

MANOR FARM  
MALHOUSE LANE  
STOTFOLD  
BEDFORDSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION  
AND HERITAGE STATEMENT

Albion  
archaeology





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STOTFOLD  
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AND HERITAGE STATEMENT**

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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. This document should not be relied upon or used for any other project 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).*

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*Albion Archaeology was commissioned to carry out the archaeological work by Rosie James of Bidwells, on behalf of Central Bedfordshire Council. The project was monitored on behalf of the Local Planning Authority by Sławek Utrata, the Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeological Officer (CBCAO).*

*The fieldwork was carried out by Marcin Kozimiński (Archaeological Supervisor) and Lewis Busby (Archaeological Technician). The report has been prepared by Marcin Kozimiński with contributions from Joan Lightning (CAD Technician) and Jackie Wells (Finds Officer). Albion Archaeology projects are under the overall management of Drew Shotliff (Operations Manager).*

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## **Key Terms**

Throughout this report the following abbreviations are used:

CBC	Central Bedfordshire Council
CBCAO	Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeological Officer
CI/A	Chartered Institute <i>for</i> Archaeologists
Client	Central Bedfordshire Council
DBHS	Desk-based Heritage Statement
HER	Historic Environment Record
PDA	Proposed development area
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation





## **Non-technical Summary**

*Bidwells, on behalf of Central Bedfordshire Council, sought pre-application advice for the proposed demolition of three agricultural barns and the erection of 20 new dwellings at Manor Farm, Malthouse Lane, Stotfold, Bedfordshire.*

*In December 2016, a detailed desk-based heritage statement (DBHS) was prepared in support of the proposed development. The study identified known designated and undesignated heritage assets within the proposed development area (PDA) and within a 500m study area. As the PDA is located in an area with the potential to produce multi-period archaeological remains and could contain deposits relating to the Stotfold Green medieval settlement, the Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeologist advised that any planning application should be accompanied by a heritage statement, based on the results of archaeological field evaluation. The results of this evaluation are used to assess the significance of the heritage assets and the likely impact of the proposed development on them (this report).*

*The trial-trench evaluation took place between 20th and 22nd August 2018. Six trenches, measuring 12–31m long by 2m-wide, were opened to give even spatial coverage of the PDA.*

*Despite being located in the immediate vicinity of a medieval heritage asset (Stotfold Green), the trial trenching showed little evidence for activity in this period. Trench 3 revealed a ditch that contained two abraded sherds of medieval pottery; the feature may date to the medieval period but it is equally likely that it is later in date (with the pottery being residual). Another residual medieval pottery sherd was recovered from a post-medieval pit in Trench 2. This limited evidence suggests a very low level of peripheral activity on the eastern outskirts of the medieval green. The remains are considered to be of no more than low significance*

*Late post-medieval / modern features included a number of pits, some containing animal burials, and a possible pond or quarry pit. Foundation trenches were also revealed in Trenches 1 and 6; they correspond with post-medieval farm buildings and farmyard enclosures demolished between 2005 and 2008. Generally, the remains of this period are thought to be closely associated with activities within the Manor Farm complex. They are considered to be of negligible to low significance.*

*Undated remains in the form of ditches and pits are likely to be associated with the other late post-medieval features. Again, they are of negligible to low significance.*

*The archaeological heritage assets within the PDA could be adversely affected by the development of the site. If required by the LPA, archaeological mitigation works could be undertaken prior to or during development in order to preserve by record any significant archaeological assets that would otherwise be destroyed.*

*The farm buildings on the PDA are not listed. However, the DBHS for the proposed development concluded that the buildings should be regarded as heritage assets with some significance in terms of their heritage values, including a fire-damaged cart shed. The DBHS stated that any development plans should consider the significance of the buildings and potential loss of significance resulting from any development*



impacts. Mitigation works in the form of detailed historic building recording could be undertaken to form an archive record of the buildings prior to development.

Three Grade II listed buildings are located to the north of the PDA around the green and others are located towards the southern edge of the study area in the historic village centre. The impact of development on the setting of these designated heritage assets would be negligible. The listed buildings are surrounded by modern development and the PDA is not visible from them.

The following table summarises the significance of heritage assets and of potential development impacts in the light of the results of the trial trenching.

<b>Type of heritage asset</b>	<b>Potential for finding asset</b>	<b>Importance of asset</b>	<b>Impact of development</b>	<b>Significance of impact (before mitigation)</b>
<b>Sub-surface archaeological remains</b>				
<i>Prehistoric (before AD 43)</i>	<i>Negligible</i>	<i>Uncertain</i>	<i>No change to moderate harm</i>	<i>Insignificant</i>
<i>Roman (AD 43–410)</i>	<i>Negligible</i>	<i>Uncertain</i>	<i>No change to moderate harm</i>	<i>Insignificant</i>
<i>Anglo-Saxon to medieval (410–1550)</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>No change to moderate harm</i>	<i>Insignificant to slightly significant</i>
<i>Post-medieval (1550 to 1900)</i>	<i>High</i>	<i>Negligible to low</i>	<i>No change to moderate harm</i>	<i>Insignificant</i>
<i>Modern (1900 to present)</i>	<i>High</i>	<i>Negligible</i>	<i>No change to moderate harm</i>	<i>Insignificant</i>
<b>Built heritage</b>				
<i>Post-medieval to modern farm buildings (1550 to present)</i>	<i>Extant</i>	<i>Low to moderate</i>	<i>Slight to moderate</i>	<i>Slightly significant to significant</i>
<b>Setting of designated heritage assets</b>				
<i>Three Grade II listed buildings</i>	—	—	<i>Negligible</i>	<i>Neutral</i>



## 1. INTRODUCTION

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### 1.1 *Planning Background*

Bidwells, on behalf of Central Bedfordshire Council, sought pre-application advice (CB/17/003944/PAPC) for the proposed demolition of three agricultural barns and the erection of 20 new dwellings at Manor Farm, Malthouse Lane, Stotfold, Bedfordshire.

In response, the Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeologist advised that the proposed development area (PDA) was located in an area with the potential to produce multi-period archaeological remains and could contain deposits relating to the Stotfold Green medieval settlement. The CBCA highlighted that, in accordance with the guidelines provided in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012, section 128), any planning application should be accompanied by a heritage statement, based on the results of archaeological field evaluation (this report). *National Planning Policy Framework* has since been revised (MHCLG 2018)

Albion Archaeology was commissioned to prepare a written scheme of investigation (WSI) for the archaeological field evaluation (Albion Archaeology 2018) and to carry out the trenching works.

### 1.2 *Site Location and Description*

Stotfold is a small town situated in Central Bedfordshire, close to the Bedfordshire-Hertfordshire border. The A1 (Great North Road) is situated 2km to the east. The closest large towns include Baldock, 4.2km to the south-east in Hertfordshire, Biggleswade, 7.8km to the north, and the county town of Bedford, 20km to the north-west.

The PDA lies on the east side of Stotfold, on the north side of Malthouse Lane, centred on TL 22095 37284 (Figure 1). It comprises a rectangular area of land that is bordered by Malthouse Lane to the south, Manor Farm to the west, a recreational ground to the east and a new housing development to the north.

The south and east boundaries of the PDA are defined by hedges, whilst to the west, the PDA opens onto the farm and a modern fence line defines the northern boundary. At the time of the field evaluation the PDA comprised a mix of shrubs, trees and grass and agricultural buildings in differing states of decay.

The PDA is situated on low-lying ground, at c.44m OD, in the valley of the River Ivel, situated c.100m to the east. The underlying geology is West Melbury Marly Chalk Formation, with overlying superficial deposits comprising Mid Pleistocene Glaciofluvial deposits of sand and gravels<sup>1</sup>.

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



### 1.3 Archaeological Background

In December 2016, a detailed desk-based heritage statement (DBHS) was prepared in support of the proposed development (Albion Archaeology 2016b). In preparation of the WSI, updated data was obtained from the Central Bedfordshire and Luton Historic Environment Record (HER search no: 201819/091). The data indicates that no designated or undesignated heritage assets have been identified within the PDA with the exception of an extant post-medieval farm building which forms part of the post-medieval farm complex of Manor Farm (HER15579). However, the wider area contains a significant quantity of archaeological remains of various dates. This information is presented more fully in the DBHS (*ibid.*), but a review of data recorded within a 500m-radius of the PDA, referred to as the 'study area' is briefly summarised below.

#### 1.3.1 Prehistoric

Stotfold lies in a rich prehistoric landscape, with a known extensive area of settlement on the south side of the village, c.1km south of the PDA.

Three areas of cropmarks are known c.460m to the north (HER 16827) and c.550m to the south (HER 16828 and HER16834) of the PDA. They comprise curvilinear and sub-rectangular cropmarks, suggestive of enclosures and a possible trackway.

An isolated find-spot of a Palaeolithic hand axe (HER14677) was found in a field c.240m to the south-east of the PDA.

#### 1.3.2 Roman (43 BC– c.AD 410)

Roman remains within the vicinity are largely confined to find-spots: a Roman coin (HER18447) was found during metal-detecting in a field c.300m north, and Roman pottery and animal bone (HER11327) were recovered c.500m to the south of the PDA.

The nearest known Roman settlement activity lies c.900m to the north-west of the PDA on Arlesey Road (Albion Archaeology 2016a).

#### 1.3.3 Anglo-Saxon (c.AD 410–1066)

Though a settlement at Stotfold was already in existence at the time of Domesday, little evidence for Anglo-Saxon occupation has been discovered within the study area.

A late Saxon pit HER 20150 that was discovered during archaeological excavation at St Mary's Lower School on Rook Tree Lane, c.370m to the south-west of the PDA (EBD1293), and a silver sceat (HER20178), dated between 730 and 740, was recorded in a field c.150m to the south of the PDA.

#### 1.3.4 Medieval (1066–1550)

The first recorded references to Stotfold occur in an estate charter of c.1007 (Mawer and Stenton 1926) and in Domesday Book of 1086. At the time of Domesday, the population of Stotfold can be estimated at just over 200



(Doggett 1983). Historical maps indicate that Stotfold may have developed from a number of hamlets or ‘ends’: Stotfold Green (HER17161), Stotfold Village (HER17162), including the area around St Mary’s Church (HER1132), and Brook End (HER17163). The church itself is Grade II\* listed (NHLE 1113866) and is thought to have 12th-century origins, but was reworked in the 13th, 14th, 15th and 19th centuries.

The PDA lies on the outside eastern edge of the medieval core of Stotfold Green, as defined by the HER. The HER records for the medieval period within the study area generally refer to find-spots and earthworks.

Earthworks (HER1774), c.260m to the north-east of the PDA, are likely to correspond to the site of Stotfold Newnham Manor, which was abandoned 1551, whilst evidence for medieval open field exist survives as extant ridge and furrow (HER1159) c.300m to the south-east of the PDA. A medieval metal mount (HER18603) and seal matrix (HER18446) were found during metal-detecting in fields c.280–420m to the north of the PDA.

Further earthworks of possible medieval date include a probable house platform (HER759) that was identified, c.250m south of the PDA. This was investigated during archaeological excavations carried out in advance of the construction of a school (EBD910) and pits and an occupation spread of an inner yard were also uncovered. Pottery and other artefacts recovered during the excavations were dated to the late 12th to the 16th centuries. Further archaeological excavations carried out at the school site in 2010 uncovered a 12th-century boundary ditch and pit (EBD1036). Medieval ditches were also uncovered on the same site in 2015 (EBD1293) and were interpreted as boundary ditches.

### **1.3.5 Post-medieval (1550–1900)**

Most of the heritage assets recorded by the HER within the study area date to the post-medieval period. These largely consist of buildings, nine of which are Grade II listed (NHLE 1113868, NHLE 1113870, NHLE 1137294, NHLE 1137317, NHLE 1137360, NHLE 1137376, NHLE 1321750, NHLE 1321752 and NHLE 1431774), and mostly located within the environs of the historic settlements of Stotfold Village (HER 17162) and Stotfold Green (HER 17161). The farm buildings at Manor Farm (HER15579), including a building within the PDA, have also been recorded as heritage assets within the HER.

Other significant post-medieval buildings include a hump-backed bridge (HER14849) known as Ford Bridge, which crosses the River Ivel c.100m to the east of the PDA.

### **1.3.6 Modern (1900–present day)**

Only a small number of modern heritage assets exist within the study area and all refer to buildings or structures. The only designated heritage asset is Stotfold’s war memorial (NHLE 1431774/ HER20231), situated in the cemetery c.360m to the south-east of the PDA.



Modern undesignated assets comprise The 'Old' Baptist Church (HER6361) on The Green, c.180m to the west of the PDA, and a house and bungalow constructed c.1968 (HER12736) adjoining 101 The Green.

### 1.3.7 Previous archaeological investigations

Settlement and funerary evidence dating from the Bronze Age to the early medieval period has been found during investigations in Stotfold. The most extensive investigation areas were to the north (EBD1061) and south of the village (EBD907 and EBD975), but these lie outside the study area.

Within the study area, several small-scale excavations and a trial trench evaluation have uncovered evidence of Anglo-Saxon and medieval activity within the village. Closest to the PDA, 330m to the west, a trial trench evaluation (EBD1279) was carried out on land at the Conservative Club, Regent Street. Despite being within the historic area of Stotfold Green medieval village (HER 17161) only a post-medieval boundary was found.

In 1975 an archaeological excavation of known earthworks was carried out on Rook Tree Lane (EBD910), in advance of the construction of St Mary's Lower School. This uncovered the rear boundary of a probable house site, pits and occupation spreads associated within an inner yard area. Pottery recovered during the excavations was late 12th- to 16th-century in date. A further two excavations (EBD1036 and EBD1293), carried out at the same site, in 2010 and 2015, uncovered a 12th-century boundary ditch and pit, three probable medieval boundary ditches and a late Saxon pit. The quantity of pottery recovered from the late Saxon pit suggested that it lay close to an area of settlement. All of this activity lay within the medieval settlement of Stotfold village (HER 17162), c.165m north of the medieval parish church of St Mary's (NHLE 1113866/HER 1132).

### 1.4 Project Objectives

The principal purpose of the archaeological field 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.

This information will be used by the CBCAO to evaluate the significance of the potential impact of the proposed development on any archaeological remains that might survive within the site.

The significance of archaeological remains uncovered during the evaluation has been assessed in the report against the published research frameworks for the region. The relevant documents for the region are provided by *Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties* (Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, Hertfordshire and Essex) (Brown and Glazebrook



2000) and *Research and Archaeology Revisited: A Revised Framework for the East of England* (Medlycott 2011).

In addition to these regionally focussed documents, work has also specifically been done on the county of Bedfordshire: *Bedfordshire Archaeology. Research and Archaeology: Resource Assessment, Research Agenda and Strategy* (Oake et al 2007).



## 2. METHODOLOGY

The methodological approach to the project is summarised below; a full methodology is provided in the WSI (Albion Archaeology 2018).

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

• Albion Archaeology	<i>Procedures Manual: Volume 1 Fieldwork</i> (3rd edn, 2017).
• ALGAO (East)	<i>Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England</i> (Gurney 2003)
• Bedford Borough Council	<i>Preparing Archaeological Archives for Deposition in Registered Museums in Bedford</i> (ver. 2.8, 2010)
• CIjA	<i>Charter and by-law; Code of conduct</i> (2014)
	<i>Standard and guidance for archaeological evaluation</i> (2014)
	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i> (2014)
• Historic England	<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)

The trial trenching took place between 20th and 22nd August 2018. Six trenches, measuring between 12m and 31m long by 2m wide, were opened to give even spatial coverage of the PDA (Figure 1). The locations of Trenches 2–5 had to be altered to avoid overgrown vegetation or heaps of modern debris containing asbestos sheets. Trench 1 was repositioned and split into two trenches (Trenches 1 and 6) in order to avoid machining through a known buried service and an existing driveway.

The trenches were opened 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. In addition, a machine-dug sondage was excavated in Trench 6 to test variation in the geological stratum in that area (Figures 3 and 7).

An appropriate sample and percentage of the revealed archaeological features was investigated. The investigation strategy was agreed with the CBCAO, who visited the site on two occasions to monitor the works prior to backfilling of the trenches.

All excavation and recording was carried out by experienced Albion staff. The bases and sides of the trenches were cleaned by hand. Any potential





archaeological features were cleaned, investigated by hand and recorded using Albion Archaeology's *pro forma* sheets. All features and deposits were assigned a unique context number commencing at 100 for Trench 1, 200 for Trench 2 *etc.* Each trench was subsequently drawn and photographed as appropriate.

The project archive will be deposited at The Higgins Art Gallery & Museum, Bedford (accession no.: BEDFM 2018.47). Details of the project and its findings will be submitted to the OASIS database (reference no.: albionar1-323091) in accordance with the guidelines issued by Historic England and the Archaeology Data Service.



### 3. RESULTS OF TRIAL TRENCHING

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#### 3.1 Introduction

All significant deposits and features found within the trial trenches are summarised below and shown on Figures 2–7. Context numbers in square brackets refer to cuts [\*\*\*] and round brackets to fills or layers (\*\*\*). Artefactual information is provided in this section, whilst details of all observed deposits and archaeological features are contained in Appendix 1.

Archaeological features were identified in all trenches; however, Trenches 1 and 6 revealed remains solely of late post-medieval and/or modern date.

The revealed sub-surface remains are discussed chronologically from earliest to latest. The chronological divisions are principally based on a combination of artefact dating and stratigraphy.

#### 3.2 Overburden and Geological Deposits

In the majority of the trenches the overburden predominantly consisted of topsoil and subsoil. The topsoil was generally 0.25–0.41m thick and consisted of dark brown-grey sandy silt with occasional amounts of chalk and a moderate amount of stone inclusions. The subsoil comprised mid orange-brown and brown-grey to grey-brown deposits of sandy silt and clayey silt; it was 0.24–0.32m thick.

In Trench 2 the overburden was sealed beneath a 0.19m-thick external surface (200) that comprised a dark grey-black sandy gravel deposit. At the south end of Trench 4 another layer of topsoil (400) had been deliberately placed on top of the original topsoil (401) to create a bank along the south edge of the site. In Trenches 1 and 6 — within the farm yard in the west of the PDA — neither topsoil nor subsoil was recorded. Instead, modern dumped material (602) and levelling deposits (101) and (601) were sealed by a thin layer of turf (100 / 600).

The combined depth of overburden in Trenches 1 and 6 was generally 0.28–0.36m, whilst in the remainder of trenches it ranged from 0.47–0.62m. The majority of archaeological features were sealed by the overburden; the exceptions were animal burial [204] and pit [503] — which cut the subsoil — as well as a number of post- and stake-holes that cut levelling layer (601).

Undisturbed geological strata in Trenches 2–5 were in the form of chalk with patches of yellow gravelly sand. Deposits of mid-orange gravelly silty sand and light blue-grey clay (with pockets of gravelly silty sand) were recorded in Trenches 1 and 6 respectively.

#### 3.3 Possible Medieval Ditch

A steep-sided, NNW-SSE aligned ditch [303] in Trench 3 was 1.15m wide by 0.58m deep (Figures 4 and 6). Its fill comprised four naturally accumulated deposits, the uppermost of which produced several indeterminate animal limb bone and vertebrae fragments (64g) and two abraded body sherds (6g) of 12–



13th-century pottery (fabric B14<sup>2</sup>). Given the abraded condition of the pottery, the sherds may well be residual items in a ditch that could equally be of considerably later date.

### **3.4 Late Post-medieval / Modern Remains**

A number of remains revealed during trenching works can be dated to the late post-medieval period.

Elongated sub-rectangular pit [208] was recorded in Trench 2. It was 3.85m long on a NE–SW axis and had a near vertical-sided profile that was in excess of 0.97m wide by up to 0.58m deep (Figures 4 and 5). Its only fill yielded 236g of animal bone, a single piece of sand-tempered flat roof tile (349g, which could date from the late medieval period to the present day) and an abraded body sherd (6g) of early medieval pottery (fabric C59A); the latter is considered residual in this context.

Large pit [310] was revealed in the western half of Trench 3 (Figure 4). It was in excess of 17m long by at least 0.55m deep and was infilled by a series of deliberately dumped deposits, which may indicate that it was a pond or quarry. Fill (314) produced a fragment of gault clay ceramic land drain (86g – not retained) and the uppermost fill (315) yielded a modern stoneware bottle rim sherd (9g – not retained), which suggests the feature was backfilled in the late post-medieval/modern period.

An animal burial pit [204] in Trench 2 contained the articulated skeletons (9.9kg – not retained) of a pig (206) laid on top of a cow (205). The pit was 2.65m long, at least 0.83m wide and up to 0.71m deep (Figures 4 and 5). A roof tile fragment (129g), similar to that from pit [208], was recovered from backfill (207). This, and the fact that the pit was cut from top of the subsoil indicates a late post-medieval or modern date for the remains.

Sub-rectangular pit [503] was investigated in Trench 5. It was 0.9m wide by up to 0.78m deep and greater than 1.2m long (Figures 4 and 7). It had a near-vertical profile. Its only fill (504) contained the partial remains of a horse (7.2kg – not retained). Bone elements comprise limb and foot bones, pelvis and vertebrae fragments. The pit produced no dating evidence; however, it was cut from top of the subsoil, indicating a late post-medieval or modern date for the remains. None of the bone from these animal burials was butchered; they are likely to be the remains of farm animals that were buried on site.

Foundation trenches [105] and [614] (Figure 3), uncovered in Trenches 1 and 6 respectively, seem to correspond approximately to barns and farmyard enclosures depicted on 19th- and 20th-century maps (Albion Archaeology 2016, figs 4–8). However, these maps are not sufficiently accurate to allow exact correlation with the features in the trenches. Historical aerial photographs available on online maps (Google Earth Pro) suggest the barns were demolished at some time between 2005 and 2008.

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<sup>2</sup> Fabric types defined in accordance with the Bedfordshire Ceramic Type Series



Pits [103] and [107] in Trench 1 were backfilled with late post-medieval debris and stake- and post-holes [604] to [612] in Trench 6 contained timber post fragments. Therefore, they are considered to be contemporary with the barns and associated with activities in the Manor Farm yard.

Sub-oval tree-throw [404] in Trench 4 (Figure 6) produced a single sherd of a gault clay land drain pipe (54g – not retained).

### **3.5 Undated Archaeological Features**

An E–W aligned ditch [213] in the south-west corner of Trench 2 and a NE–SW ditch [408] in Trench 4 were between 0.55–0.97m wide by 0.23–0.37m deep. They had U- and V-shaped profiles respectively (Figures 4 and 6). Each was filled by a single naturally accumulated deposit.

Ditch [408] was truncated by undated sub-oval pit [406], which had a U-shaped profile and was 1.0m+ long by 0.85m wide and up to 0.12m deep.

Sub-circular pits [308] in Trench 3 and [505] in Trench 5 were 0.87m and 1.2m in diameter and 0.3–0.33m deep. They had similar gradual concave profiles (Figures 4 and 7) and were filled with derived from natural silting.

A small portion of a possible pit [210] was revealed in Trench 2. It was in excess of 0.55m long by at least 0.2m deep and was truncated by post-medieval pit [208].

Although essentially undated, the above remains are thought to be of post-medieval date or earlier, because they were sealed beneath the subsoil. The lack of artefacts suggests that these features were not close to any focus of settlement.



## 4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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### 4.1 Introduction

This section summarises information on heritage assets within the PDA in relation to the findings of the trial-trench evaluation. More detailed information on heritage assets within the 500m-radius study area is contained in the DBHS (Albion Archaeology 2016b).

### 4.2 Designated Heritage Assets

There are no designated assets on the PDA, but the DBHS identified seven Grade II listed buildings within the study area (*ibid*, Section 3) and their setting is considered in Section 5 of that document.

### 4.3 Undesignated Heritage Assets within the PDA

The three extant historic buildings (two barns and a cart shed) were examined and their significance assessed in the DBHS (*ibid*, Section 4). The cart shed has been seriously damaged by fire since the DBHS was compiled.

The trial-trench evaluation has demonstrated that the PDA contains archaeological remains dating to the late post-medieval period and possibly earlier.

Despite the fact that the PDA lies immediately to the east of a medieval heritage asset (Stotfold Green, HER17161), the trenching did not reveal any features that could be securely dated to the medieval period. Ditch [303] in Trench 3 contained a very small amount of medieval pottery, but the abraded condition of the sherds suggests they were residual artefacts in a later feature. A residual early medieval pottery sherd was also recovered from an elongated post-medieval pit [208] in Trench 2. This sparse evidence suggests a very low level of peripheral activity on the eastern outskirts of the medieval green.

Late post-medieval sub-surface heritage assets comprised a number of pits, including animal burials and a possible pond or quarry pit. Foundation trenches in Trenches 1 and 6 lie in proximity to post-medieval farm buildings and enclosure walls demolished between 2005 and 2008. Generally, remains dating to this period are thought to be closely associated with activities within the Manor Farm complex.

Like the majority of the dated features, the undated ditches and pits are likely to be post-medieval in date. The absence of dating evidence indicates that they lie some distance from any former focus of settlement.

### 4.4 Assessment of Significance

The criteria for assessing significance are listed in Appendix 2.

#### 4.4.1 Prehistoric archaeological heritage assets

No archaeological heritage assets or artefacts dated to the prehistoric period were revealed by the trial trenching.



#### **4.4.2 Roman archaeological heritage assets**

No Roman archaeological heritage assets or artefacts were revealed by the trial trenching.

#### **4.4.3 Possible medieval archaeological heritage assets**

A possible early medieval ditch was revealed in Trench 3 and a residual pottery sherd was recovered from a post-medieval pit in Trench 2. The paucity of the early medieval artefactual evidence indicates the remains are likely to represent peripheral activity some distance away from the Stotfold Green settlement focus. They have very limited potential to add to our knowledge about the development of Stotfold (Oake 2007, 14; Medlycott 2011, 70).

The possible early medieval ditch within the PDA is considered to be of no more than *low* significance.

#### **4.4.4 Late post-medieval / modern archaeological heritage assets**

The late post-medieval / modern archaeological heritage assets revealed by the trial trenching are probably associated with activities related to Manor Farm. Some correspond with cartographic evidence dating from the early 19th century onwards. None of these heritage assets can be dated to the earlier post-medieval period.

The late post-medieval / modern remains within the PDA are considered to be of *negligible* to *low* significance, with no potential to address regional research priorities.

#### **4.4.5 Undated archaeological heritage assets**

In the absence of any other dating evidence, the undated archaeological remains within the PDA are likely to be associated with the other late post-medieval features. This would make them of *negligible* to *low* significance, with no potential to address regional research priorities.

Even if their origin is earlier, the lack of artefacts means they cannot be dated and nor can their function be determined with any certainty. They would still be of *negligible* to *low* significance, with no potential to address regional research priorities.

## 5. REVISED IMPACT ASSESSMENT

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### 5.1 *Impacts on Archaeological Heritage Assets*

The trial trenching revealed archaeological heritage assets, comprising: sparse, possibly early medieval remains of *low* significance; and several late post-medieval / modern and undated features of *negligible* to *low* significance. These heritage assets could be adversely affected by the development of the site. If required by the LPA, archaeological mitigation works could be undertaken prior to or during development in order to preserve by record any significant archaeological assets that would otherwise be destroyed.

### 5.2 *Impacts on Built Heritage Assets*

The farm buildings on the PDA are not listed. However, the DBHS for the proposed development (Albion Archaeology 2016b, section 4) concluded that the buildings should be regarded as heritage assets with some significance in terms of their heritage values, including the fire-damaged cart shed.

The DBHS (*ibid*, section 6.3) states that any development plans should consider the significance of the buildings and potential loss of significance resulting from any development impacts. Mitigation works in the form of detailed historic building recording could be undertaken to form an archive record of the buildings prior to development.

### 5.3 *Impacts on Setting of Heritage Assets*

As stated in the DBHS (*ibid*, section 5), three Grade II listed buildings are located to the north of the PDA around the green and others are located towards the southern edge of the study area in the historic village centre. The impact of development on the setting of these designated heritage assets would be *negligible*. The listed buildings are surrounded by modern development and the PDA is not visible from them.

### 5.4 *Summary*

The following table summarises the significance of heritage assets and of potential development impacts in the light of the results of the trial trenching.

Type of heritage asset	Potential for finding asset	Importance of asset	Impact of development	Significance of impact (before mitigation)
<b><i>Sub-surface archaeological remains</i></b>				
Prehistoric (before AD 43)	Negligible	Uncertain	No change to moderate harm	Insignificant
Roman (AD 43–410)	Negligible	Uncertain	No change to moderate harm	Insignificant
Anglo-Saxon to medieval (410–1550)	Low	Low	No change to moderate harm	Insignificant to slightly significant
Post-medieval (1550 to 1900)	High	Negligible to low	No change to moderate harm	Insignificant
Modern (1900 to present)	High	Negligible	No change to moderate harm	Insignificant
<b><i>Built heritage</i></b>				
Post-medieval to modern farm buildings (1550 to present)	Extant	Low to moderate	Slight to moderate	Slightly significant to significant
<b><i>Setting of designated heritage assets</i></b>				
Three Grade II listed buildings	—	—	Negligible	Neutral

**Table 1:** Heritage assets and significance

\*Note: In Table 1 the data in the potential and significance columns is derived from Section 8.1.1, whilst the criteria for the impact column are defined in the impact table in Section 8.1.2 and the significance of the impact is calculated using the significance of effects matrix in Section 8.1.3 in Appendix 2.



## 6. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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## 7. APPENDIX 1 – TRENCH SUMMARIES

**Trench: 1**

**Max Dimensions:** Length: 12.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.28 m. Max: 0.34 m.

**Co-ordinates:** OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 22027; Northing: 37281)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 22038; Northing: 37276)

**Reason:** To assess archaeological potential.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
100	Turf line	Friable dark brown grey sandy silt moderate small-large CBM, occasional small-large stones Up to 0.12m thick layer.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
101	Levelling layer	Hard mid grey silty sand frequent small-large CBM, moderate small-large stones Between 0.16 - 0.22m thick deposit. It seals all features within trench.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
102	Natural	Firm mid orange silty sand moderate small-medium stones, occasional large stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
103	Pit	Sub-circular dimensions: max diameter 1.25m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
104	Backfill	Hard mid grey silty sand frequent small-large CBM, occasional small-large stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
105	Foundation trench	Linear NE-SW dimensions: max breadth 1.m, min length 2.m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
106	Foundation	Hard red brick rubble with light grey-white mortar.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
107	Pit	Sub-circular dimensions: max diameter 0.7m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
108	Backfill	Friable mid grey silty sand occasional small-large CBM, occasional small-medium stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Trench: 2**

**Max Dimensions:** Length: 20.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.59 m. Max: 0.62 m.

**Co-ordinates:** OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 22056; Northing: 37310)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 22075; Northing: 37317)

**Reason:** To assess archaeological potential.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
200	External surface	Firm dark grey black sandy gravel moderate small-large CBM Up to 0.19m thick deposit.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
201	Buried topsoil	Friable dark brown grey sandy silt moderate small-large CBM, occasional flecks chalk, moderate small-large stones Up to 0.26m thick deposit.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
202	Buried subsoil	Firm mid orange brown clay silt occasional small-medium stones Up to 0.32m thick deposit.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
203	Natural	Firm light grey white chalk occasional small-large stones With patches of light yellow gravelly sand.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
204	Animal grave	Sub-oval NE-SW sides: steep base; uneven dimensions: min breadth 0.83m, max depth 0.71m, max length 2.65m It cuts subsoil (202).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
205	Animal skeleton	A large mammal burial underneath another animal burial AS (206). Placed on a NE-SW axis with the skull beyond the confines of trench but likely towards the SW. Skeleton not retained.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
206	Animal skeleton	Skeleton of a domestic animal placed on top of animal skeleton (205); on a NE-SW axis with the skull towards the NE and largely beyond the limit of trench. Skeleton not retained.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
207	Backfill	Firm mid grey brown clay silt moderate small-medium chalk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
208	Pit	Sub-rectangular NE-SW sides: near vertical base: flat dimensions: min breadth 0.97m, max depth 0.58m, max length 3.85m It truncates pit [210].	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
209	Fill	Friable mid grey brown clay silt occasional flecks chalk, moderate small-large stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
210	Pit	Sub-oval sides: concave dimensions: min breadth 0.08m, min depth 0.2m, min length 0.55m Truncated by pit [208]. Only a small portion of the feature revealed within the trench.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
211	Lower fill	Friable mid orange brown silty sand occasional small-medium stones At least 0.14m thick deposit.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
212	Upper fill	Friable mid brown sandy silt occasional small-medium stones Up to 0.07m thick deposit.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
213	Ditch	Linear E-W sides: U-shaped base: flat dimensions: min breadth 0.97m, max depth 0.23m, min length 2.55m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
214	Fill	Friable mid orange brown silty sand occasional small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Trench: 3

Max Dimensions: Length: 31.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.5 m. Max: 0.56 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 22096: Northing: 37289)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 22067: Northing: 37279)

Reason: To assess archaeological potential.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
300	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey sandy silt moderate small-large CBM, occasional small chalk, moderate small-large stones Between 0.28 - 0.32m thick deposit.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
301	Subsoil	Friable mid grey brown clay silt occasional small-large CBM, occasional small chalk, moderate small-medium stones, occasional large stones Up to 0.26m thick deposit.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
302	Natural	Firm light grey white chalk occasional small-large stones With patches of light yellow gravelly sand.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
303	Ditch	Linear NNW-SSE sides: steep base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.15m, max depth 0.58m, min length 2.m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
304	Primary fill	Friable mid grey sandy silt moderate small chalk, moderate small-large stones Up to 0.13m thick deposit.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
305	Secondary fill	Friable light grey chalky silt occasional small-medium stones Up to 0.21m thick deposit.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
306	Fill	Friable mid grey orange sandy silt occasional small chalk, occasional small-medium stones Up to 0.31m thick deposit of slumped natural from the west.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
307	Upper fill	Friable mid brown grey sandy silt occasional flecks chalk, moderate small-medium stones Up to 0.31m thick deposit.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
308	Pit	Sub-circular sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.3m, max diameter 0.87m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
309	Fill	Friable mid brown grey sandy silt moderate small chalk, moderate small-medium stones, occasional large stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
310	Pit	sides: concave dimensions: min breadth 2.m, min depth 0.55m, min length 17.m Possible quarry pit or backfilled pond.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
311	Lower fill	Friable light grey orange silty sand occasional small chalk, occasional large stones, occasional small-medium stones First visible fill. At least 0.10m thick deposit.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
312	Backfill	Friable dark grey clay silt occasional small-large CBM, occasional flecks chalk, occasional small-large stones With patches of ash. Up to 0.15m thick deposit. CBM not retained	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
313	Backfill	Friable light grey silty chalk moderate small-medium stones, occasional large stones Up to 0.10m thick deposit.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
314	Backfill	Friable dark grey clay silt occasional small-large CBM, occasional flecks chalk, occasional small-large stones Up to 0.10m thick deposit. CBM not retained.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
315	Upper fill	Friable mid grey orange clay silt occasional small-large CBM, occasional flecks chalk, occasional small-medium stones Up to 0.31m thick deposit. CBM not retained.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**Trench: 4**

**Max Dimensions:** Length: 30.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.47 m. Max: 0.58 m.

**Co-ordinates:** OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 22105; Northing: 37284)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 22102; Northing: 37314)

**Reason:** To assess archaeological potential.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
400	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey sandy silt moderate small-large CBM, moderate small-medium stones Up to 0.15m thick deposit. Recorded only at the S end of trench - deliberately placed on top of topsoil (401) to create a bank along the southern edge of site.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
401	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey sandy silt occasional small-large CBM, occasional small-large stones Up to 0.25m thick deposit.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
402	Subsoil	Firm mid brown grey sandy silt occasional small-medium stones Up to 0.24m thick deposit.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
403	Natural	Firm light grey white clay chalk occasional small-large stones With patches of light yellow gravelly sand.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
404	Treethrow	Sub-oval sides: concave base: uneven dimensions: max breadth 0.5m, max depth 0.03m, min length 0.52m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
405	Fill	Friable dark grey brown clay silt occasional small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
406	Pit	Sub-oval NE-SW sides: U-shaped base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.85m, max depth 0.12m, min length 1.1m It truncates ditch [408].	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
407	Fill	Friable dark brown grey sandy silt occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
408	Ditch	Linear NE-SW sides: V-shaped base: concave dimensions: min breadth 0.55m, max depth 0.37m, min length 2.1m Truncated by pit [406].	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
409	Fill	Firm mid grey brown sandy silt occasional small-medium stones With lenses of natural chalk.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Trench: 5**

**Max Dimensions:** Length: 20.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.52 m. Max: 0.6 m.

**Co-ordinates:** OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 22115; Northing: 37327)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 22095; Northing: 37324)

**Reason:** To assess archaeological potential.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
500	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey sandy silt moderate small-large CBM, occasional small chalk, moderate small-large stones Between 0.28-0.41m thick deposit.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
501	Subsoil	Friable mid grey brown clay silt occasional small-large CBM, occasional small chalk, moderate small-medium stones, occasional large stones Between 0.24 - 0.30m thick deposit.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
502	Natural	Firm light grey white chalk occasional small-large stones With patches of light yellow gravelly sand.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
503	Pit	Sub-rectangular NW-SE sides: near vertical base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.9m, max depth 0.78m, min length 1.2m It cuts subsoil (501).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
504	Backfill	Friable mid grey sandy silt moderate flecks chalk, occasional small-large stones Contained partial skeleton of a horse - not retained.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
505	Pit	Sub-circular sides: 45 degrees base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.33m, max diameter 1.2m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
506	Lower fill	Friable light grey chalky silt occasional small-medium stones Up to 0.13m thick deposit: formed via bioturbation and weathering.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
507	Upper fill	Friable mid grey brown clay silt occasional small chalk, occasional small-medium stones Up to 0.23m thick deposit.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Trench: 6

Max Dimensions: Length: 13.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.36 m. Max: 0.54 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 22034; Northing: 37263)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 22042; Northing: 37253)

Reason: To assess archaeological potential.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds Present:	
600	Turf line	Friable dark brown grey sandy silt moderate small-large CBM, occasional small-large stones Up to 0.18m thick deposit.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
601	Levelling layer	Firm mid brown orange silty sand occasional small-large CBM, occasional small-large stones Between 0.12 - 0.24m thick deposit. CBM not retained.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
602	Dump material	Hard mid brown grey silty sand frequent small-large CBM, frequent small-large stones Between 0.06 - 0.12m thick deposit. It seals foundation trench [614]. CBM not retained.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
603	Natural	Firm light blue grey clay moderate small-large stones With mid orange silty sand with a moderate amount of small to medium stone inclusions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
604	Stakehole	Sub-square sides; vertical dimensions: max breadth 0.15m, max length 0.15m It cuts layer (601).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
605	Timber	Modern timber stake.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
606	Stakehole	Sub-square sides; vertical dimensions: max breadth 0.15m, max length 0.15m It cuts layer (601).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
607	Timber	Modern timber stake.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
608	Posthole	Sub-circular sides; vertical dimensions: max diameter 0.3m It cuts layer (601).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
609	Timber	Modern timber post.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
610	Posthole	Sub-circular sides; vertical dimensions: max diameter 0.3m It cuts layer (601).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
611	Timber	Modern timber post.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
612	Posthole	Sub-rectangular sides; vertical dimensions: max breadth 0.2m, max length 0.35m It cuts layer (601).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
613	Timber	Modern timber post.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
614	Foundation trench	Linear ENE-WSW sides: steep dimensions: max breadth 1.25m, min length 2.m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
615	Foundation	Hard mid brown grey silty sand frequent medium-large CBM, frequent small-large stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## 8. APPENDIX 2 – HERITAGE ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

### 8.1.1 Criteria for assessing the importance of heritage assets

Importance of Asset	Designation of Assets	Definition of Importance
<i>Very High</i>	World Heritage Sites	Places of international importance due to its 'outstanding universal value'
<i>High</i>	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 demonstrably have no archaeological, historical or cultural importance – usually backed up field evaluation – that there is no possibility that anything of significance exists or where any potential surviving remains have no value within the context of the current study.
<i>Uncertain</i>	Undesignated	Sites where there is evidence that a heritage asset may exist, but where there is insufficient information to determine its nature, extent and degree of survival given current knowledge (e.g. cropmarks untested by fieldwork or random finds spots).

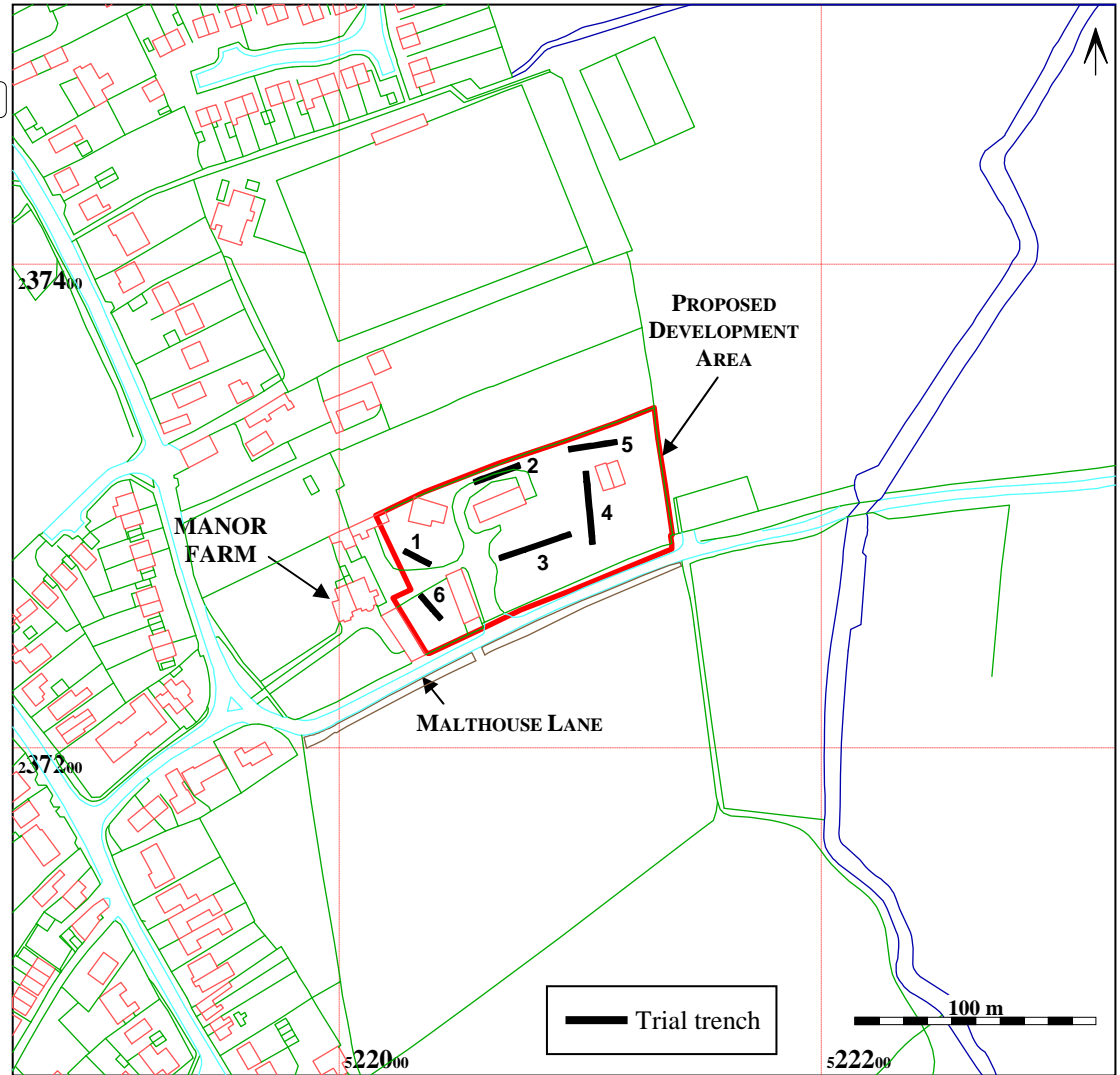
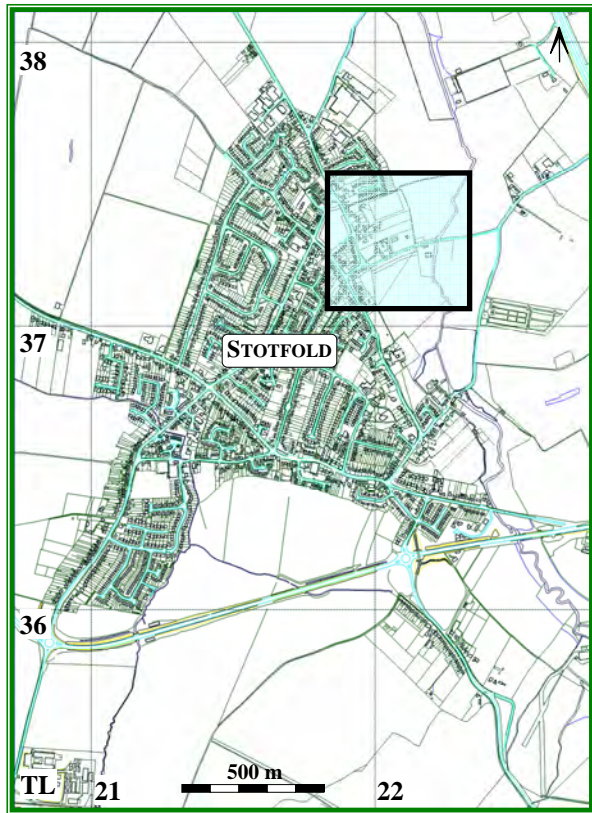
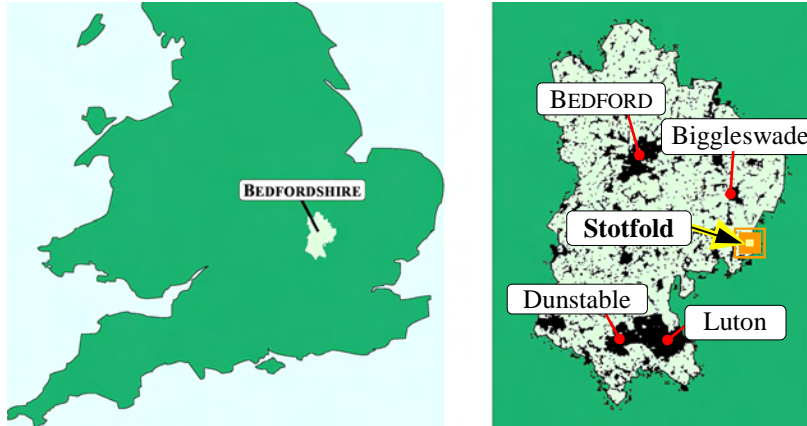
### 8.1.2 Criteria for assessing the magnitude of development impact on assets

Magnitude of Impact on asset	Effect of Impact
<i>Substantial Harm</i>	Causes total destruction of or permanent change to most key elements of the asset that results in major loss of integrity and reduction in significance. Substantial change to the setting of the asset. Any such change would almost certainly result in total loss of significance of the asset and would not normally be reversible.
<i>Moderate Harm</i>	Either: causes permanent change to or loss of many key elements of the asset that lead to a moderate loss of its overall integrity and reduction in significance. Moderate change to the setting of the asset. Or: temporarily causes major loss of integrity and significance, e.g. through restricting accessibility and visibility, or by altering its setting.
<i>Slight Harm</i>	Either: causes permanent change to some key or peripheral elements of the asset, or changes to the setting of the asset, that lead to a slight loss of its overall integrity or significance. Or: temporarily causes moderate loss of integrity and significance, e.g. through restricting accessibility and visibility, or by altering its setting.
<i>No change</i>	No appreciable change to the asset or its setting.
<i>Slight Benefit</i>	Either: delivers some improvement to the asset that does not increase its overall integrity or significance. Or: arrests an existing process of adverse change.
<i>Moderate Benefit</i>	Either: causes long-term improvement of the asset, involving some increase in its integrity or significance. Or: reverses an existing process of adverse change.
<i>Substantial Benefit</i>	Causes major benefit to the asset that increases its integrity and significance. Such change would almost certainly increase the significance of the asset.

### 8.1.3 Significance of effects matrix

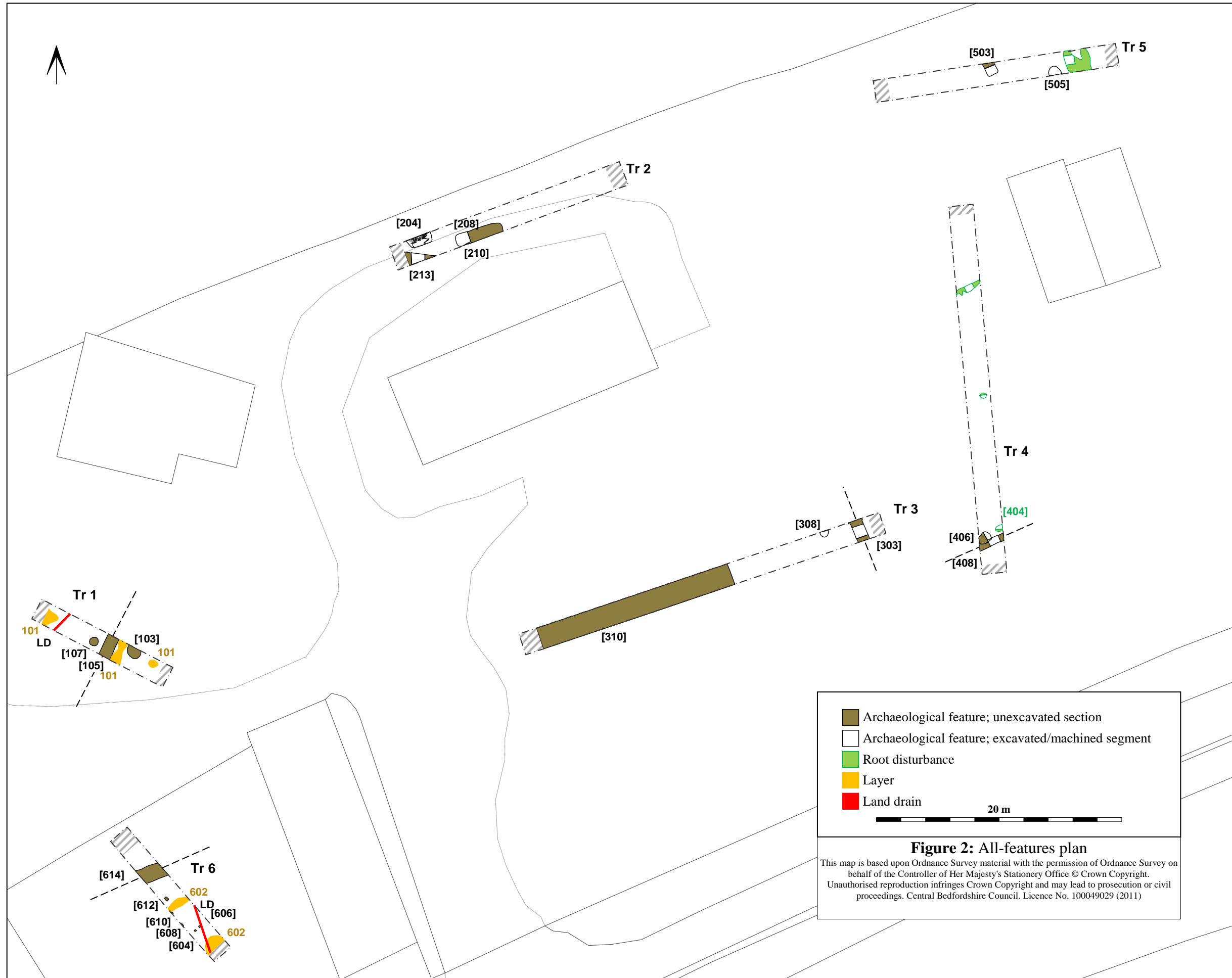
<b>Importance of asset</b>	<b>High</b>	<i>Insignificant</i>	<i>Significant</i>	<i>Highly Significant*</i>	<i>Very Highly Significant**</i>
	<b>Moderate</b>	<i>Insignificant</i>	<i>Moderately Significant</i>	<i>Significant</i>	<i>Highly Significant*</i>
	<b>Low</b>	<i>Insignificant</i>	<i>Slightly Significant</i>	<i>Moderately Significant</i>	<i>Significant</i>
	<b>Negligible</b>	<i>Insignificant</i>	<i>Insignificant</i>	<i>Insignificant</i>	<i>Slightly Significant</i>
	<b>Uncertain</b>	<i>Unknown (Insignificant?)</i>	<i>Unknown (Significant?)</i>	<i>Unknown (Highly Significant?)</i>	<i>Unk. (V. Highly Significant?)</i>
	<b>No Change</b>	<b>Slight Harm</b>	<b>Moderate Harm</b>	<b>Substantial Harm</b>	
	<b><i>Magnitude of impact (on the asset or its setting)</i></b>				
<p>* <b>Highly significant</b> impacts will require ‘<i>exceptional</i>’ development justification</p> <p>** <b>Very highly significant</b> impacts will require ‘<i>wholly exceptional</i>’ development justification</p> <p>Otherwise, judgements should be balanced with regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the importance of the heritage asset</p>					



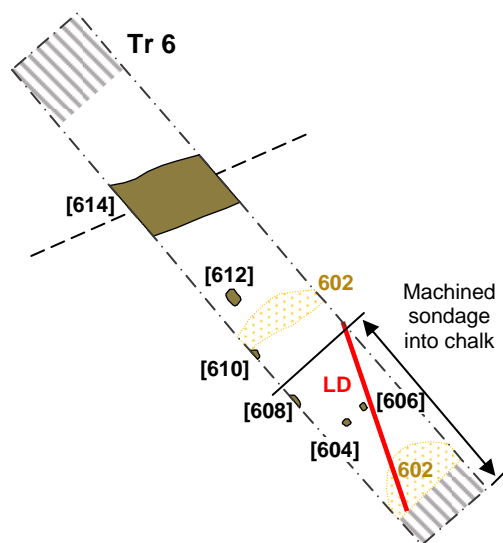
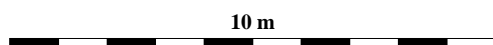
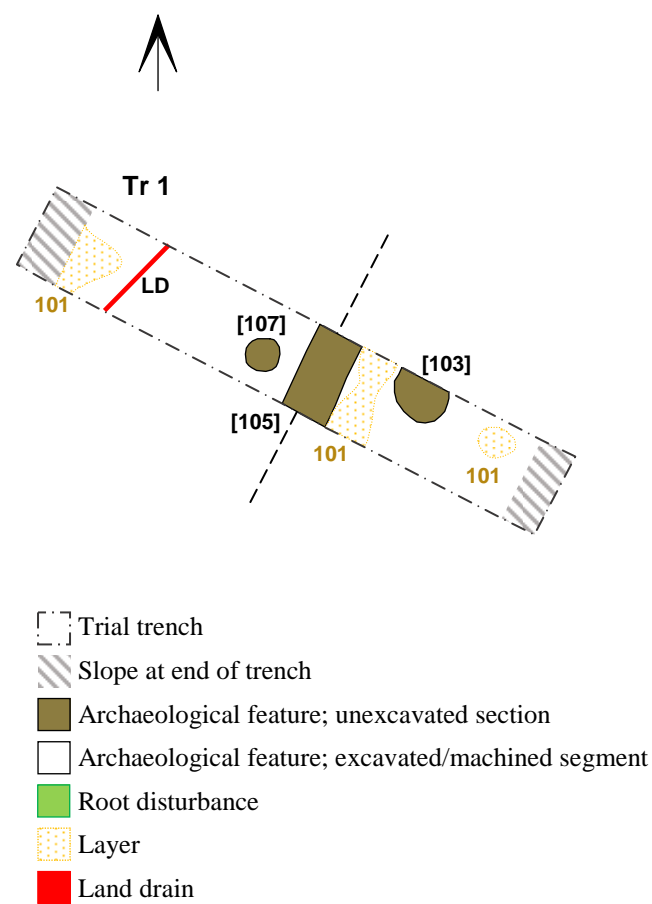


**Figure 1: Site location plan**

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**Figure 2: All-features plan**  
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Trench 1, looking NW (scale 1m)



Trench 1, looking SE (scale 1m)



Trench 6, looking NW (scale 1m)



Trench 6, looking SE (scale 1m)

**Figure 3:** Trenches 1 and 6

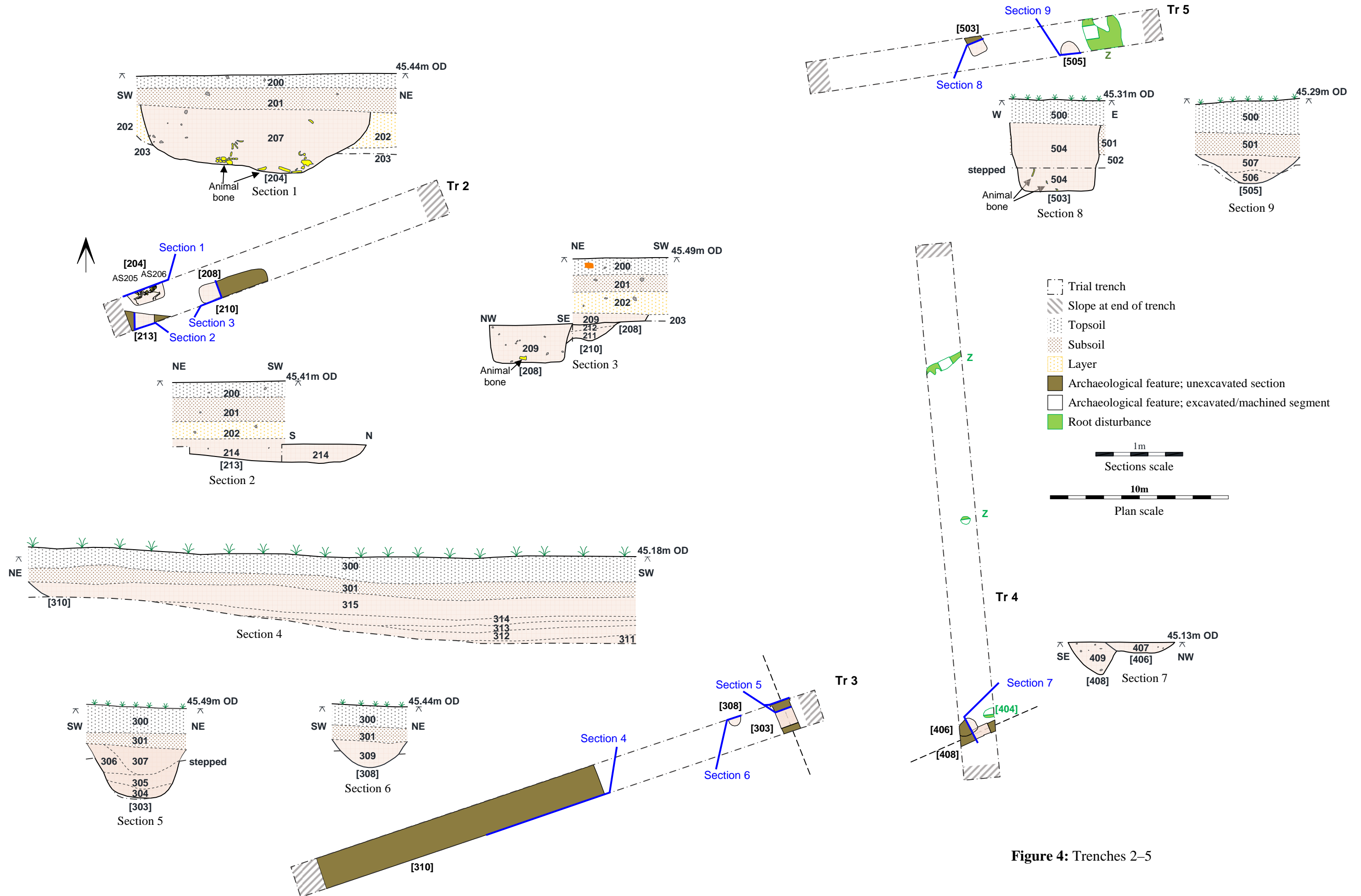


Figure 4: Trenches 2-5



**Trench 2:** Post-excitation view of trench, looking NE (scale 1m)



**Trench 2:** Pits [208] and [210], looking NE (scale 1m)



**Trench 2:** Animal burial pit [204], looking NW (scale 1m)



**Trench 2:** Pits [208] and [210], looking SE (scale 1m)

**Figure 5:** Selected images – Trench 2



**Trench 2:** Ditch [213], looking SE  
(scale 1m)



**Trench 3:** Ditch [303], looking NNW  
(scale 1m)



**Trench 4:** Tree-throw [404], looking south  
(scale 40cm)



**Trench 4:** Pit [406] and ditch [408], looking SW  
(scale 1m)

**Figure 6:** Selected images: Trenches 2–4



**Trench 5:** Pit [503], looking NW  
(scale 1m)



**Trench 5:** Pit [505], looking south  
(scale 1m)



**Trench 6:** Sondage through chalk geology, looking SW  
(scale 1m)

**Figure 7:** Selected images: Trenches 5–6



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