

General description

Find type: Rotary quern, upper stone

Specimen size: skirt 35 mm thick, thinning to 22 mm inwards

Comments: Fragment including part of the skirt, thinning inwards, concave grinding surface. Skirt and upper surface pecked. Concentric grooves on the grinding surface.

Petrological description:

Colour: pinkish-grey 5YR 7/2 to 6/2

Grain size: Average 500 µm (course sand), range 375 µm to pebbles of 3 cm

Grain sorting: poorly sorted

Grain roundness: rounded

Grain sphericity: variable

Grain surface texture (Quartz): glassy

Fabric: grain

Minerals (clasts and bioclasts) present and proportions (%):

Quartz 100% as sand and quartz/quartzite pebbles.

Cement: calcite?

Bioclasts: none

Interpretive comments based on observations: highly turbulent water flow

Rock type (general and/or specific name): Quartz conglomerate

Source area(s): Devon, Wye Valley, Forest of Dean



Saddle quern RA4

Context: (8)

General description

Find type: saddle quern

Specimen size: 22 cm x 17 cm x 5.6 cm thick (maximum dimensions)

Comments: —

Petrological description:

Colour: dark reddish-grey 5YR 4/2

Grain size: 750 µm coarse sand

Grain sorting: well sorted

Grain roundness: rounded

Grain sphericity: high to moderate

Grain surface texture (Quartz): glassy

Fabric: grain contact

Minerals (clasts and bioclasts) present and proportions (%):

Quartz 90%

Rock fragments (iron oxide) 10%

Cement: iron oxide? (hematite) and/or quartz?

Bioclasts: none

Interpretive comments based on observations: moderate energy, nearshore or channel deposit.

Rock type (general and/or specific name): Ferruginous sandstone, Lower Greensand, from horizon formerly known as 'carstone'.

Source area(s): Bedfordshire

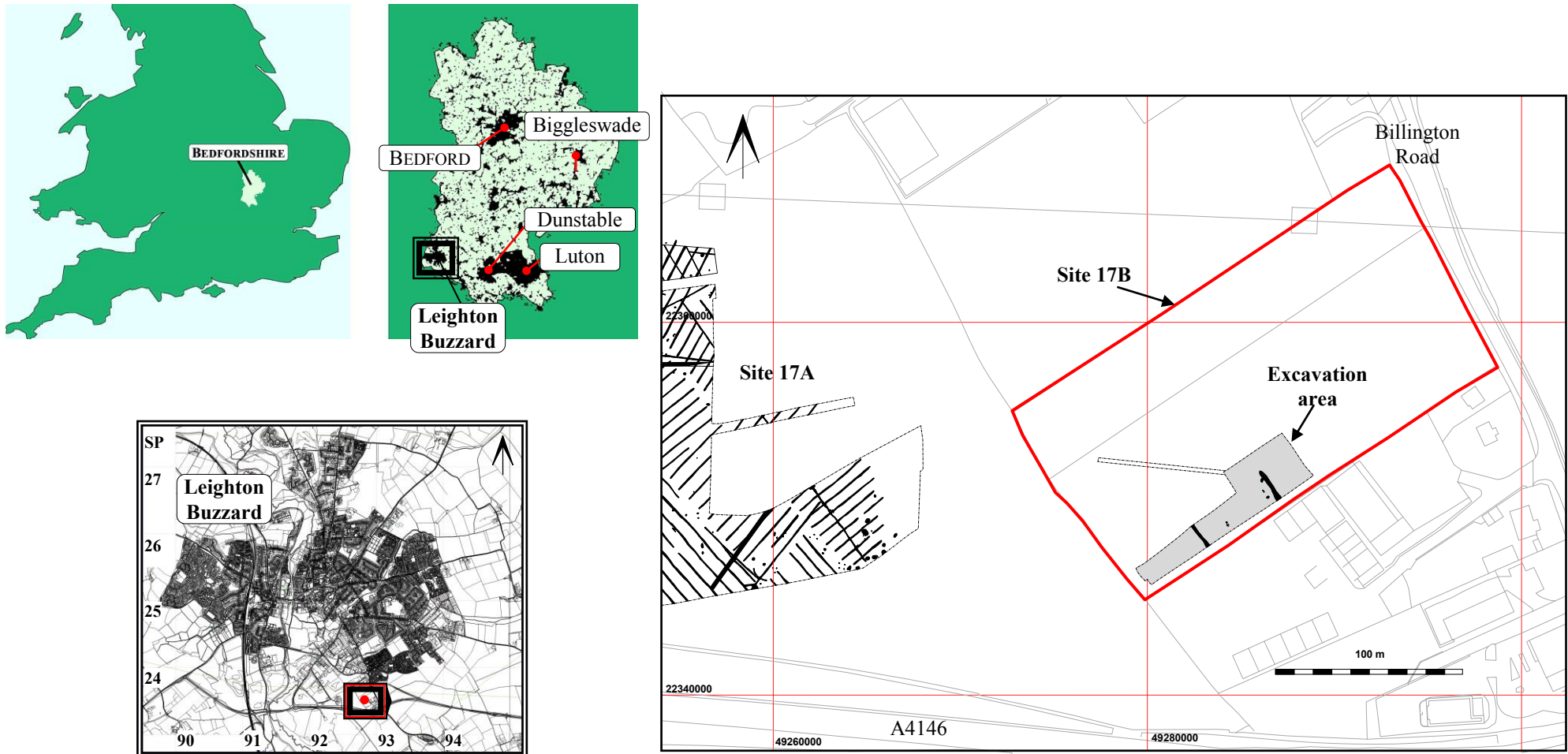


Figure 1: Site location

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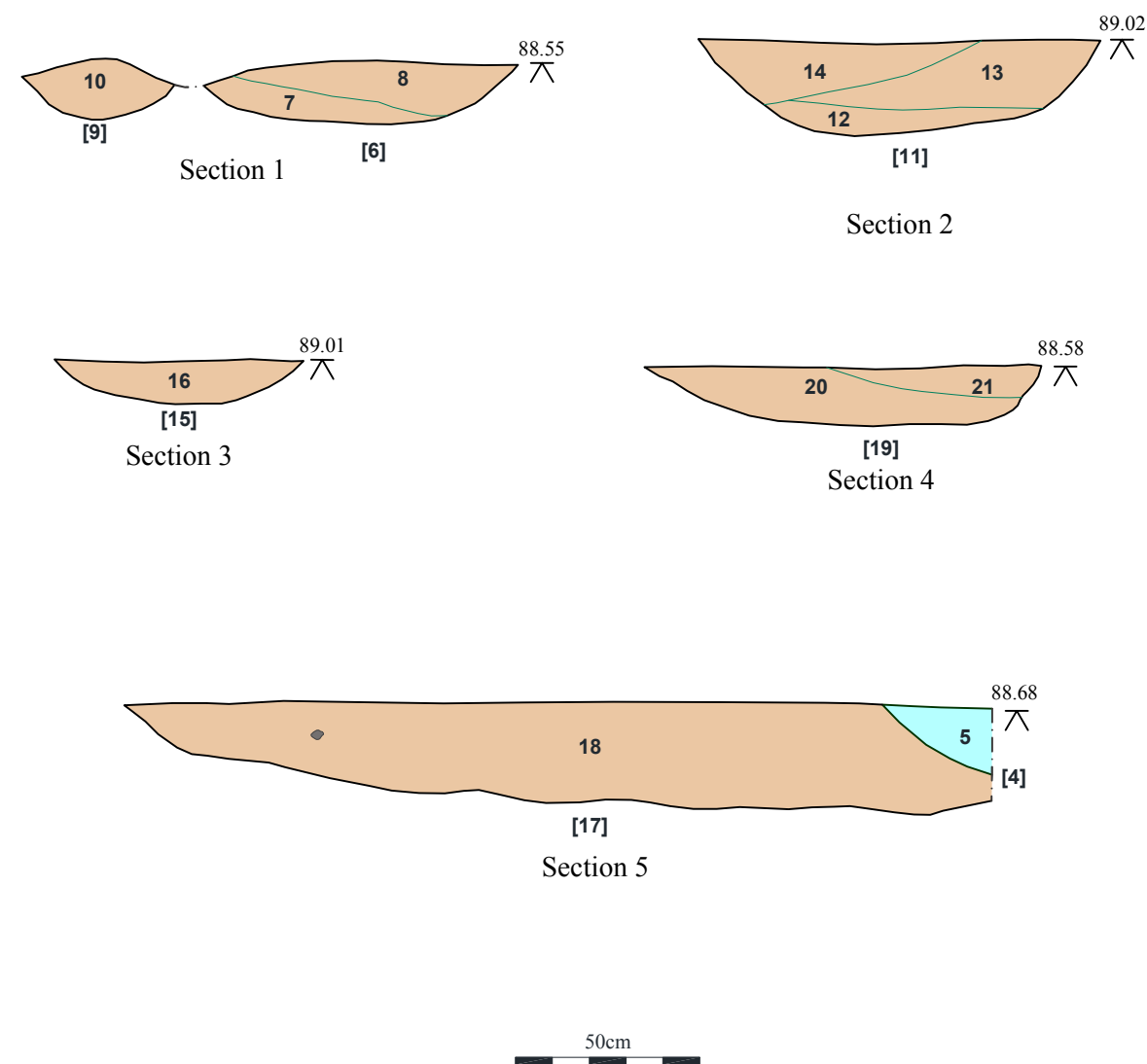
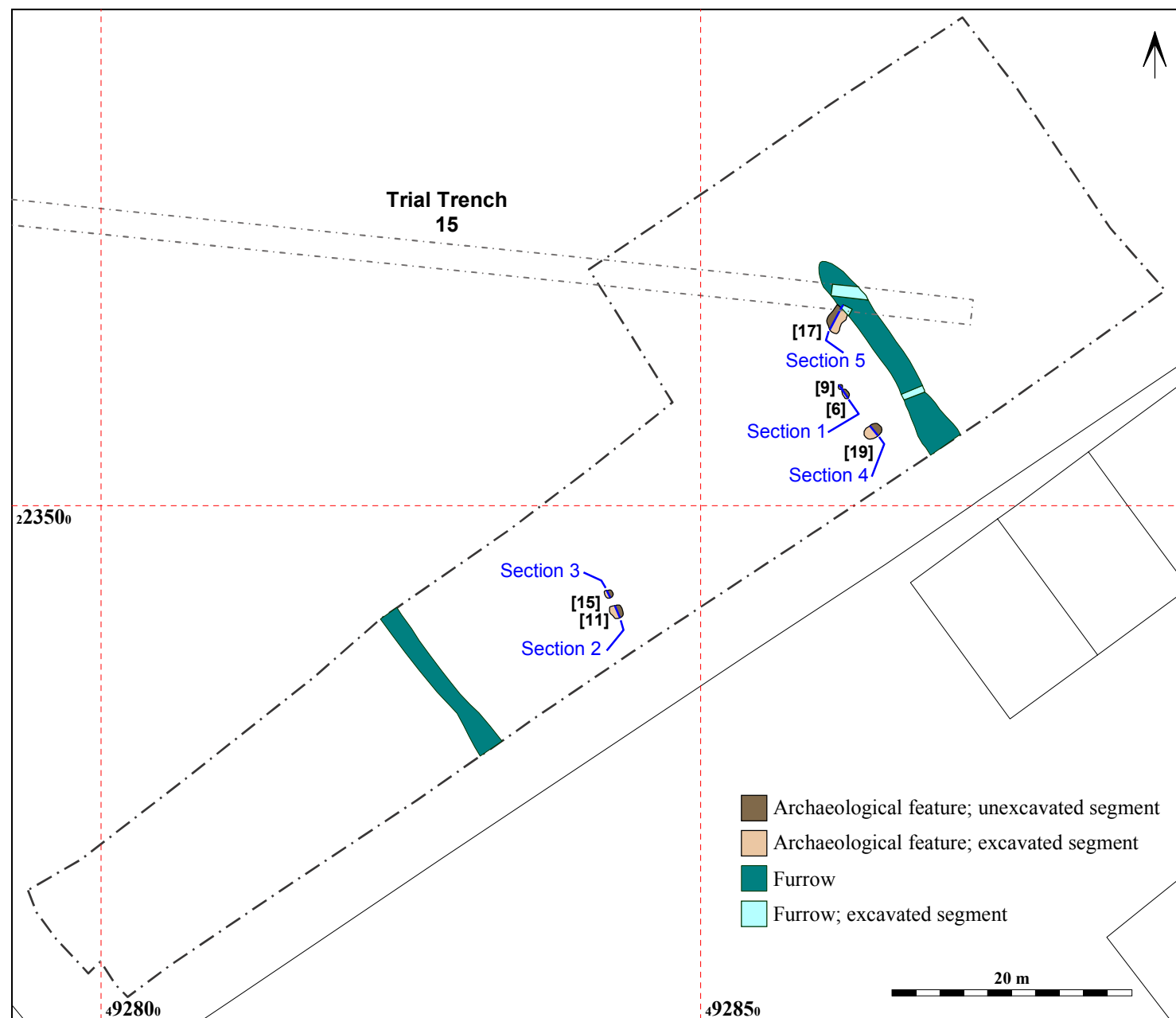


Figure 2: All-features plan with selected sections

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Plate 1: SW-facing section of pit [11]
(0.4m scale)



Plate 2: SW-facing section of pit [15]
(0.4m scale)



Plate 3: SW-facing section of pits [6] and [9]
(0.4m scale)



Plate 4: SW-facing section of pit [19]
(1m scale)



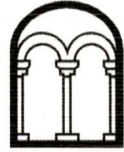
Plate 5: South-east facing section of pit [17] and furrow [4]
(1m scale)



Plate 6: View of the excavation area from the east corner (looking south-west)

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