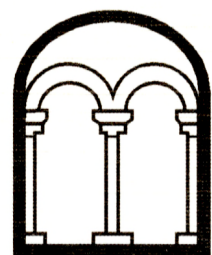


**WELCH'S TRANSPORT LTD
HIGH STREET
HENLOW
BEDFORDSHIRE**

STAGE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

Albion
archaeology



**WELCH'S TRANSPORT LTD
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BEDFORDSHIRE**

STAGE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

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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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The project was commissioned by GPS Estates Ltd.

This report was prepared by Catie Watts (Supervisor) and Ian Turner (Assistant Archaeological Manager), with contributions from Jackie Wells (Finds Officer). The fieldwork was undertaken by Catie Watts and Irene Sala (Assistant Supervisor). Digitisation of site drawings and illustration were undertaken by Joan Lightning. The project was managed by Wesley Keir (Archaeological Manager). All Albion Archaeology projects are under the overall management of Drew Shotliff.

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Key Terms

Throughout this document the following terms or abbreviations are used:

CBC	Central Bedfordshire Council
CBCAO	Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeological Officer
CBM	Ceramic building material
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
Client	GPS Estates Ltd
HER	Historic Environment Record
LPA	Local planning authority
PDA	Permitted development area
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation



Non-Technical Summary

Central Bedfordshire Council granted outline planning permission (CB/18/01002/OUT) for up to 20 dwellings at Welch's Transport Ltd, High Street, Henlow, SG16 6BS. The consent included demolition of no. 23 High Street and existing business structures, upgrade of existing site access to accommodate vehicles, pedestrian links, landscaping, car parking, drainage and other associated works. All matters were reserved except for access.

Due to the archaeological potential of the permitted development area (PDA) an archaeological condition (no. 5) was attached to the outline consent. The condition required a staged programme of archaeological work, beginning with a trial-trench evaluation to determine if the site contained significant archaeological remains. This report presents the results of the Stage 1 trial-trench evaluation.

No features earlier than post-medieval in date were identified in any of the trenches, although the presence of a few small sherds of early medieval pottery occurring as residual finds in later features does hint at earlier activity in the wider vicinity.

The post-medieval features included a substantial ditch within Trench 2. No boundary is illustrated on any maps in this precise location, though the feature's alignment and location suggest it is associated with property boundaries illustrated on the 1938 OS map. A number of post-medieval postholes were also revealed, of which one in Trench 2 and three in Trench 8 may be associated with nearby boundaries marked on the 1798 Enclosure map and later OS maps.

Several pits were associated with more recent activity within the PDA. These included a large quarry pit within Trench 1 and two large pits within Trench 6, which appeared to have been backfilled with a variety of modern materials prior to the building/consolidation of the transport depot in the late 1970s.

A small number of undated features included two shallow ditches within Trenches 5 and 8, which are likely to be associated with property boundaries marked on the 1798 Enclosure map and later OS maps.

The trenches within the low-lying west end of the PDA contained evidence of a N–S aligned palaeochannel. The small amount of post-medieval and modern finds recovered from its fill suggests it may have remained as a shallow watercourse until relatively recently.

The identified post-medieval features do add to our knowledge of the post-medieval land-use within this part of Henlow. However, they have no potential to address identified research themes and can only be considered to be of local interest. The later, modern features are of negligible interest and of no archaeological significance.

On completion of the project the archive will be deposited with The Higgins Art Gallery & Museum (accession no.: BEDFM 2020.56). Details of the project and its findings will be submitted to the OASIS database in accordance with the guidelines issued by Historic England and the Archaeology Data Service (ref. no. albionar1-401636).



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 **Project Background**

Central Bedfordshire Council granted outline planning permission (CB/18/01002/OUT) for up to 20 dwellings at Welch's Transport Ltd, High Street, Henlow, SG16 6BS. The consent included demolition of no. 23 High Street and existing business structures, upgrade of existing site access to accommodate vehicles, pedestrian links, landscaping, car parking, drainage and other associated works. All matters were reserved except for access.

Due to the archaeological potential of the permitted development area (PDA) the following condition (no. 5) was attached to the outline consent:

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

Reason: This condition is pre-commencement as a failure to secure appropriate archaeological investigation in advance of development would be contrary to paragraph 141 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) that requires developers to record and advance of understanding of the significance of any heritage assets affected by development before they are lost (wholly or in part).

This condition is pre-commencement as there is a need to assess archaeology prior to commencement of any below ground building work.

Albion Archaeology was commissioned by GPS Estates Ltd, to produce a written scheme of investigation (Albion Archaeology 2020) and to carry out the fieldwork in accordance with the requirements of the condition. This report presents the results of the Stage 1 trial-trench evaluation.

1.2 **Site Location, Topography and Geology**

The village of Henlow lies in the eastern part of Central Bedfordshire, west of the Rivers Ivel and Hiz and to the south-east of the River Ivel navigation (Figure 1). The nearest towns are Biggleswade, 6km to the north, and Shefford, 3km to the north-west. Henlow is principally a linear settlement, situated along the north-south aligned High Street (B649). Henlow Park is situated to the east of the village and is accessed from the High Street; the church is in the north of the village along the east-west aligned Church Road.

The c.1ha PDA is situated on the west side of the High Street, close to the south end of the village. It is bounded to the west by the Henlow Brook, a minor tributary of the River Ivel and to the north and south by housing property boundaries.



At the time of the evaluation the site comprised an open-area divided into two parts by a fenced public right of way aligned E–W; it included remnants of hardstanding associated with the recently demolished transport depot.

The PDA is centred on grid reference TL 1761 3812 and lies on ground which slightly slopes downwards from the High Street frontage towards the brook (40.79–37.64m OD). The underlying geology is Woburn Sand Formation sandstone overlain by alluvial and glaciofluvial deposits of clay, silt, sand and gravel¹.

1.3 Archaeological Background

The following chronological summary is sourced from a desk-based archaeological assessment (CgMs 2017), which was prepared in support of the planning application, as well as data recently obtained from the Central Bedfordshire and Luton Historic Environment Record (HER) (search ref. no.: 202021/076). In the following sections, reference is made to a 500m-radius study area centred on the PDA.

1.3.1 Previous archaeological investigations

Archaeological investigations in the study area comprise three sites on the west side of the High Street: land to the rear of Town Farm Court (EBD1175); land at Town Farm Field (EBD1635); and 41 High Street (EBD1140). No archaeological remains were identified to the rear of Town Farm Court (EBD1175).

In 2020, an archaeological investigation to the rear of 41 High Street (EBD1140; Albion 2020) revealed a number of medieval (12th–13th-century) refuse pits associated with domestic, backyard activity. Earlier evaluation of the site had also produced late Anglo-Saxon pottery (10th–11th-century) (Albion 2011). This site is in a similar topographical location to the PDA itself.

A geophysical survey undertaken at Town Farm Field (EBD1635) produced evidence for medieval ridge and furrow cultivation.

1.3.2 Prehistoric and Roman (prior to c.AD 410)

Only one heritage asset is recorded within the study area: the cropmark of an oval enclosure (HER20340), situated c.200m east of the PDA. Based on its shape it is likely to be Bronze Age in date.

Evidence for further prehistoric occupation in Henlow was uncovered during archaeological investigations at 109–113 High Street, c.630m north of the PDA (HER19889, EBD1214). This evidence comprised two truncated roundhouse drip gullies and several pits. Pottery recovered indicates that they are late Iron Age in date.

No heritage assets dating to the Roman period are known within the study area.

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



1.3.3 Anglo-Saxon (c. 410–1066)

Firm evidence of Anglo-Saxon settlement in Henlow is slight, although a settlement was already in existence at the time of the Domesday survey in 1086. The name ‘Henlow’ is thought to derive from the Old English ‘Haenna Hlaw’ meaning Hen’s burial mound. This has led to the suggestion that an Anglo-Saxon burial mound once existed in the village, although its location has not been identified (HER790).

The best evidence of Anglo-Saxon settlement in the study area is the 10th–11th-century pottery discovered during the evaluation at 41 High Street (see above), c.150m north of the PDA. In addition, archaeological evaluations at 102 High Street (EBD1475) and at 109-113 High Street (EBD1214, EBD1215 and HER19887) produced evidence for late Anglo-Saxon occupation.

1.3.4 Medieval (1066–1550)

A settlement at Henlow was already flourishing at the time of the Domesday survey, when five manors were recorded totalling 32 households with a value of 12 taxable geld units².

The core of the medieval village, as defined in the HER (17111), comprises the linear settlement along the High Street (encompassing the conservation area (DBD 3356)), the crossroads at the junction of Clifton Road and Arlesey Road and land to the south bordering Hitchin Road. The eastern margins of the PDA, c.0.2ha, lie within this postulated medieval village core.

The only extant medieval building in the study area is the Grade I listed Church of St Mary the Virgin (NHLE 1312654), situated at the north end of the village. It was built in the 12th century and initially comprised a chancel and aisleless nave. In the 13th and 14th centuries it was lengthened and north and south aisles were added (Page 1908, 280–5).

1.3.5 Post-medieval (1550–1900)

By the post-medieval period the core of the village was focused on the present-day High Street, north of the crossroads, and this is reflected in the number of post-medieval buildings situated along it.

The majority of heritage assets within the study area are post-medieval in date and comprise extant or demolished buildings. Three Grade II Listed Buildings are situated within the study area. All three are situated along the High Street. They comprise two 18th-century houses (NHLE1113837 and NHLE1113838) that front onto the High Street and an 18th-century barn (NHLE1200377).

The Crown Inn (HER5013), situated c.100m to the south-east of the PDA, is an undesignated building of local interest. It has 16th- to 17th-century origins, with modern additions. Further along the High Street to the north are a number of undesignated buildings: Methodist Church (HER12643); the site of Chestnut Farmhouse (HER5004); and ten buildings of local interest (HER8637,

² <http://opendomesday.org/place/TL1738/henlow/> [Accessed 18/08/2020]



HER12706, HER7340, HER7341, HER7323, HER5003, HER20157, HER19584, HER5009 and HER13354).

A group of inhumations were discovered in a brick vault to the rear of 27-31 High Street (HER13583) during building works. The four individuals are thought to be Quakers who died in a fire in the 17th century.

A post-medieval ditch (HER 19958; EBD 1140) was recorded during the archaeological investigations to the rear of 41 High Street. It corresponds with a channel shown on the 1798 Enclosure map.

1.3.6 Modern (1900–present)

No modern heritage assets are recorded within the study area.

1.3.7 Cartographic evidence and historic landscape character within the PDA

Historical mapping of Henlow commences with Jeffreys's map of 1765, which does not depict the PDA in detail, but does suggest that buildings existed along the High Street at this time.

The first detailed map of the PDA is the 1798 Enclosure map, which shows that it comprised parts of three plots, separated by west–east aligned boundaries. Part of a rectangular building, probably an outbuilding associated with the building fronting the High Street to the east of the PDA, is shown on the eastern boundary. The 1853 tithe map shows a similar layout to the 1798 map.

Between 1853 and the first edition Ordnance Survey map of 1882 four new buildings (one partially located within the PDA) were constructed close to the earlier building; they were enclosed by a new boundary. The footpath, which terminates at the new boundary, also appears to have been formalised during this period and is depicted on this map. An 1884 plan of Henlow Grange Estate (associated with its sale) shows a similar layout to the First Edition map. The building fronting the High Street (outside of the PDA) is named as the Brewhouse Inn; the buildings on the PDA were probably associated with it.

Between 1884 and 1901, the southern boundary of the PDA was established; one of the outbuildings associated with the Brewhouse Inn was demolished; and an additional building was constructed as an extension to the east–west aligned building in the eastern part of the site.

No further changes occurred on the PDA until between 1925 and c.1938, when no. 23 High Street was constructed. A boundary was also constructed around the new property, separating it from the eight additional buildings that were constructed in this period to the west. The southern part of the PDA is also depicted as an orchard/wooded area.

There were no other changes to the PDA until the mid-/late 20th century when the building depicted on the Enclosure map was demolished and two additional buildings, including a (recently demolished) storage building were constructed in the northern part of the site. Between 1976 and 1978-88 the west–east aligned buildings to the north-west of the Brewhouse Inn and the field boundaries on the



PDA were demolished and a new boundary was constructed along the footpath. There were no changes on the PDA between 1983 and 2017, other than the demolition of the smaller ancillary buildings in the north. On the 2017 map, the overgrown southern part of the PDA is shown as a green area and the car-park is demarcated by a dotted line.

Depending on the nature of their foundations, it was clear that the construction of the former buildings on the PDA could have truncated any earlier archaeological remains in those areas. However, there was potential for remains associated with rear-plot activity related to the former buildings to survive on the PDA



2. PROJECT OBJECTIVES

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

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

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

Potential heritage assets on the PDA, if present, were thought most likely to date to the medieval or post-medieval periods, possibly comprising settlement remains related to the historic village of Henlow.

With regards to the investigation of medieval settlement, the regional research framework states that few medieval settlements have been investigated archaeologically within Bedfordshire and many elements of the settlement hierarchy require more detailed study. This needs to be undertaken at the micro-scale of investigating the chronology, structure and function of individual settlements and at the macro-scale of broad patterns of settlement (Oake 2007, 14).

Post-medieval research aims include: the investigation of Bedfordshire's long history of enclosure and the nature of agricultural development; the impact of change on the landscape in relation to the development of rural settlements; and the development of model farms and estate cottages and villages and their impact on the wider agricultural community (Oake 2007, 16).



3. METHOD STATEMENTS

3.1 Methodological Standards

The methodological approach to the project was detailed in the WSI (Albion Archaeology 2020), which was approved by the CBCAO prior to commencement of the work.

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

• Albion Archaeology	<i>Procedures Manual: Volume 1 Fieldwork</i> (3rd ed, 2017).
• Bedford Borough Council	<i>Procedures for preparing archaeological archives for deposition with Registered Museums in Bedfordshire</i> . V2.8 (2010)
• ClfA	<i>Charter and by-law</i> (2014); <i>Code of conduct</i> (2019)
	<i>Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation</i> (2020)
	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i> (2020)
	<i>Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives</i> (2020)
• EAA	<i>Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England</i> (2003)
• 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)

3.2 Trench Locations

The trenches were located evenly across the PDA to assess areas that would be impacted by the planned development. Five of the trenches were moved from their original positions (as shown in the WSI) so as to avoid on-site constraints—a live electrical service (Trench 2), demolition disturbance (Trench 3), a spoil heap (Trench 5), to increase the stand-off from a house foundation (Trench 7) and to reflect changes in the proposed housing layout (Trench 9).

3.3 Implementation

The trial trenching was undertaken between 10th and 17th December 2020. A total of nine trenches were excavated (Figures 1 and 2). The trenches were 30m long and 2m wide. Parts of Trenches 6 and 8 could not be fully excavated due to the presence of a live fibre-optic cable and a part of Trench 4 could not be fully excavated due to the presence of a substantial manhole.



The trenches were opened by a mechanical excavator fitted with a flat-edged bucket, operated by an experienced driver under constant archaeological supervision. All excavation and recording were carried out by experienced Albion staff with external specialists consulted as necessary.

3.4 Archiving

The archive of finds and records generated during the project will be kept secure at all stages of the operation. All records and materials produced will be archived to the standards outlined in Historic England's *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* and those set out by Bedford Borough Council.

Permission will be sought from the landowner for transfer of title of all finds to The Higgins Art Gallery & Museum, Bedford.

On completion of the project the archive will be deposited with The Higgins Art Gallery & Museum (accession no.: BEDFM 2020.56).

Details of the project and its findings will be submitted to the OASIS database in accordance with the guidelines issued by Historic England and the Archaeology Data Service (ref. no. albionar1-401636).



4. RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

All deposits and features found within the trial trenches are summarised below and shown on Figures 2–7, which also include a representative selection of site photographs. Where site recording numbers have been used they are distinguished by different bracket styles to indicate feature number = [***] and fill number = (***). Context numbers reflect the trench number, e.g. [305] is a feature within Trench 3 and, therefore, the trench number is only given where necessary.

Detailed finds information is contained in Appendix 1. Details of all observed deposits and archaeological features are provided in Appendix 2.

4.2 Overburden and Geological Deposits

On the higher ground in the eastern part of the PDA, within Trenches 1, 2, 4 and 5, the overburden comprised a c.0.3m-thick grey-brown clay-silt topsoil over a 0.25–0.32m-thick grey-brown silty clay subsoil. The topsoil within Trench 4 had been reduced to 0.1m thick and sealed by a 0.1m-thick tarmac surface over a 0.1m-thick layer of gravel levelling, where a parking area had been constructed.

In the area of the lower ground sloping down to the brook, beneath a thin covering of demolition fragments and silt the overburden comprised either a c.0.05m-thick tarmac surface and a 0.4m-thick levelling layer (Trenches 3, 7 and 8), or demolition backfill where the tarmac had been removed during recent demolition activity (Trenches 6 and 9). Below this was a 0.2m–0.45m-thick buried former topsoil of grey-brown clay-silt, which overlay the undisturbed geology or a palaeochannel deposit (see Section 4.3 below).

The undisturbed geological stratum varied across the PDA. To the east within Trenches 1–3 it comprised brown yellow clay with chalk fragments and to the south within Trenches 4 and 5 it comprised brown orange silty. Orange brown silty clay was present at the edges of, and below, the palaeochannel deposit within Trenches 6–9.

4.3 Palaeochannel

A palaeochannel comprising an extensive, dark-coloured, silty clay deposit (at least c.1m thick) was present in Trenches 6–9 (Figure 4, Section 4 and photograph on Figure 5).

Extrapolated across the trenches, the palaeochannel [604, 703, 803, 903] varied between c.21m and >45m wide. A hand-excavated segment revealed a broadly 45-degree sloping side; a machine-excavated section indicated that the palaeochannel was at least 0.9m deep. The upper 0.2m of the deposit contained occasional fragments of animal bone and a fragment of post-medieval clay tobacco pipe.

The finds within the uppermost part of the palaeochannel's fill, suggest that it remained a shallow watercourse until relatively recently.



4.4 Post-medieval Features

Post-medieval features comprised a ditch and posthole within Trench 2, a posthole within Trench 4 and three postholes within Trench 8.

4.4.1 Ditch and posthole within Trench 2

A N–S aligned boundary ditch [203] was revealed towards the centre of Trench 2 (Figures 2–4, Section 1 and photograph on Figure 5). It measured 2.2m wide and 0.9m deep and was filled with a mid-brown-grey silty clay. It contained a fragment of post-medieval tile and three residual sherds of early medieval pottery, as well as some animal bone. The ditch truncated subsoil (201).

No boundary is illustrated on any maps in this location, though the feature's alignment and location suggest it is associated with property boundaries illustrated on the 1938 OS map (Figure 3).

A sub-square posthole [210] towards the north-west end of Trench 2 (Figures 2–3 and photograph on Figure 6) measured 0.4m across and 0.1m deep; it contained a fragment of post-medieval roof tile. Its position suggests it may be associated with a property boundary illustrated in this location on the 1938 OS map.

4.4.2 Posthole within Trench 4

A sub-square posthole [409] at the north-east end of Trench 4 (Figures 2 and 3) does not correspond with any features on the 1938 OS map. It measured c.0.5m across and 0.26m deep; it contained a fragment of post-medieval peg-tile.

4.4.3 Postholes within Trench 8

Three postholes [810, 812 and 814] in Trench 8 (Figures 2 and 4, and photographs on Figure 5) were located c.6m north-west of ditch [806] (see Section 4.6).

The postholes were sub-circular in plan with concave profiles varying from 0.25–0.4m in diameter and 0.05–0.22m deep.

Posthole [814] contained a fragment of post-medieval clay tobacco pipe. The other two postholes contained no finds but are likely to be of a similar date based on their alignment and close proximity. The location of all three postholes suggests they are associated with a boundary marked on the 1938 OS map (Figure 3).

4.5 Modern Features

Seven modern pits were revealed within Trenches 1, 2, 6 and 8.

4.5.1 Quarry pit within Trench 1

An extensive feature [105] was present running almost the whole length of Trench 1 and extending beyond the trench on both sides (Figures 2–3 and photograph on Figure 5).

Its large size, measuring >15m long and 0.63m deep, and slightly irregular concave profile indicate that it is likely to be a backfilled quarry pit. It was



filled with a light yellow-brown clay, which contained post-medieval and modern pottery and roof tile fragments.

4.5.2 Rectangular pit within Trench 2

A rectangular pit [206] towards the south-east end of Trench 2 (Figures 2 and 3 and photograph on Figure 6) had vertical sides and a flat base. It was 1m long, 0.9m wide and at least 0.13m deep. It contained large fragments of modern 'frogged' bricks.

The pit may have been associated with a building illustrated close to this location on the 1938 OS map.

4.5.3 Large pits within Trench 6

Toward the centre of Trench 6, two large sub-circular pits [605 and 609] were cut from directly below the former yard surface (Figures 2 and 3).

Both pits were similar in character, though only a small part of pit [609] was revealed within the trench. Pit [605] measured c.3m across and was at least 0.9m deep. Pit [609] measured at least 2m across and 1m deep. The pits appear to have been backfilled with demolition material prior to the building/consolidation of the transport depot in the late 1970s. Although possibly associated with the building shown on the 1938 map, pit [605] contained large fragments of modern concrete, plastic and glass. Pit [609] contained fragments of mortar and large fragments of 'frogged' bricks.

4.5.4 Three small pits within Trench 8

Three small sub-circular pits were clustered at the south-east end of Trench 8 (Figures 2–4, Section 6); two of them truncated undated ditch [806] (see Section 4.6).

Pit [818] truncated ditch [806] and continued beyond the edge of the trench. It measured c.1.3m wide and contained rusty metal artefacts and large fragments of roof tiles. Pit [808] measured 0.53m in diameter and 0.15m deep and also truncated ditch [806]. It contained no finds, but its relationship with ditch [806] suggests it is most likely to also be modern in date.

Pit [816] was located immediately south of ditch [806]. It measured c.1m in diameter and contained a modern, screw-top glass jar.

4.6 Undated Features

A layer, two ditches and a small pit containing no dating evidence were revealed within Trenches 2, 5 and 8.

4.6.1 Layer within Trench 2

A mid-grey-brown silty clay layer (213) was revealed within Trench 2 to the west of post-medieval ditch [203] (Figures 2–4 and photograph on Figure 6). It was very similar in character to that of the overlying subsoil (201) but was slightly lighter grey-brown in colour and contained three small, abraded sherds of early medieval pottery.



It is possible that the layer represents a remnant of a former topsoil, though its light grey-brown colour, similar to that of the subsoil, tends to suggest that this is unlikely. The abraded nature and small size of the few recovered pottery sherds mean that they cannot be confidently used to date the deposit.

4.6.2 Small oval pit within Trench 2

A small oval pit [206] was present at the south-east end of Trench 2 (Figures 2–4 and photograph on Figure 6). It measured *c.* 1m across and 0.2m deep and contained a pink-grey clay-silt deposit, which included a number of burnt stones.

The sides and base of the pit showed no signs of having been heat-affected, indicating that the fill represents a dumped burnt deposit rather than having been burnt in-situ.

4.6.3 Shallow ditches within Trenches 5 and 8

Two E–W aligned shallow ditches [503 and 806] were revealed within the south-east ends of Trenches 5 and 8 (Figures 2–4, Sections 3 and 5; photograph on Figure 6). They measured *c.* 1m wide and 0.11–0.15m deep and were filled with grey-brown silty clay.

Though they contained no finds, the location and alignment of these ditches are similar to property boundaries marked on the 1938 OS map (Figure 3), the earlier 1798 Enclosure map (Figure 10) and the Tithe map of 1853, suggesting that they are likely to be no earlier than post-medieval in date. It is also notable that they are perpendicular to post-medieval boundary ditch [203].

4.7 Tree-throws/Root Holes

Five features within Trenches 4, 6 and 7 were proven, upon excavation, to be tree-throws/root holes.

All were located near to the edge of the palaeochannel, representative of vegetation colonising the wetter conditions in this part of the site. A small number of finds, including a post-medieval pottery sherd and roof tile fragments (which are likely to have derived from nearby activity) were recovered from two of the root holes within Trench 4.



5. CONCLUSIONS

5.1 *Summary of Results*

No features earlier than post-medieval in date were identified in any of the trenches, although the presence of a few small sherds of early medieval pottery occurring as residual finds in later features does hint at earlier activity in the wider vicinity.

The post-medieval features included a substantial ditch within Trench 2. No boundary is illustrated on any maps in this precise location, though its alignment and location suggest it is associated with property boundaries illustrated on the 1938 OS map. A number of post-medieval postholes were also revealed, of which one in Trench 2 and three in Trench 8 may be associated with nearby boundaries marked on the 1798 Enclosure map and later OS maps.

Several pits were associated with more recent activity within the PDA. These included a large quarry pit within Trench 1 and two large pits within Trench 6 that appeared to have been backfilled with a variety of modern materials prior to the building/consolidation of the transport depot in the late 1970s.

A small number of undated features included two shallow ditches within Trenches 5 and 8 which are likely to be associated with property boundaries marked on the 1798 Enclosure map and later OS maps.

The trenches within the low-lying west end of the site contained evidence of a N–S aligned palaeochannel. The small amount of post-medieval and modern finds recovered from its fill suggest it may have remained as a shallow watercourse until relatively recently.

5.2 *Significance of Results*

The identified post-medieval features do add to our knowledge of post-medieval land-use within this part of Henlow. However, they have no potential to address identified research themes and can only be considered to be of local interest. The later, modern features are of negligible interest and of no archaeological significance.



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7. APPENDIX 1: FINDS SUMMARY

7.1 Introduction

Eleven deposits across five trenches yielded a small assemblage of pottery, ceramic building material, clay tobacco pipe and animal bone (Table 1). No finds were collected from Trenches 3, 5, 6 or 9. Artefacts of obviously modern origin observed in various trenches were recorded on site and not retained.

Tr.	Feature	Fill	Date range	Finds Summary
1	105 Quarry pit	103	Modern	Pottery (35g); ceramic roof tile (52g)
2	203 Ditch	205	Post-medieval	Pottery (37g); ceramic roof tile (63g); animal bone (336g)
	210 Posthole	211	Post-medieval	Ceramic roof tile (33g)
	213 Subsoil	-	Medieval (C12th-13th)	Pottery (20g); animal bone (7g)
4	404 Tree throw	405	Post-medieval	Pottery (34g); ceramic roof tile (131g); animal bone (7g)
	407 Tree throw	408	Post-medieval	Ceramic roof tile (37g); clay tobacco pipe (1g); animal bone (7g)
	409 Posthole	410	Post-medieval	Ceramic roof tile (31g)
7	703 Palaeochannel	704	Post-medieval	Clay tobacco pipe (4g); animal bone (24g)
	703 Palaeochannel	705	Undated	Animal bone (45g)
8	803 Palaeochannel	804	Modern	Pantile (56g); ceramic roof tile (182g)
	814 Posthole	815	Post-medieval	Clay tobacco pipe (5g); animal bone (18g)
	818 Rubbish pit	819	Modern	Pantile (668g)

Table 1: Finds summary by trench and feature

7.2 Pottery

Ten pottery sherds (126g) of early medieval, post-medieval and modern date were collected and identified in accordance with the Bedfordshire Ceramic Type Series (Table 2).

Fabric code	Common name / date	Qty.	Wt. (g)	Feature/Sherd No.
B01	St Neots-type ware (9th-12th century)	2	17	[213]:2
B04	St Neots-type ware – coarse (10th-12th century)	2	30	[203]:2
B07	Shelly ware (12th-13th century)	1	7	[203]:1
C59A	Coarse sandy ware (12th -13th century)	1	3	[213]:1
P01	Glazed red earthenware (17th century+)	2	40	[105]:1, [404]:1
P19	Mottle/speckle-glazed ware (17th-18th century)	1	10	[404]:1
P45	Transfer-printed earthenware (late 18th-early 19th century)	1	19	[105]:1

Table 2: Pottery Type Series and quantification

Early medieval vessels are mainly shell-tempered in the St Neots ware tradition and comprise an everted rim jar, two upright bowl rims and a jar of probable ‘top hat’ form. Three sherds occurred as residual finds in post-medieval ditch [203] and three derived from subsoil (213); all are abraded.

Later pottery occurring in quarry pit [105] and tree-throw [404] includes glazed red earthenware body sherds and a refined white earthenware plate rim with printed underglaze in Blue Willow pattern.

7.3 Ceramic Building Material

Eight sand-tempered pieces of flat roof tile (347g), two with partial circular peg holes, were collected from features in Trenches 1, 2 and 4. Flat roof tile is known to have been used from the late 13th century (Baker *et al.* 1979, 253),



although given the context of their recovery it is thought that the examples recovered from this site are post-medieval in date.

Modern building material (not retained) comprises three pieces of Gault clay pantile (724g) sampled from rubbish pit [818] and palaeochannel [803]. The latter also yielded a piece of mass-produced flat roof tile (182g).

7.4 Clay Tobacco Pipe

Tree-throw [407], palaeochannel [703] and post-hole [814] yielded three small pieces of clay tobacco pipe stem (10g), one with a flat square heel. All are of post-medieval or later date.

7.5 Animal Bone

Twenty-nine animal bone fragments (444g) were collected from deposits in Trenches 2, 4, 7 and 8. Post-medieval ditch [203] yielded the majority (336g), with remains including large mammal rib and limb bone fragments, an abraded cattle molar and a distal phalanx from a small horse/pony. Post-medieval post-hole [814] contained two pieces of indeterminate limb bone (18g). Fragments collected from subsoil (213) tree-throws [404], [407] and palaeochannel [703] comprise abraded limb bones, a piece of pig mandible and single sheep/goat and cattle molars.



8. APPENDIX 2: TRENCH SUMMARIES



Trench: 1

Max Dimensions: Length: 20.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.55 m. Max: 0.6 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 17692: Northing: 38150)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 17675: Northing: 38139)

Reason: Assess archaeological potential

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
100	Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown silty clay frequent small-large CBM Frequent modern litter present throughout layer. Up to 0.33m thick.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
101	Subsoil	Firm dark grey brown silty clay frequent small-medium CBM, frequent flecks chalk, moderate flecks charcoal Up to 0.32m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
102	Natural	Firm light brown yellow clay frequent flecks chalk, moderate small stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
105	Quarry	sides: irregular base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.63m Very large quarry pit, at least 15m long and 1.8m wide. Full extent not revealed within trench. Entirely excavated by machine.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
103	Backfill	Firm light yellow brown clay moderate small-medium CBM, frequent flecks chalk, moderate small stones Up to 0.51m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
104	Backfill	Friable dark grey brown silty clay moderate small-medium CBM, moderate small stones Up to 0.16m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 2

Max Dimensions: Length: 20.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.45 m. Max: 0.85 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 17648: Northing: 38152)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 17664: Northing: 38140)

Reason: Assess archaeological potential

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
200	Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown clay silt frequent small CBM Up to 0.3m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
201	Subsoil	Firm dark grey brown silty clay frequent small CBM, frequent flecks chalk, moderate flecks charcoal Up to 0.3m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
202	Natural	Firm mid brown orange clay occasional flecks chalk, moderate small stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
203	Ditch	Linear N-S sides: asymmetrical base: concave dimensions: max breadth 2.2m, max depth 0.9m, min length 1.m Not fully bottomed due to depth. 0.1 x 0.1m area excavated at base to establish total depth.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
204	Primary fill	Firm mid orange grey clay silt moderate small stones At least 0.13m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
205	Main fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay occasional small-medium CBM, moderate flecks chalk, occasional flecks charcoal, moderate small stones Up to 0.7m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
206	Pit	Oval NW-SE sides: asymmetrical base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.9m, max depth 0.19m, max length 1.m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
207	Backfill	Friable light grey pink clay silt frequent small burnt stones Deliberate dump of burnt stones/backfill within pit. Up to 0.19m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
208	Pit	Square sides: vertical dimensions: min breadth 0.9m, min depth 0.13m, min length 0.9m Excavation carried out until obviously modern brickwork reached. Cut through subsoil.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
209	Main fill	Firm mid grey silty clay frequent medium-large CBM, moderate flecks chalk, moderate small stones Up to 0.13m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
212	Lining	Friable white chalk Up to 0.03m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
210	Posthole	Square sides: vertical base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.4m, max depth 0.1m, max length 0.4m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
211	Backfill	Firm mid grey silty clay moderate small-medium CBM, moderate flecks charcoal Up to 0.1m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
213	Layer	Firm mid grey brown silty clay moderate flecks chalk, occasional flecks charcoal Up to 0.15m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
214	Make up layer	Friable mid grey brown clay silt moderate small-medium CBM, moderate flecks charcoal, moderate small-medium stones Very mixed layer, in places tending towards orange-brown in colour. Up to 0.2m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 3

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: 17627: Northing: 38142)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 17640: Northing: 38125)

Reason: Assess archaeological potential

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
300	Tarmac	Hard black tarmac Up to 0.05m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
301	Levelling layer	Cemented mid orange yellow sand frequent small-large CBM Mixed in with dark grey-brown silty clay. Up to 0.19m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
302	Buried topsoil	Firm dark grey brown clay silt moderate medium-large CBM, moderate small stones Up to 0.09m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
303	Subsoil	Firm mid orange brown silty clay moderate small-large CBM Up to 0.28m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
304	Natural	Firm light orange brown silty clay moderate flecks chalk, moderate small stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 4

Max Dimensions: Length: 20.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.6 m. Max: 0.65 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 17657: Northing: 38116)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 17644: Northing: 38101)

Reason: Assess archaeological potential

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
400	Tarmac	Loose black tarmac moderate small stones Up to 0.1m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
401	Make up layer	Loose mid brown grey gravel Up to 0.1m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
402	Buried topsoil	Firm mid grey brown clay silt Up to 0.35m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
403	Subsoil	Firm mid brown orange clay silt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
404	Treethrow	Sub-circular sides: steep base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.7m, max depth 0.35m, max length 0.75m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
405	Fill	Firm dark grey green clay silt occasional small CBM Frequent flecks of wood. Up to 0.35m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
406	Fill	Plastic mid green grey clay Occasional flecks of wood. Up to 0.35m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
407	Treethrow	Sub-oval NE-SW sides: asymmetrical base: uneven dimensions: max breadth 0.4m, max depth 0.2m, max length 0.55m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
408	Fill	Firm mid grey brown clay silt occasional small CBM, occasional flecks charcoal Up to 0.2m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
409	Posthole	Sub-square sides: asymmetrical base: flat dimensions: max depth 0.26m, max diameter 0.55m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
410	Fill	Firm mid grey brown clay silt occasional flecks charcoal Up to 0.26m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
411	Natural	Firm mid brown orange silty clay occasional small stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 5

Max Dimensions: Length: 20.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.5 m. Max: 0.6 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 17628: Northing: 38093)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 17648: Northing: 38087)

Reason: Assess archaeological potential

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
500	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey silty clay occasional small CBM Up to 0.29m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
501	Subsoil	Friable mid grey brown clay silt occasional small CBM, occasional medium stones Up to 0.3m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
502	Natural	Friable mid brown orange silty clay moderate flecks chalk	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
503	Ditch	Linear E-W sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.14m, max depth 0.11m, min length 1.1m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
504	Fill	Friable mid grey brown silty clay occasional medium stones Up to 0.11m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 6

Max Dimensions: Length: 20.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.7 m. Max: 1. m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 17624: Northing: 38156)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 17605: Northing: 38147)

Reason: Assess archaeological potential

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
600	Demolition layer	Loose dark grey silty rubble frequent small-large CBM, frequent small-large concrete Up to 0.25m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
601	Make up layer	Loose mid red orange rubble frequent medium stones Up to 0.05m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
602	Buried topsoil	Firm mid grey brown clay silt Up to 0.45m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
604	Palaeochannel	Linear sides: irregular dimensions: min depth 0.75m Full extent of palaeochannel not exposed.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
603	Fill	Hard mid green grey silty clay At least 0.75m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
605	Pit	Sub-circular sides: steep dimensions: min depth 0.9m, min diameter 2.m Cut through buried topsoil.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
606	Lower fill	At least 0.3m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
607	Main fill	Loose dark brown rubble frequent small-large CBM, frequent small-large concrete, frequent small-large stones Plastic, polystyrene and glass also present in fill.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
608	Natural	Firm mid orange brown silty clay occasional small stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
609	Pit	sides: concave dimensions: min breadth 2.m, min length 3.m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
610	Fill	Firm light grey white hardcore A demolition-derived deposit mostly comprised of small, modern mortar fragments with occasional large modern frogged brick fragments.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 7

Max Dimensions: Length: 20.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.5 m. Max: 0.62 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 17604: Northing: 38141)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 17587: Northing: 38151)

Reason: Assess archaeological potential

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
700	Tarmac	Hard black tarmac Up to 0.16m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
701	Levelling layer	Friable dark brown grey clay silt frequent small-large CBM, frequent small sand, frequent small-medium stones Up to 0.34m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
702	Buried topsoil	Firm dark blue brown silty clay Up to 0.16m deep.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
703	Palaeochannel	Linear N-S sides: irregular dimensions: min breadth 15m, min depth 0.5m, min length 1.8m Palaeochannel extends across trench, and was not bottomed due to water ingress.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
704	Fill	Firm mid green grey silt At least 0.3m deep. Same as 705 - arbitrary distinction made between hand- and machine-excavated fills.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
705	Fill	Firm mid green grey silt Up to 0.07m deep. Same as 704 - arbitrary distinction made between hand- and machine-excavated fills.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
706	Natural	Firm mid orange brown silty clay occasional flecks chalk	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 8

Max Dimensions: Length: 20.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.6 m. Max: 1.1 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 17631: Northing: 38119)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 17613: Northing: 38128)

Reason: Assess archaeological potential

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
800	Tarmac	Hard black tarmac Up to 0.05m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
801	Make up layer	Loose mid brown rubble Up to 0.2m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
802	Buried topsoil	Firm mid grey brown clay silt Up to 0.35m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
803	Palaeochannel	Linear dimensions: min depth 1.1m Palaeochannel spans trench completely.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
804	Fill	Hard mid green grey silty clay At least 0.6m thick.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
805	Levelling layer	Loose rubble Up to 0.48m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
806	Ditch	Linear NE-SW sides: 45 degrees base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.9m, min depth 0.11m, min length 1m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
807	Fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay occasional small CBM, occasional flecks charcoal Up to 0.11m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
808	Pit	Sub-circular sides: 45 degrees base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.15m, max diameter 0.53m Partially covered by baulk.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
809	Fill	Friable dark grey brown clay silt occasional small CBM Up to 0.15m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
810	Posthole	Sub-circular sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.06m, max diameter 0.25m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
811	Fill	Firm mid grey brown clay silt Up to 0.06m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
812	Posthole	Sub-circular sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.22m, max diameter 0.4m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
813	Fill	Firm mid grey brown clay silt Up to 0.22m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
814	Posthole	Sub-circular sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.05m, max diameter 0.3m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
815	Fill	Firm mid grey brown clay silt Up to 0.05m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
816	Pit	Sub-circular dimensions: max diameter 1m Modern glass jar visible in fill.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
817	Fill	Friable mid green brown clay silt Modern glass jar visible in fill.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
818	Pit	Sub-circular dimensions: min breadth 1.3m Most of feature covered by baulk. Modern rubbish apparent in fill.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
819	Fill	Firm mid grey brown clay silt frequent medium-large CBM	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
820	Natural	Firm mid brown orange silty clay occasional flecks chalk	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 9

Max Dimensions: Length: 20.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.56 m. Max: 0.7 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 17604: Northing: 38123)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 17584: Northing: 38123)

Reason: Assess archaeological potential

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
900	Demolition layer	Loose black rubble frequent small-large stones Up to 0.16m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
901	Make up layer	Loose dark brown grey silty rubble frequent small-large CBM Up to 0.3m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
902	Buried topsoil	Friable dark brown grey clay silt occasional small stones Up to 0.2m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
903	Palaeochannel	Linear N-S Palaeochannel spans full extent of trench.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
904	Fill	Firm dark green grey silty clay occasional small stones Fill of palaeochannel. At least 0.9m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
905	Natural	Friable light grey orange clay silt moderate small stones Only visible at base of sondage.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

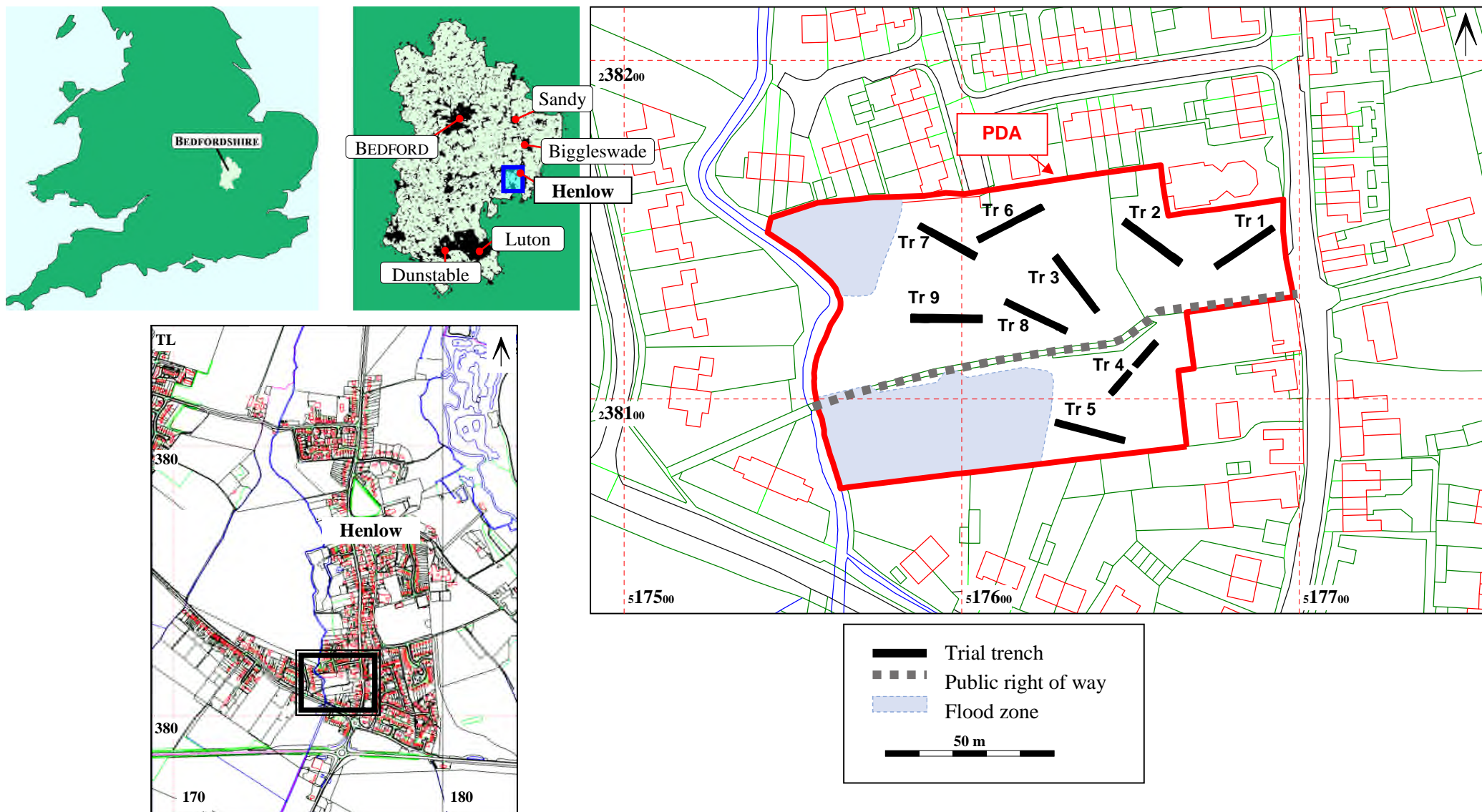
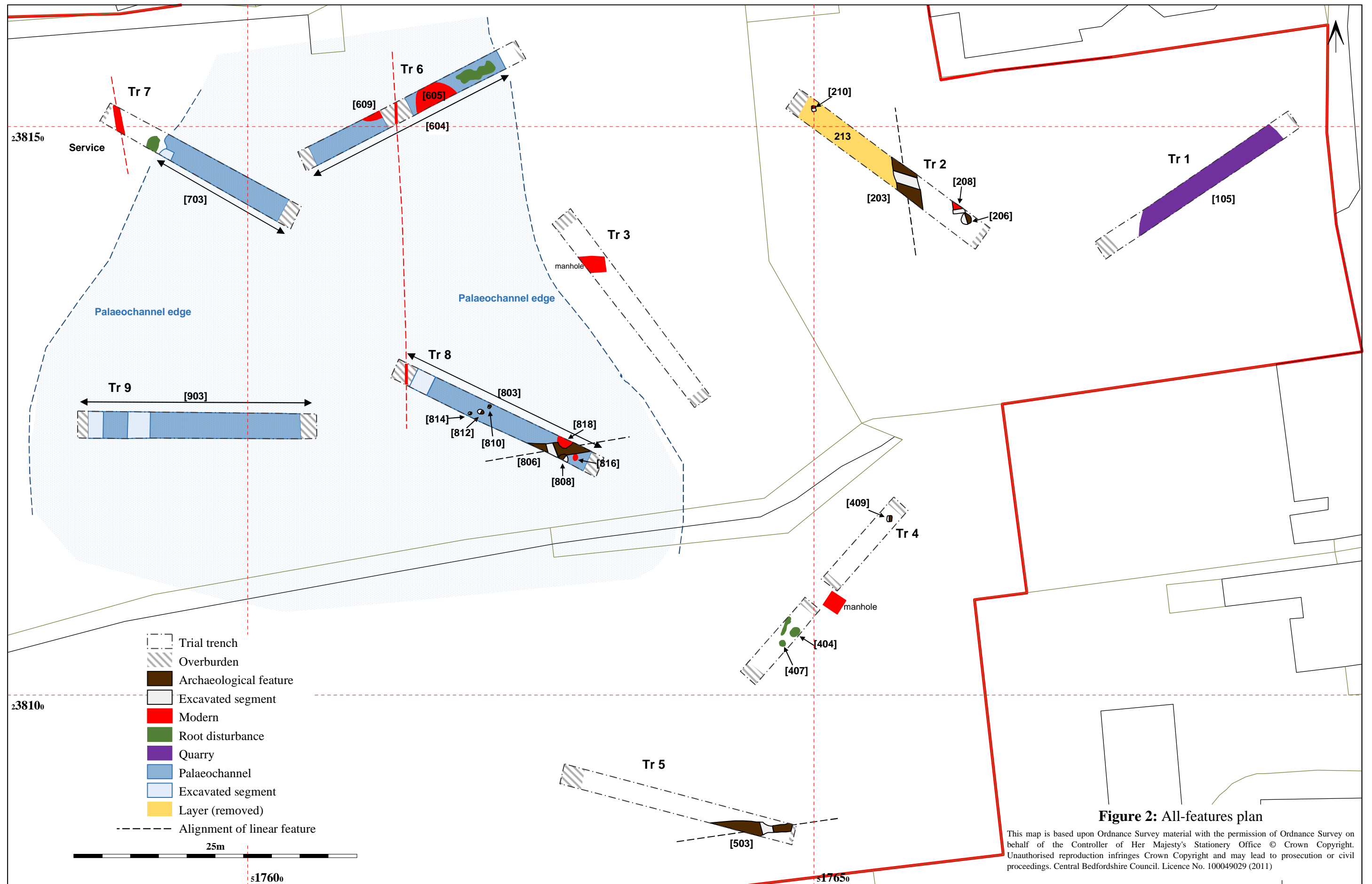
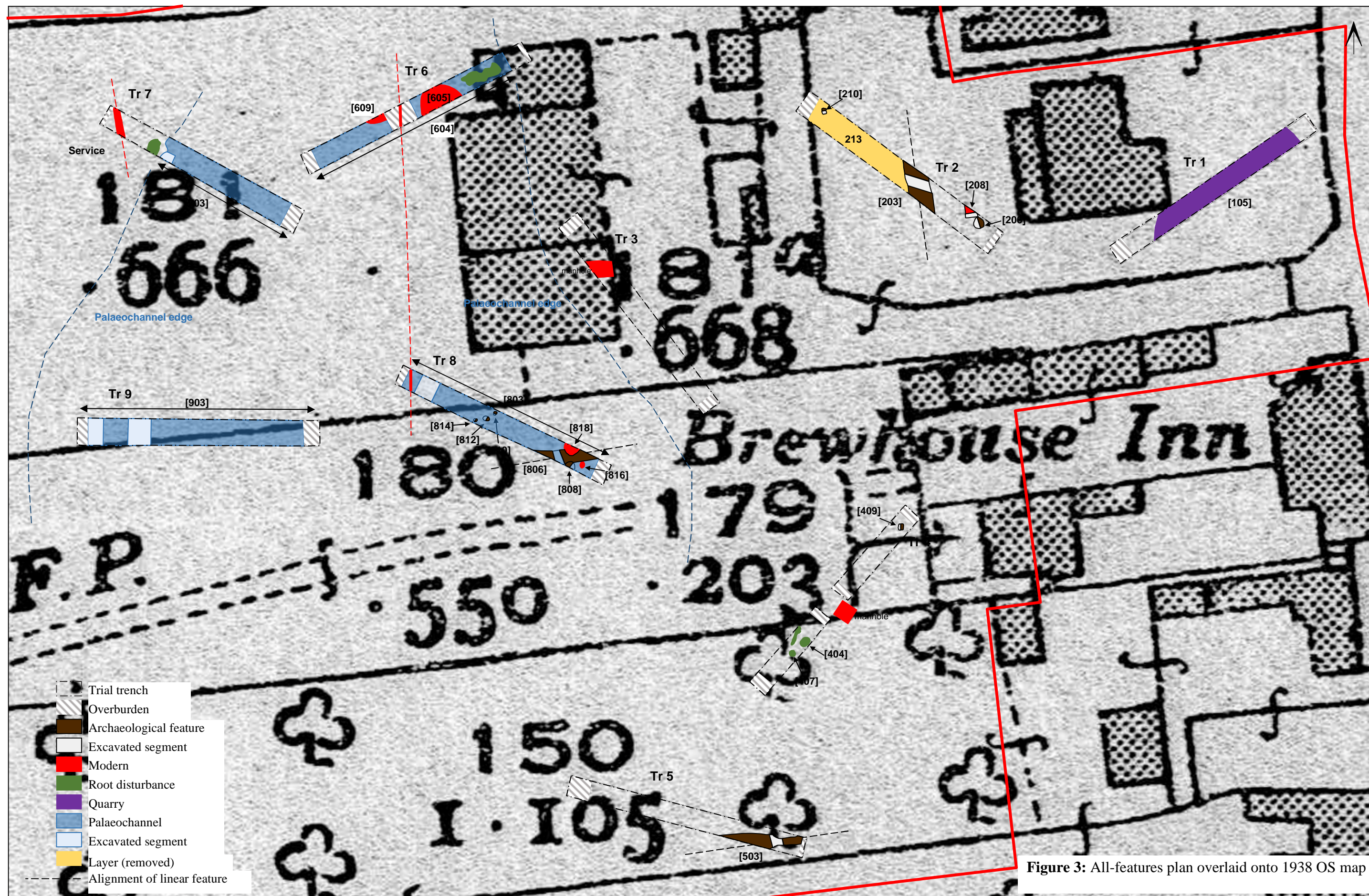


Figure 1: Site location plan and trench layout

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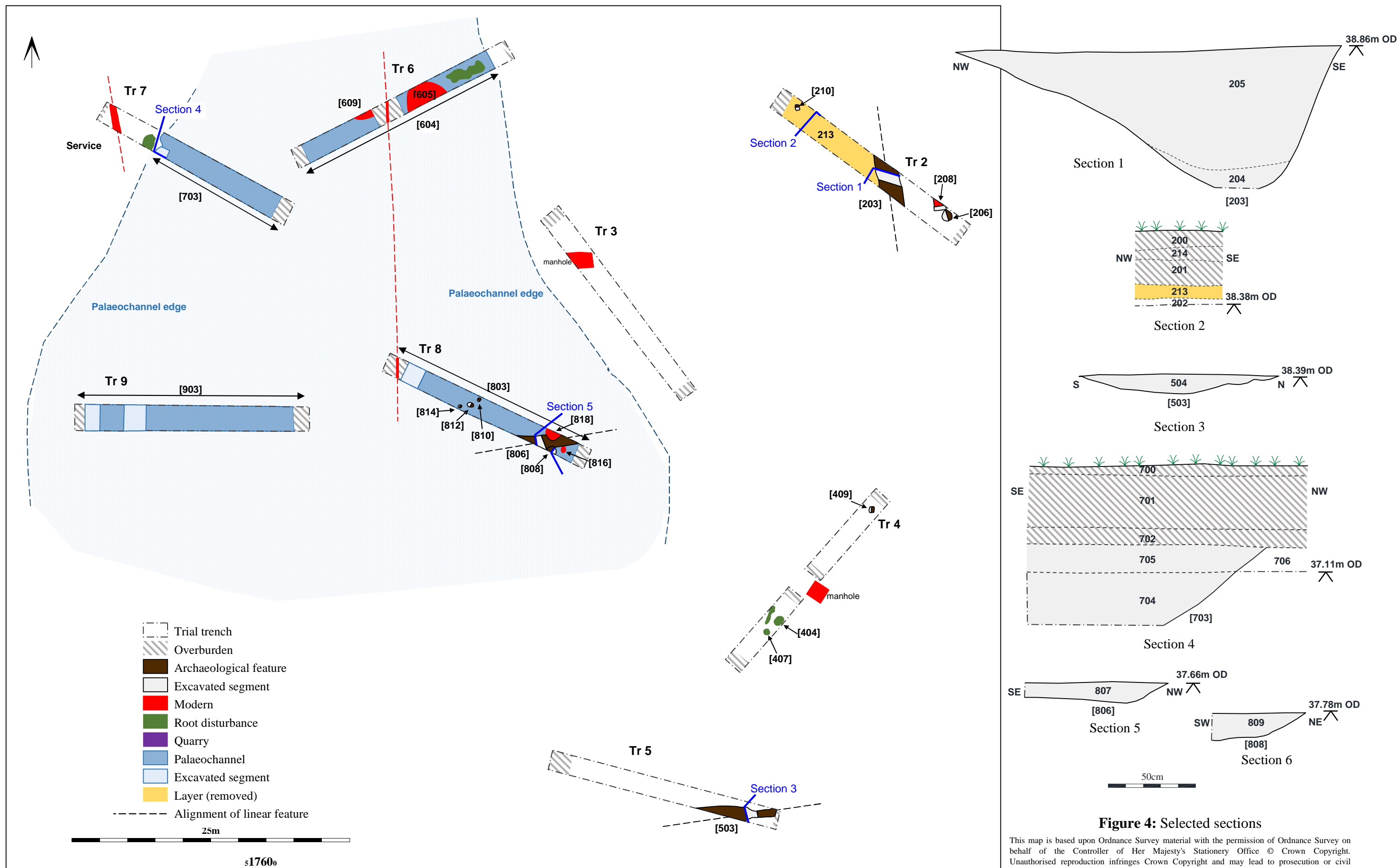


Figure 4: Selected sections

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Tr 9. Palaeochannel [903] / (904) Scale 1m.
Looking south.



Tr 2. Ditch [203] Scale 1m.
Looking north



Tr 8. Posthole [814] Scale 40cm.
Looking south-east.



Tr 8. Posthole [812]. Scale 40cm.
Looking south-east.



Tr 8. Posthole (810). Scale 1m.
Looking East.



Tr 1. Extensive quarry pit [105]. Scale 1m.
Looking East.

Figure 5: Trenches 1, 2, 8 and 9 selected photographs



Tr 2. Square pit containing bricks [208]
Scale 40cm. Looking North



Tr 2. Layer within Trench 2, lower part of grey subsoil (213). Scale 1m. Looking East.



Tr 2. Posthole containing post-medieval tile [210].
Scale 40cm. Looking North.



Tr 2. Undated pit [206]. Scale 40cm.
Looking East.



Tr 5. Undated ditch [503]. Scale 1m.
Looking West.



Tr 8. Undated ditch [806]. Scale 40cm.
Looking West.

Figure 6: Trenches 2, 5 and 8 selected photographs



Tr 1. Scale 1m.
Looking south-west.



Tr 1. Scale 1m.
Looking north-east.



Tr 2. Scale 1m.
Looking north-west.



Tr 2. Scale 1m.
Looking south-east.



Tr 3. Scale 1m.
Looking south-east.



Tr 3. Scale 1m.
Looking north-west.

Figure 7: Trenches 1–3 overview photographs



Tr 4. Scale 1m.
Looking south-west.



Tr 4. Scale 1m.
Looking north-east.



Tr 5. Scale 1m.
Looking north-west.



Tr 5. Scale 1m.
Looking south-east.



Tr 6. Scale 1m.
Looking north-east.



Tr 6. Scale 1m.
Looking south-west.

Figure 8: Trenches 4–6 overview photographs



Tr 7. Scale 1m.
Looking north-west.



Tr 7. Scale 1m.
Looking south-east.



Tr 8. Scale 1m.
Looking north-east.



Tr 8. Scale 1m.
Looking south-west.



Tr 9. Scale 1m.
Looking east.

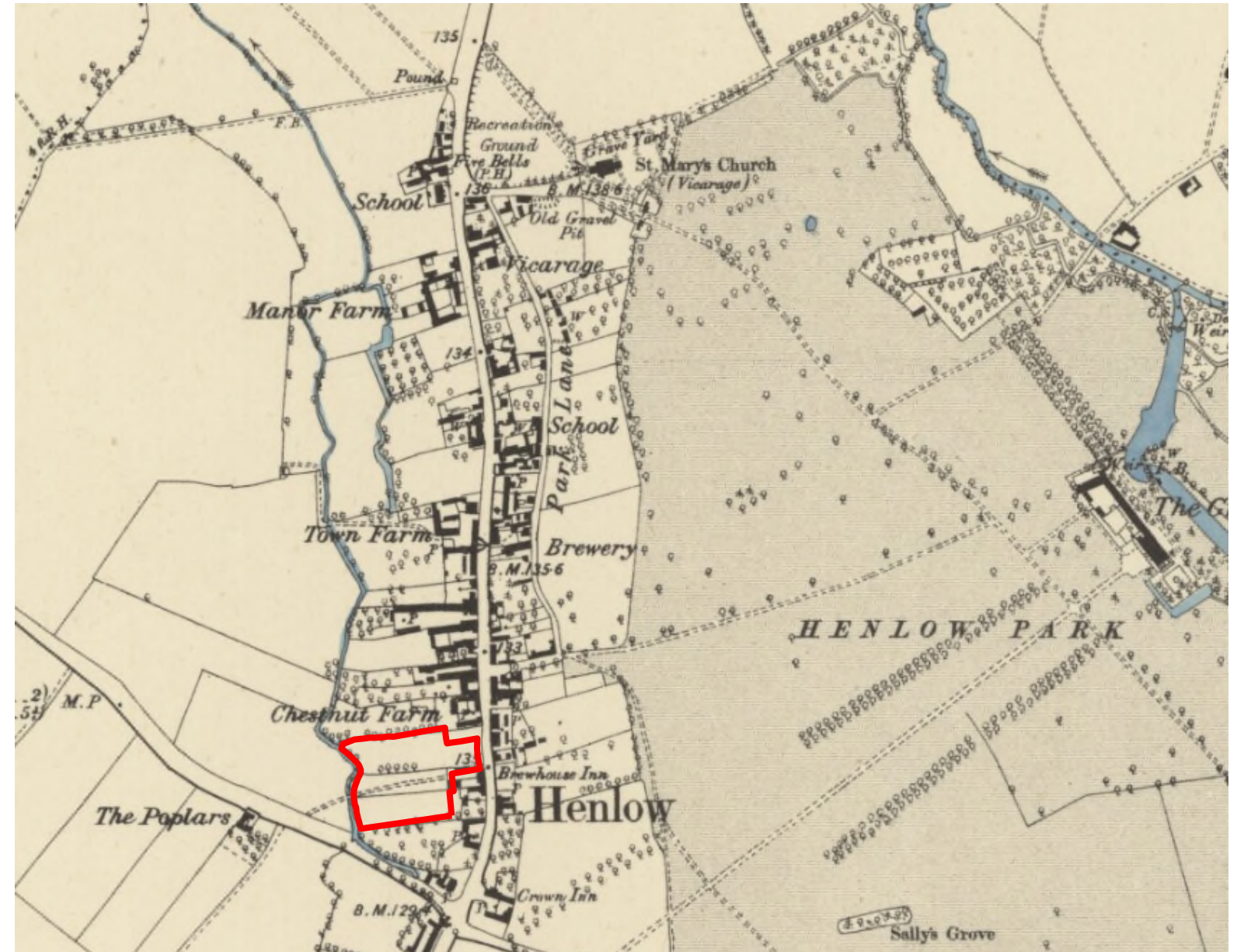


Tr 9. Scale 1m.
Looking west.

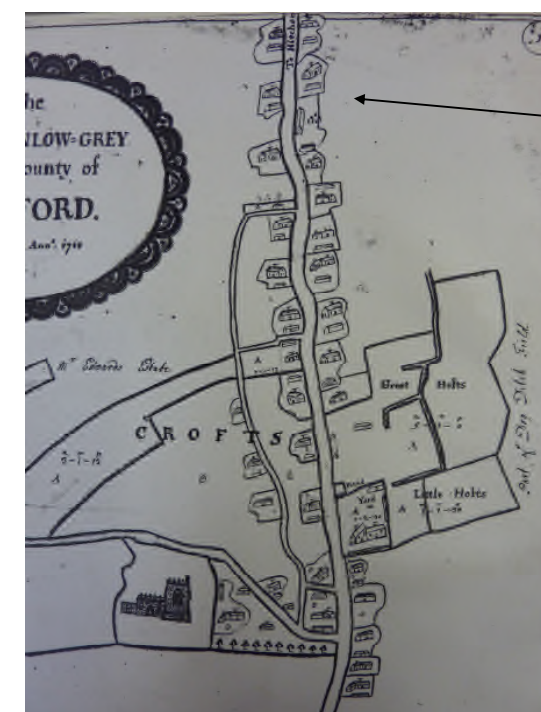
Figure 9: Trenches 7–9 overview photographs



Inclosure map 1798



OS Map 1881

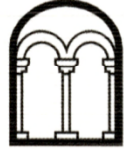


Approximate
location of PDA

Henlow Grey
Estate Map 1718
(south is to top of map).

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