

**4-6 UNION STREET
NEWPORT PAGNELL
MILTON KEYNES**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
FIELD EVALUATION**

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Town / Parish	Newport Pagnell
Address	4-6 Union St.
National Grid Reference	SP 8767 4400
Planning application no.	PS/537/2/A/C1839
Event no.	1151
Museum accession no.	AYBCM:2007/89
Client	Ark Development, 28a High Street, Newport Pagnell, MK16 8AQ
Project no.	US1316
Date fieldwork commenced	22nd October 2007
Date fieldwork completed	31st October 2007



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Preface

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

The project was commissioned on behalf of Ark Development by Dr Isabel Lisboa of Archaeologica Ltd and was monitored by Nick Crank, Archaeological Officer for Milton Keynes Council, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority.

Fieldwork for this project was undertaken by Adam Lodoen (Archaeological Supervisor), Jerry Stone (Assistant Supervisor) and George Demetri (Archaeological Technician). This report has been prepared by Adam Lodoen and David Ingham (Project Officer), with contributions from Jackie Wells (Finds Officer) and Joan Lighting (CAD Technician). The report was edited by Robert Wardill (Project Manager). All Albion projects are under the overall management of Drew Shotliff (Operations Manager).

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Structure of this Report

Section 1 serves as an introduction to the site, describing its location and archaeological background and the aims of the project. Section 2 describes the trial trenching methodology and Section 3 summarises the results. Section 4 provides a synthesis of the results and assesses their significance. Section 5 is a bibliography.

Appendix 1 contains trench summary information and detailed contextual data, while Appendix 2 is an artefact summary.

Key Terms

Throughout this document the following terms or abbreviations are used:

MKAO Milton Keynes Council's Archaeological Officer
IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists



Non-Technical Summary

Planning permission has been granted by Milton Keynes Council for the construction of a new dwelling block and area of hardstanding at 4–6 Union Street, Newport Pagnell. A condition was attached to the planning permission requiring an archaeological evaluation, in order to establish the archaeological significance of the development area and to provide for the recording of remains unavoidably affected during development.

Milton Keynes Council's Archaeological Officer issued a brief for the required programme of archaeological investigation, in response to which a written specification for the evaluation was prepared. Albion Archaeology was commissioned on 17th October 2007 to undertake the evaluation of the site and prepare a report (this document) on the results.

The site comprises a section of two burgage plots to the north of the High Street and to the south of Union Street. The area of the proposed development is c. 78m², centred on NGR SP 8767 4400. Prior to evaluation, the area was laid to a mixture of tarmac, hardcore, and concrete slab, containing a 20th-century brick-built workshop and garage block. The underlying geology comprises Oxford Clay.

The site is situated in the medieval core of Newport Pagnell, within the area suggested to have been occupied by the Saxon burgh. The High Street frontage to the site (Nos 38–42) comprises two 17th-century buildings. A (clearly earlier) building occupies the approximate location of the former workshop unit on the 1880 to 1925 Ordnance Survey 25" map sheets, with a greenhouse apparently attached to its southern side.

Archaeological investigations in the vicinity have revealed limited evidence of Saxon, medieval and post-medieval activity. A watching brief conducted to the rear of 40–42 High Street in 2001, just 30m to the south of the proposed development, revealed over 0.8m of stratigraphy, including a 13th–14th century cesspit and evidence for 14th–15th century ironworking and later stone foundations.

The evaluation revealed two large late medieval/early post medieval pits, and a sequence of pits and structural remains that dated from the early post-medieval period into the Victorian era. The structural remains are likely to relate to outbuildings at the rear of house plots along the High Street. The survival of medieval and post-medieval remains is potentially of county or regional importance for their value in helping to trace the early development of Newport Pagnell.



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 *Project Background*

Planning permission (PS/537/2/A/C1839) has been granted by Milton Keynes Council for the construction of a new dwelling block and area of hardstanding at 4–6 Union Street, Newport Pagnell. A condition was attached to the planning permission requiring an archaeological evaluation, in order to establish the archaeological significance of the development area and to provide for the recording of remains unavoidably affected during development.

Milton Keynes Council's Archaeological Officer (MKAO) issued a brief (MKAO 2007) outlining a three-staged approach to the required programme of archaeological investigation:

- Stage I – archaeological field evaluation;
- Stage II – appraisal of the results of the archaeological field evaluation;
- Stage III – implementation of an agreed programme of archaeological investigation and recording (if required, following completion of Stage II).

A written specification for the evaluation (Stage I) was prepared (Archaeologica 2007), and Albion Archaeology was commissioned on 17th October 2007 to undertake the evaluation of the site and prepare a report (this document) on the results.

1.2 *Site Location and Description*

The site comprises a section of two burgage plots to the north of the High Street and to the south of Union Street (Fig. 1). The area of the proposed development is *c.* 78m², centred on NGR SP 8767 4400. Prior to evaluation, the area was laid to a mixture of tarmac, hardcore, and concrete slab, containing a 20th-century brick-built workshop and garage block. The site slopes gently northwards towards Union Street and the Great Ouse.

The underlying geology of the site is Oxford Clay.

1.3 *Archaeological Background*

The site is situated in the medieval core of Newport Pagnell, within the area suggested to have been occupied by the Saxon burgh. Although the burgh defences have proven elusive to date, evidence for Saxon occupation was revealed during a watching brief at Bury Lawn just 50m to the north-west in 1990.

The High Street frontage to the site (Nos 38–42) comprises two 17th-century buildings. The development site itself shows a similar layout to today on the 1880 to 1925 Ordnance Survey 25" map sheets. A (clearly earlier) building occupies the approximate location of the former workshop unit, with a greenhouse apparently attached to its southern side.

Archaeological investigations in the vicinity have been largely small-scale watching briefs, revealing limited evidence of Saxon, medieval and post-medieval



activity. However, most significant to this site is a watching brief conducted to the rear of 40–42 High Street in 2001 (Archaeologica 2002). It was just 30m to the south of the proposed development and revealed over 0.8m of stratigraphy, including a 13th–14th century cesspit and evidence for 14th–15th century ironworking and later stone foundations.

1.4 Project Objectives

The evaluation was designed to establish the extent, character, quality, date and condition of any archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts and ecofacts within the area affected by the proposed development.



2. METHODOLOGY

Trial trenching took place between 22nd and 31st October 2007. Two trenches were opened, covering a total area of 20m² (Fig. 1).

The location of the trenches was marked out on the ground in advance of machine excavation. Trench 1 was extended up to the margins of the development area, while Trench 2 was slightly reduced in size on its northern side to avoid extant wall foundations.

Overburden was removed using a mechanical excavator, fitted with a toothless ditching bucket and operating under close archaeological supervision. These deposits were removed down to the first significant archaeological horizon.

The bases and sections of both trenches were cleaned by hand in order to clarify the nature of the archaeological remains. All deposits were noted, cleaned, excavated by hand and recorded using Albion Archaeology's pro forma sheets. The trenches were subsequently drawn and photographed as appropriate. The deposits were recorded using a unique number sequence, commencing at 100 for Trench 1 and 200 for Trench 2.

A full methodology is provided in the written specification (Archaeologica 2007).

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

- IFA's *Code of Conduct (1999a)*
- IFA's *Standards and Guidance for Field Evaluation (1999b)*
- Albion Archaeology's *Procedures Manual for Archaeological Fieldwork and the Analysis of Fieldwork Records (2001)*
- English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects (1991)*

The trenches were inspected by the MKAO prior to backfilling.



3. RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

Deposits and features of archaeological interest are summarised below in chronological order. Detailed technical information on them can be found in Appendix 2.

3.2 Geological deposits and overburden

The undisturbed geological deposits consisted of orange clay, which was only reached within a small part of each trench due to the depth of overlying archaeological deposits. The modern overburden comprised layers of hardcore, tarmac and bricks, with concrete slabs on top. These were associated with the workshop and parking area that formerly existed on the site.

3.3 Late medieval / early post-medieval (AD 1400–1550)

The earliest features identified were [278] and [280] in Trench 2; [278] was 2.3m wide and at least 0.75m deep, with steep sides, whilst only the very edge of [280] was visible within the confines of the trench (Figs 3 and 5). Neither continued into Trench 1, which suggests they were pits rather than ditches. Their fills (277) and (279) consisted of black silty clay, and (277) contained pottery dating from the Saxo-Norman to the early post-medieval period (Appendix 2).

The earliest archaeological deposits in Trench 1 were layers (107) / (130), which comprised dark grey silty clay and were up to 0.3m thick. They both consisted of midden-like material, suggesting they were associated with nearby habitation. Although no dating evidence was recovered from these layers, they were very similar to the fills of pits [278] and [280], with which they are likely to have been contemporary.

3.4 Early post-medieval (AD 1550–1700)

A single post-medieval pit [128] was identified in Trench 1 (Fig. 2), dug through probable late medieval layer (130). A more extensive sequence of features was identified in Trench 2, the earliest of which was an east–west aligned drain [255] (Fig. 3), which had been heavily truncated by later activity. A few flat stones had been placed at the base of the drain.

Trench 2 also contained a number of intercutting pits [249], [252], [259], [261], [263], [266], [270], [274] and [276], and post-hole [246]. These denote an area of concentrated activity within the site. The pits were 0.4–1.0m wide and 0.1–0.48m deep with concave profiles, while post-hole [246] was *c.* 1m in diameter, and contained post-pipe [243]. The features are all likely to have been broadly contemporary; their function is unknown.

3.5 Late post-medieval (AD 1700–1850)

The earliest evidence of brick or stone buildings took the form in both trenches of robbed-out foundations. In Trench 1, two north–south aligned foundations [114] and [126], one east-west foundation [135] and a small oblong foundation [136] were uncovered (Fig. 2). In Trench 2, one north–south aligned foundation [240]



(which had not been robbed out) and one east–west foundation [235] (later robbed out by trench [228]) were uncovered (Fig. 3).

The foundation trenches in Trench 2 cut through make-up layer (241), a 0.2m thick deposit that sealed all the earlier features (Fig. 4). This layer was absent from Trench 1, where the earliest foundations seem to have been dug from the level of the medieval archaeology.

After the earliest stone or brick buildings had been demolished and the foundations robbed out and backfilled, make-up layers (117), (118), (224) and (225) were deposited, apparently for the purpose of terracing and levelling the site. The cumulative thickness of these layers was 0.25–0.55m.

3.6 Victorian

A small Victorian rubbish pit [105] measuring 1.15m in diameter was found in Trench 1 (Fig. 2). Roughly contemporary with this pit in Trench 2 were foundation trenches [215], [220] and [223]. Once the buildings associated with these foundations had been demolished, a 0.25m thick make-up layer (213) was deposited across the area of Trench 2.

Two brick walls (138) and (139) with concrete bases were identified in Trench 1, and one (210) in Trench 2 (Fig. 3). They were very similar in construction and were probably contemporary. Walls (138) and (139) were only seen in the north and south sides of Trench 1, lying beyond the excavated limits of the trench. Foundation trench [131] for wall (138) had been cut through by brick foul-water drain [137].



4. SYNTHESIS OF RESULTS

4.1 Summary

The development area contained two large late medieval / early post-medieval pits, and a sequence of intercutting pits and structural remains that dated from the early post-medieval period into the Victorian era. Although one of the late medieval / early post-medieval pits contained a small quantity of Saxo-Norman and medieval pottery, the presence of two late medieval / early post-medieval sherds suggests that the earlier pottery was residual.

Interpretation of the post-medieval structural remains is complicated by the fact that the foundations had largely been robbed out. Post-hole [246] was substantial, but it is impossible to tell with what type of structure it may have been associated. The surviving brick walls in both trenches may be related to the buildings visible on the 1880 to 1925 Ordnance Survey maps.

4.2 Significance

Evidence was found of concentrated activity in the post-medieval period, which is potentially of county or regional archaeological significance in helping to trace the development of Newport Pagnell. The late post-medieval structural remains identified are likely to relate to outbuildings at the rear of house plots along the High Street. The intercutting nature of the remains and the fact that the wall foundations have largely been robbed out has had a negative impact on their current condition.

The survival of late medieval / early post-medieval remains below the post-medieval levels is also potentially archaeologically significant. Large cesspits have previously been identified in closer proximity to the High Street (Archaeologica 2002), but little archaeological work has previously been carried out further north, and the survival of late medieval / early post-medieval remains within the development area has the potential to provide information on land use nearer Union Street during that period.

4.3 Deposit model and confidence rating

Table 1 comprises a deposit model of the archaeological remains revealed by the evaluation. It shows the minimum depths below ground level (max. height OD) at which deposits from each period were identified, and the maximum depths (min. height OD) to which they extended. The data must be qualified, however, by the fact that undisturbed geological deposits were only reached within a small part of each trench, and the overall depth of deposits may significantly exceed the 1.6m identified in Trench 2.

The high number of negative features within the two trenches has created significant variation in the depths at which each period of remains was revealed. However, it is reasonable to predict that deposits within the unexcavated part of the development area will fall within the ranges identified.



	Height at which revealed / mOD (North end: Tr. 1)		Height at which revealed / mOD (South end: Tr. 2)		Composition
	Max	Min	Max	Min	
Modern / Victorian	59.95	58.75	60.05	59.20	Tarmac/concrete; mixed rubble/silt backfill
Late post-medieval	59.70	59.10	59.60	58.80	Mixed rubble/silt backfill/make-up layers
Early post-medieval	59.10	<58.75	59.15	58.60	Silt/clay fill of pits and post-hole; stone drain-lining
Late medieval / early post-medieval	59.00	<58.75	59.10	<58.45	Silt/clay midden-like layer and fill of pits

Table 1: Deposit model

By sampling a large percentage of the development area, the evaluation can be said with reasonable confidence to have characterised the archaeological potential of the site with regard to the nature, extent, date and condition of any remains preserved therein. A full profile from the undisturbed natural deposits to the modern ground level was seen in both trenches. However, it should be recognised that only limited excavation was possible at the depth at which the earliest deposits were present, and the possibility exists that further excavation may reveal additional late medieval / early post-medieval remains.



5. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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6. APPENDICES

6.1 Appendix 1: Context Summary



Trench: 1

Max Dimensions: Length: 3.60 m. Width: 3.30 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.25 m. Max: 0.95 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP (Easting: 87674: Northing: 44009)

Reason: Evaluate potential of development area

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
100	Concrete	Concrete 0.16m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
101	Brick rubble	Compact rubble 0.4m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
102	Make up layer	Friable black clay silt occasional small stones 0.2m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
105	Pit	Circular profile: concave base: flat dimensions: max diameter 1.15m, max depth 0.55m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
103	Fill	Loose dark green sandy clay occasional flecks charcoal, frequent small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
104	Fill	Firm light green grey sandy silt frequent medium ceramic building material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
129	Fill	Dark brown grey clay silt frequent flecks charcoal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
107	Make up layer	Firm dark blue grey silty clay frequent flecks charcoal 0.3m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
111	Make up layer	Firm light brown silty gravel 0.1m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
112	Make up layer	Loose light brown sandy gravel 0.3m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
114	Robber trench	Linear E-W profile: vertical base: uneven	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
113	Backfill	Mid grey silt frequent medium ceramic building material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
115	Make up layer	Friable dark blue occasional small stones 0.2m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
117	Make up layer	Friable black silty sand occasional small stones 0.4m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
118	Make up layer	Dark grey clay silt 0.25m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
121	Natural	Light yellow clay occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
126	Robber trench	Rectangular base: flat dimensions: max depth 0.27m, max breadth 1.1m, max length 1.9m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
123	Backfill	Friable dark brown silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
125	Backfill	Friable dark blue clay occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
128	Pit	profile: concave	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
124	Fill	Friable dark brown silty clay occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
127	Primary fill	Friable dark blue clay occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
130	Make up layer	Dark blue grey silty clay frequent flecks charcoal 0.2m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
131	Foundation trench	Linear profile: stepped	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
132	Backfill	Mid orange sandy silt occasional flecks charcoal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
133	Backfill	Mid grey brown sandy silt occasional flecks charcoal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
134	Backfill	Sand frequent small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
138	Wall	Brick structure, machine-cut bricks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
135	Foundation trench	E-W profile: near vertical dimensions: max length 2.8m, max breadth 0.6m Not fully excavated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
106	Backfill	Firm mid grey brown silty sand occasional medium ceramic building material, frequent small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
122	Backfill	Mid grey brown silty sand occasional medium ceramic building material, frequent small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 1

Max Dimensions: Length: 3.60 m. Width: 3.30 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.25 m. Max: 0.95 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP (Easting: 87674: Northing: 44009)

Reason: Evaluate potential of development area

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
136	Robber trench	Oval profile: near vertical base: flat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
110	Backfill	Compact black silt frequent medium ceramic building material, frequent flecks charcoal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
120	Backfill	Friable light grey silty gravel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
137	Foundation trench	Rectangular profile: vertical	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
108	Drain	Brick-built structure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
109	Backfill	Friable dark brown grey clay silt moderate flecks charcoal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
140	Foundation trench	E-W Foundation cut for wall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
116	Concrete	Compact grey concrete	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
139	Wall	Brick structure, machine-cut bricks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 2

Max Dimensions: Length: 3.10 m. Width: 2.40 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.4 m. Max: 0.95 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP (Easting: 87672; Northing: 44002)

Reason: Evaluate potential of development area

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
205	Construction horizon	Machine cut for modern surface	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
200	Topsoil	Friable dark brown clay silt moderate small-medium stones 0.05m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
201	Tarmac	0.1m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
202	Tarmac	0.1m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
203	Brick rubble	0.2m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
204	Layer	Plastic sheeting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
212	Foundation trench	Construction cut for workshop foundations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
206	Concrete	Workshop floor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
207	Backfill	Hardcore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
208	Backfill	Firm dark brown silty silt moderate small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
209	Backfill	Firm mid orange yellow clay sand frequent small ceramic building material, frequent small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
210	Wall	Brick-built structure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
211	Concrete	Wall foundation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
213	Layer	Loose black sandy silt moderate small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
215	Foundation trench	Linear profile: concave	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
214	Backfill	Yellow white sand frequent medium ceramic building material, frequent medium-large stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
220	Foundation trench	Linear NW-SE profile: stepped base: concave	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
216	Backfill	Friable dark brown silty sand frequent small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
217	Backfill	Loose yellow brown clay sand frequent small-medium ceramic building material, frequent medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
218	Backfill	Firm yellow grey clay occasional large stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
223	Foundation trench	Linear N-S profile: stepped base: flat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
221	Backfill	Friable dark grey brown clay silt moderate small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
222	Backfill	Friable brown silty sand moderate small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
224	Make up layer	Firm dark grey brown sandy silt occasional medium ceramic building material 0.15m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
225	Make up layer	Loose red brown silty sand frequent small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
228	Robber trench	Linear E-W profile: vertical base: uneven	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
226	Backfill	Dark grey brown clay silt moderate medium ceramic building material, moderate small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
227	Backfill	Light grey brown silt moderate medium ceramic building material, occasional large stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
235	Foundation trench	Linear E-W dimensions: max breadth 0.9m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
229	Backfill	Friable mid grey brown silt moderate small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
230	Backfill	Grey yellow clay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 2

Max Dimensions: Length: 3.10 m. Width: 2.40 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.4 m. Max: 0.95 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP (Easting: 87672: Northing: 44002)

Reason: Evaluate potential of development area

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
231	Backfill	Loose sand moderate small-medium ceramic building material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
232	Backfill	Yellow black clay silt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
234	Backfill	Loose clay frequent medium ceramic building material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
240	Foundation	Linear N-S profile: near vertical base: concave	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
219	Backfill	Loose dark grey silty sand frequent medium ceramic building material, frequent medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
236	Backfill	Friable grey brown sandy silt occasional medium ceramic building material, moderate small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
237	Backfill	Dark grey clay silt occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
239	Backfill	Sandy silt frequent medium ceramic building material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
241	Make up layer	Friable mid red brown sandy silt occasional medium ceramic building material, frequent small stones 0.2m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
243	Postpipe	Circular profile: concave Not fully excavated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
242	Fill	Friable dark grey brown sandy silt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
246	Posthole	Oval profile: near vertical Not fully excavated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
244	Packing	Grey yellow clay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
245	Packing	Unworked medium-large limestone fragments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
249	Pit	Oval profile: stepped base: concave	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
247	Fill	Dark grey clay silt moderate small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
248	Fill	Friable grey brown sandy silt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
252	Pit	Oval Unexcavated	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
250	Fill	Unworked medium-large limestone fragments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
251	Fill	Friable mid grey brown sandy silt moderate small stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
255	Drain	Linear E-W Heavily truncated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
253	Fill	Friable mid brown clay silt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
254	Stone structure	Unworked medium-large limestone fragments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
259	Pit	Oval profile: stepped base: concave	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
256	Fill	Friable light orange brown clay sand frequent small stones, occasional large stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
257	Fill	Friable mid grey yellow sandy silt moderate small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
258	Fill	Friable light grey silty sand moderate small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
261	Pit	Oval profile: near vertical base: concave	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
260	Fill	Firm light grey sandy silt moderate small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
263	Pit	Oval profile: concave	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
262	Fill	Friable grey clay sand	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
266	Pit	Oval profile: stepped Not fully excavated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 2

Max Dimensions: Length: 3.10 m. Width: 2.40 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.4 m. Max: 0.95 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP (Easting: 87672: Northing: 44002)

Reason: Evaluate potential of development area

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
264	Fill	Friable dark brown clay silt occasional small ceramic building material, frequent small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
265	Fill	Unworked medium-large limestone fragments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
270	Pit	Oval profile: stepped base: concave	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
267	Fill	Firm dark grey brown sandy silt occasional medium ceramic building material, frequent small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
268	Fill	Limestone Unworked small-medium limestone fragments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
269	Fill	Firm dark grey clay silt occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
274	Pit	Sub-oval profile: concave base: concave	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
271	Fill	Firm dark grey sandy silt frequent small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
272	Fill	Friable dark grey brown sandy silt occasional medium ceramic building material, moderate small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
273	Fill	Firm grey clay silt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
276	Pit	Oval base: concave	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
275	Fill	Friable sandy silt frequent small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
278	Pit	profile: stepped Not fully excavated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
277	Fill	Compact black silty clay Lenses of redeposited natural. Not fully excavated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
280	Pit	profile: stepped Not fully excavated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
279	Fill	Compact black silty clay Lenses of redeposited natural. Not fully excavated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



6.2 Appendix 2: Artefact and Ecofact Summary

6.2.1 Introduction

The evaluation produced a finds assemblage comprising mainly pottery and animal bone (Table 2). The material was scanned to ascertain its nature, condition and, where possible, date range.

Tr.	Feature	Feature type	Context	Spot date*	Pottery**	Other finds
1	102	Make-up layer	102	Modern	4:45	Animal bone (114g); wine bottle
	105	Pit	104	Modern	20:445	Animal bone (447g); clay pipe (5g); window glass (3g); iron hinge
2	228	Robber trench	227	Modern	4:41	Clay pipe (2g); brick and roof tile (1088g)
	241	Make-up layer	241	Post-medieval	1:122	
	252	Post-hole	251	Post-medieval		Clay pipe (11g)
	255	Drain	253	Post-medieval	2:8	Animal bone (103g); roof tile (10g); oyster shell (56g); iron nails x 3 Animal bone (36g)
	259	Pit	256	Post-medieval	5:36	
	274	Pit	271	-		
	278	Pit	277	Late medieval / early post-medieval	8:59	
Total					44:756	

* – spot date based on date of latest artefact in context

** – sherd count : weight in g

Table 2: Artefact summary by trench and feature

6.2.2 Pottery

Forty-four pottery sherds weighing 756g were recovered. These were examined by context and quantified using minimum sherd count and weight. Sherds are quite small (average weight 17g) although not particularly abraded. Fourteen fabric types were identified using common names and type codes in accordance with the Ceramic Type Series, currently maintained by Albion Archaeology on behalf of Bedfordshire County Council. Fabrics are listed below (Table 3) in chronological order. Where possible, concordance with the Milton Keynes post-Roman pottery type series (Mynard 1992) has been made (bracketed alpha-numeric codes).

Fabric type	Common name	Sherd No.	Context : sherd no.
<i>Saxo-Norman</i>			
Type B01 (SNC1)	St Neots-type ware	2	(277):2
<i>Medieval</i>			
Type B07 (MC1)	Shell	1	(277):1
Type C10 (MS6)	Potterspurty ware	1	(277):1
Type C59A	Coarse sand	1	(277):1
Type E01 (TLMS3)	Late medieval reduced ware	1	(277):1
<i>Late medieval / early post-medieval</i>			
Type P52	Late Brill/Boarstall ware	5	(256):3; (277):2
<i>Post-medieval</i>			
Type P01 (PM8)	Fine glazed red earthenware	1	(104):1
Type P03 (PM16)	Black-glazed earthenware	2	(241):1, (253):1
Type P14	Blackware	3	(253):1, (256):2
Type P36A (PM28)	Brown salt-glazed stoneware	2	(104):2
<i>Modern</i>			
Type P38 (PM23)	Creamware	14	(102):1, (104):10, (227):3
Type P39	Mocha ware	2	(104):2
Type P43 (PM24)	Pearlware	5	(102):3, (104):1, (227):1
Type P45	Transfer-printed ware	2	(104):2
Type P55	White earthenware	2	(104):2

Table 3: Pottery type series



The earliest pottery derived from pit [278], which contained eight sherds, weighing 59g. Fabric types represented range in date from the 11th–16th century, and include two abraded Saxo-Norman shell-tempered sherds in the St Neots-type tradition; locally manufactured sand- and shell-tempered vessels of early medieval date; a high medieval ‘import’ from Potterspury (Northants); a sand-tempered sherd in the late medieval reduced-ware tradition; and two glazed sherds of late Brill/Boarstall ware. Vessel forms are jars with everted and square rims.

The remainder of the assemblage is of post-medieval and modern date, the majority deriving from the fill of pit [105]. Post-medieval vessels comprise Blackware, stoneware and locally manufactured glazed earthenwares. Pottery of 19th-century and more recent date comprises cream ware, mocha ware, pearl ware and transfer-printed ware. Forms include bowls, cups and plates, some of the latter decorated with oriental and rural scenes.

6.2.3 Other finds

Ceramic building material (nine pieces, weighing 1.1kg) derived mainly from the fills of robber trench [228], and includes two sand-tempered brick fragments and six pieces of late medieval/post-medieval flat roof tile, one deriving from kilns at Potterspury, Northants. A single piece of flat roof tile derived from post-medieval pit [259], which also yielded ten pieces of oyster shell (56g) and the remains of approximately three flat-headed iron timber nails with portions of tapering, rectangular-sectioned shanks. The fill of pit [105] yielded four pieces of a large iron pinned hinge(?) and two pieces of modern colourless window glass. The rim, neck and upper body of a cylindrical olive-green wine bottle datable to 1790–1820 was recovered from make-up layer (102).

Four clay tobacco pipe stem fragments and a complete eighteenth century bowl (stamped WB) were recovered from pit [105], robber trench [228] and post-hole [252].

6.2.4 Animal bone

The faunal assemblage comprises thirty-eight fragments weighing 700g, and came from post-medieval and modern features, the majority deriving from modern pit [105]. Fragments are small (average weight 18g), although bone preservation is generally good. Diagnostic elements are long bone, rib, phalange, scapula, pelvis and mandible fragments. Butchery marks are visible on a scapula fragment from make-up layer (102) and pieces of long bone, pelvis and rib from pit [105].

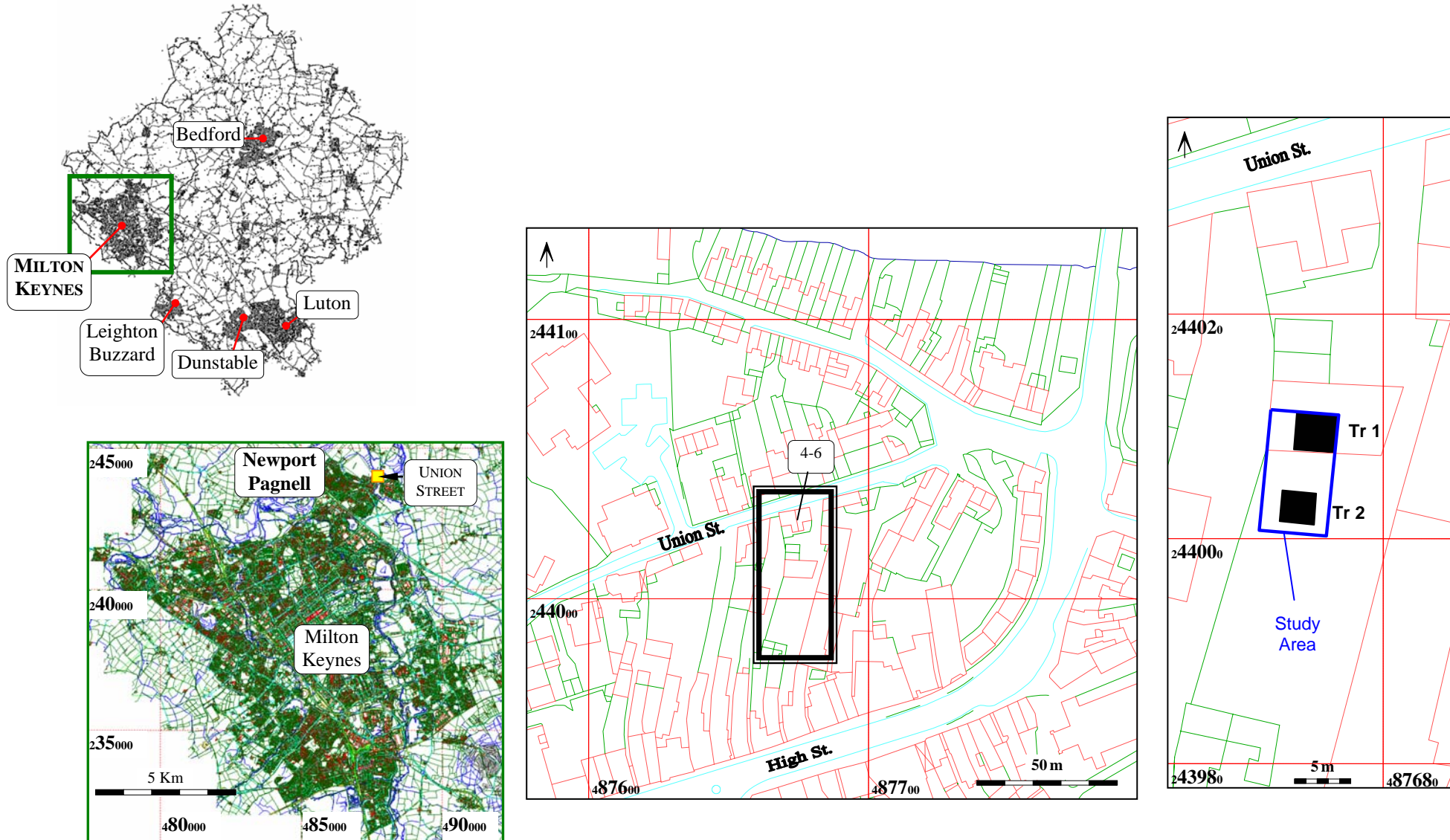
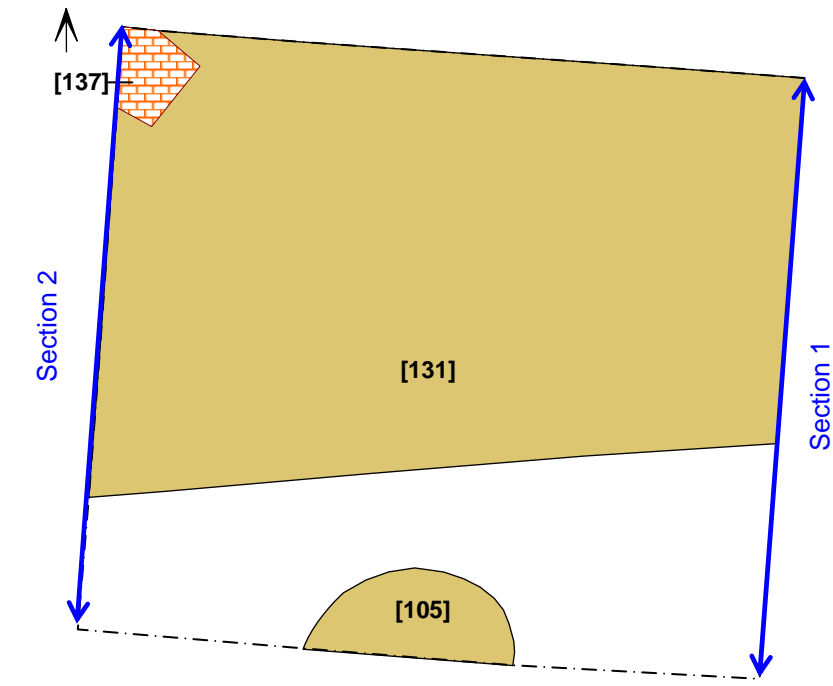
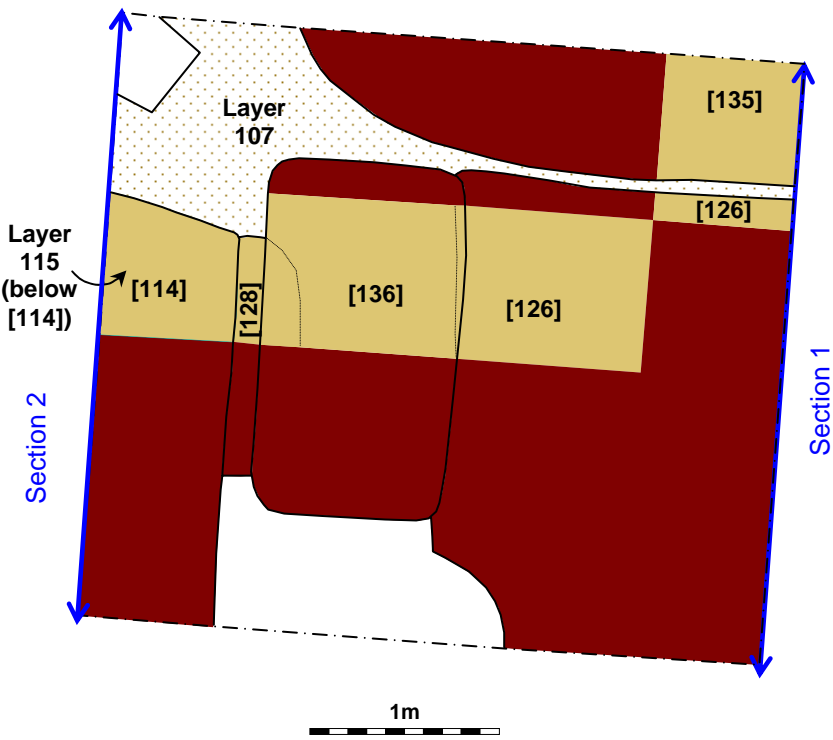


Figure 1: Site location map

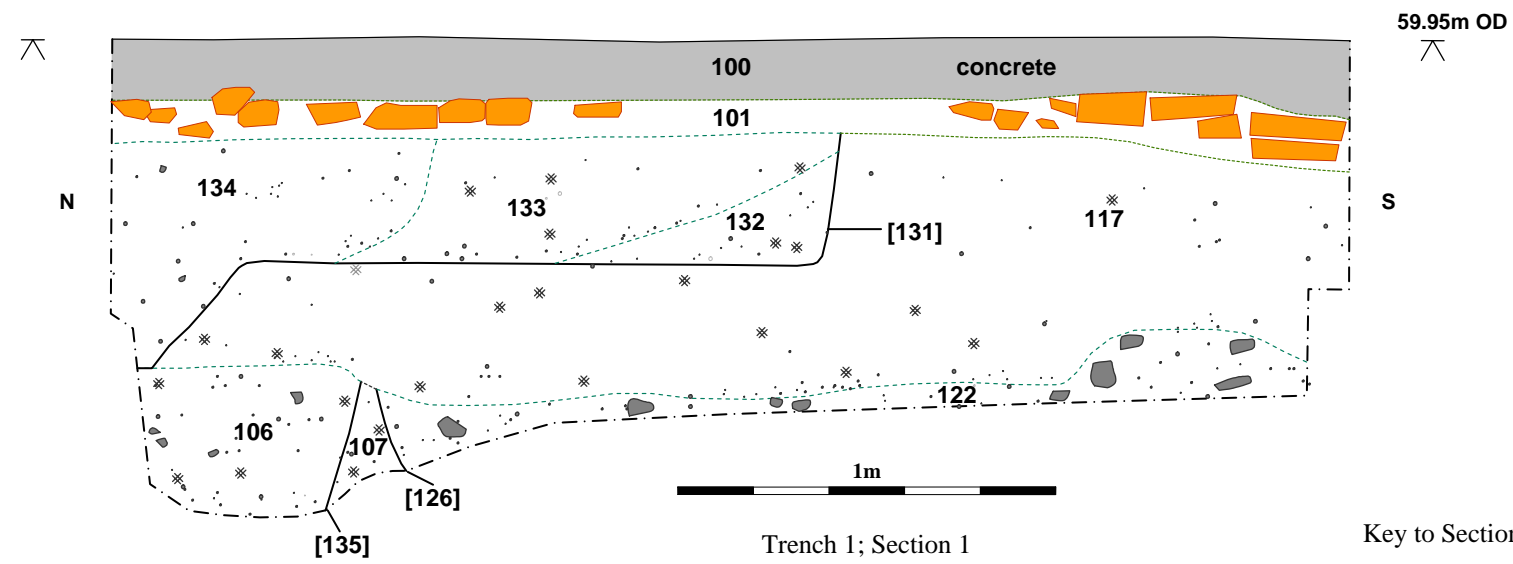
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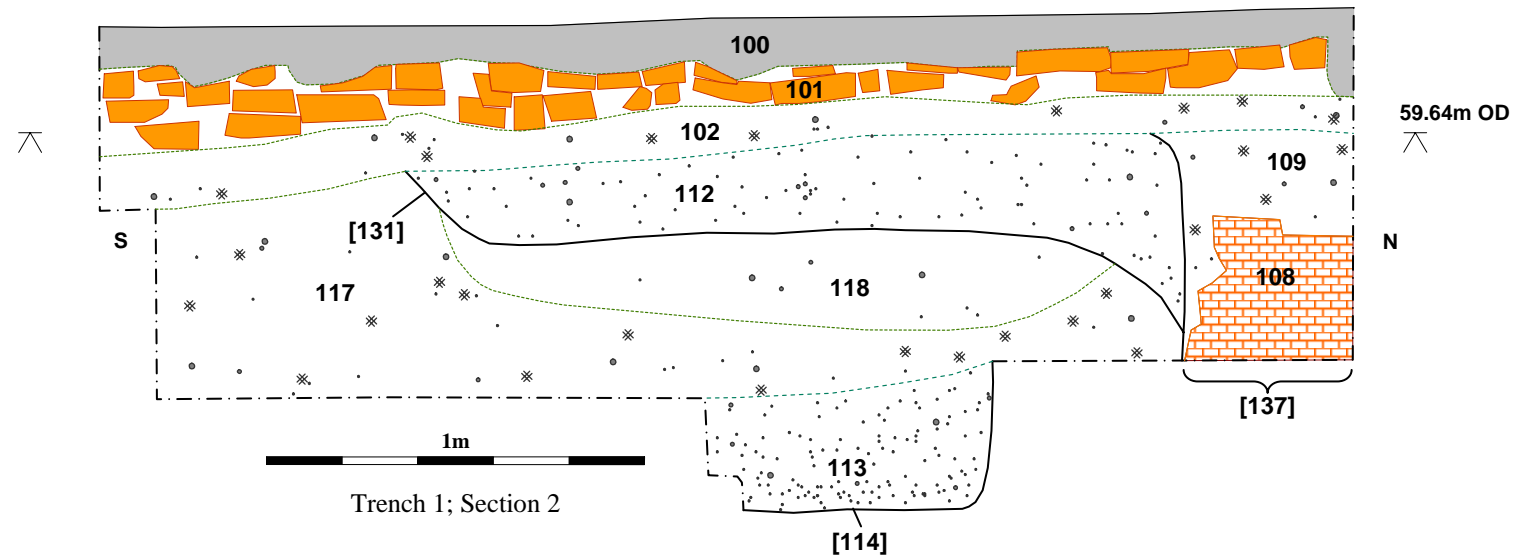
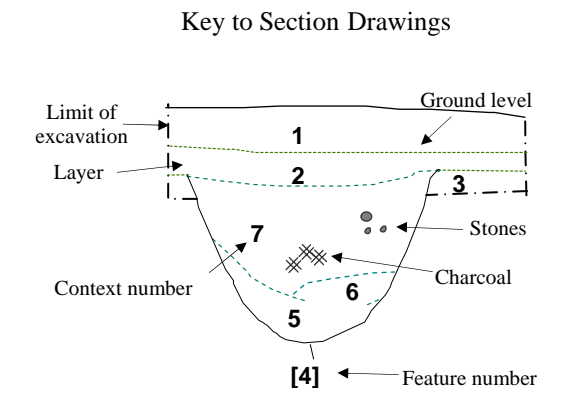
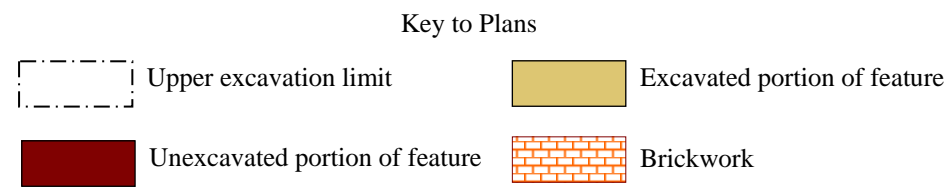
Tr 1; Modern features



Tr 1; Post-medieval pits and foundation trenches



Trench 1; Section 1



Trench 1; Section 2

Figure 2: Trench 1; plan and sections

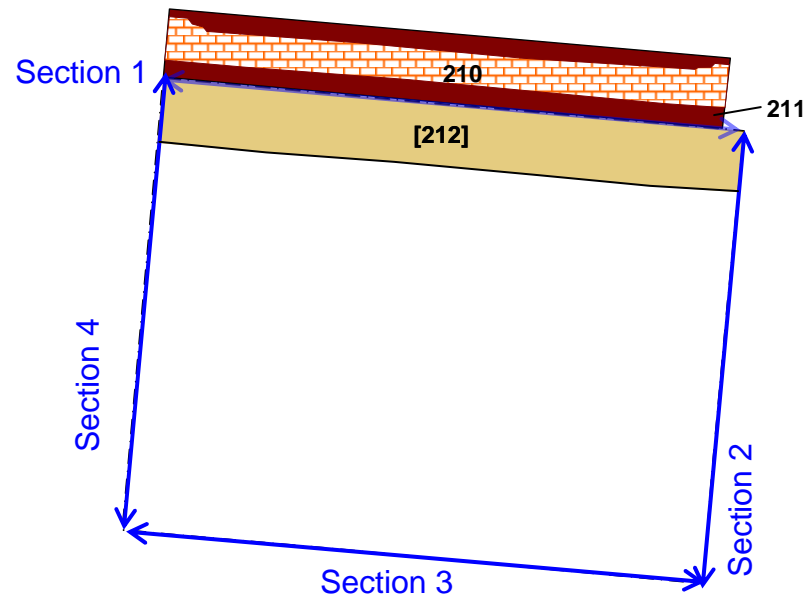


Trench 1, looking south. Scale 1m

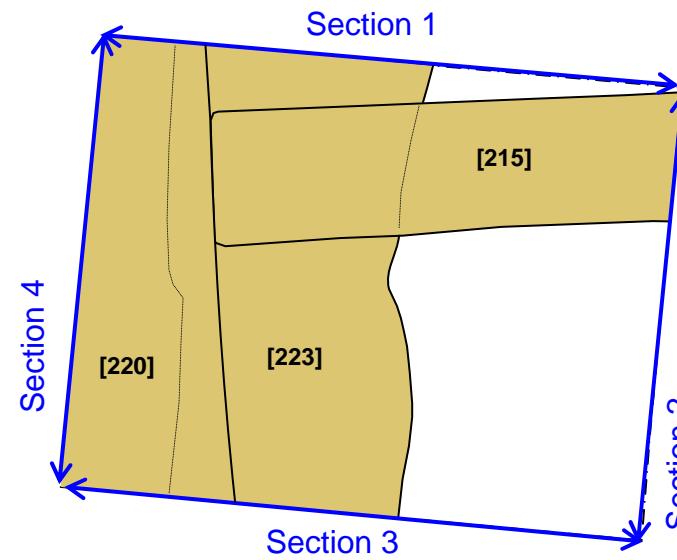


Trench 1, looking north. Scale 1m

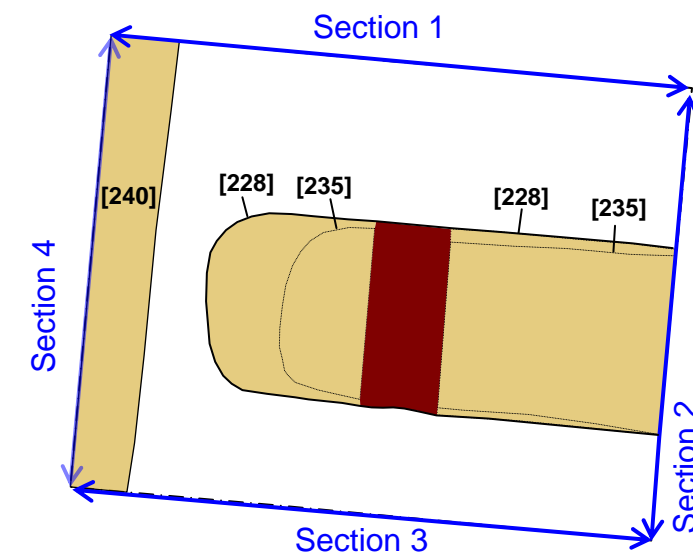
Figure 3: Trench 1; selected photographs



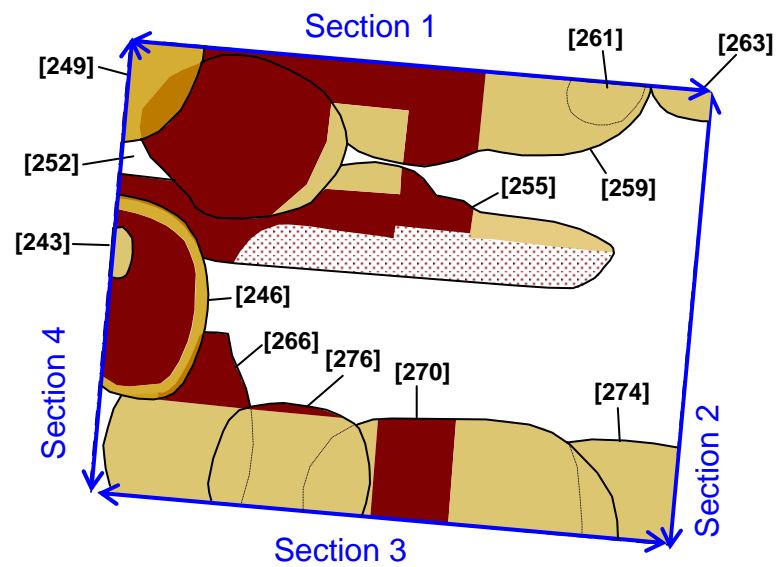
Tr 2; Modern



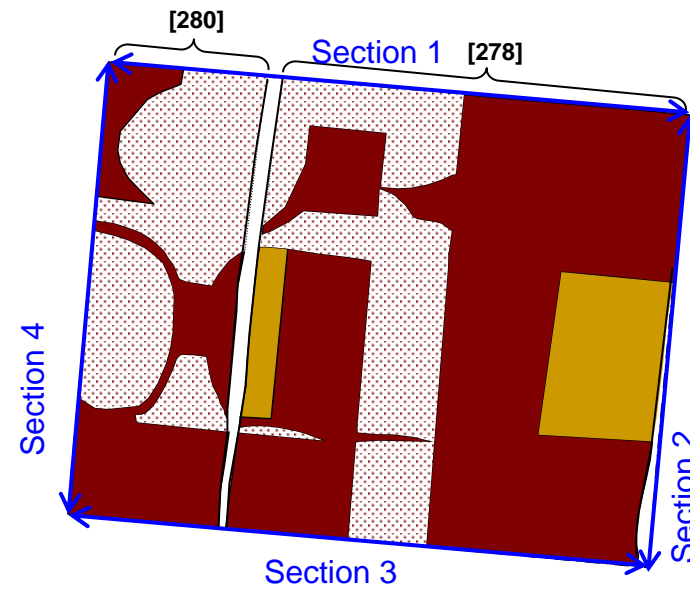
Tr 2; Victorian foundation trenches (reconstructed from sections)



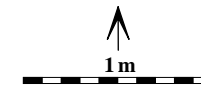
Tr 2; Late post-medieval foundation trenches



Tr 2; Early post-medieval pits, post-holes, and drain



Tr 2; Late medieval pits



Key to Plans

- Limit of excavation
- Unexcavated portion of feature
- Excavated portion of feature
- Reconstruction of truncated portions
- Brickwork

Figure 4: Trench 2; plans

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Trench 2, looking west. Scale 1m



Trench 2, pit [278], looking east. Scale 1m

Figure 6: Trench 2; selected photographs