LAND AT 27 ERMINE STREET/16 MERRITT STREET, HUNTINGDON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE
TL 2344 7229

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION

Matt Edgeworth, Gary Edmondson and Jackie Wells

Document: 2004/105
Project: ESH 1047

29th October 2004

Produced for:
D H Barford & Co
Chartered Surveyors and Planning Consultants
St Neots
Cambridgeshire
PE19 2BU

on behalf of :

Mr Charles Saunders

Contents

List of Tables

List of Figures

Appendices

All figures are bound at the back of the report.

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 specification. 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.

This report has been prepared by Matt Edgeworth (Project Officer) and Gary Edmondson (Project Manager). The archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Ian Beswick assisted by Alison Bell. All Albion projects are under the overall management of Drew Shotliff (Operations Manager). Joan Lightning (CAD Technician) produced the figures.

Albion Archaeology would like to thank C Saunders for his help on site, D Barford and M Page of D H Barford & Co and K Gdaniec and A Thomas of Cambridgeshire County Archaeology Office.

Albion Archaeology
St Mary's Church
St Mary's Street
Bedford, MK42 OAS
☎: 01234 294004
Fax: 01234 294008
e-mail: office@albion-arch.com

29th October 2004

Structure of the Report

After the introductory Section 1, a summary of the evaluation results is presented in Section 2, followed by a brief conclusion (Section 3).

Key Terms

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

CAO	Cambridgeshire County Council's Archaeology Office
Client	D H Barford & Co on behalf of Mr C Saunders
SMR	Sites and Monuments Record for Cambridgeshire
IFA	Institute of Field Archaeologists
Procedures Manual	*Procedures Manual Volume 1 Fieldwork*, 2nd edn, 2001 Albion Archaeology
The site	Proposed development site

Non-Technical Summary

Albion Archaeology was commissioned by D H Barford & Co to undertake an archaeological evaluation of the site of a proposed residential development on land at 27 Ermine Street / 16 Merritt Street, Huntingdon. Situated to the north of the historic core of the town, the site is centred on National Grid Reference TL (5/2) 2344 7229. The site has an irregular form in plan, approximately 100m long north-east to south-west by up to 35m wide The geology of the site consists of river gravels above grey mudstones of the Oxford Clay.

As part of the evaluation a desk-based assessment was undertaken in order to better understand the past landscape within which the site is located. This involved a review of the documentary evidence and historic maps held by the local Records Offices. The results of previous archaeological investigation in the vicinity of the site were also examined. The site is adjacent to the route of a Roman road known as Ermine Street, though the exact course is uncertain. The assessment also indicated that the site was probably part of unenclosed common land until the expansion of the town in recent centuries.

The trial excavation stage of the evaluation was undertaken between 19th and 22nd October 2004. Three trenches were excavated down to the top of geological strata. Thick overburden comprising topsoil and subsoil, as well as a recent compacted rubble hardstanding in the south-west were removed. In the north-eastern trenches modern artefacts were recovered from the deposits. It is possible that these deposits were the results of extensive modern – possibly 19th century disturbance.

Despite the proximity of the modern course of Ermine Street, and the possibility that the ancient route could have crossed the site, no traces were found of the Roman road, or any roadside settlement. A thick layer of gravel in the north-east of the site, adjacent to the current route of Ermine Street, was tentatively identified as material possibly associated with the construction of the Roman road. However, further investigation of this area indicated that the deposits were of geological origin. The only feature identified in the north-eastern part of the site was the infilled cavity created by the removal of a tree. This would appear to correlate with a tree depicted on a 19th century map.

The third trench situated in the south-west corner of the site revealed an undated ditch orientated west-north-west to east-south-east. The asymmetrical profile of the ditch and related fills suggests that it may have originally had an associated bank to the east. The full length of the ditch was investigated though no datable artefacts were recovered. However the nature of the fills suggests that this was not a recent feature. The ditch is likely to be part of a field boundary system. This ditch is aligned obliquely to the present course of Ermine Street, suggesting that they are not associated.

The site archive, which contains all records of the project (Project number ESH 1047) is currently stored at the offices of Albion Archaeology and will transferred to the county store on completion of the project.

It is essential that the above summary is read in conjunction with the main body of the report

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Albion Archaeology was commissioned by D H Barford & Co, on behalf of Mr Charles Saunders, to undertake an archaeological evaluation of the proposed site of a residential development. In response to the submission of a pre-application enquiry, the County Archaeology Office (CAO) indicated that the site was in an archaeologically sensitive area and that insufficient information was available to determine the impact of the development, or to allow an appropriate mitigation strategy to be devised.

In order to obtain sufficient information to assess the potential impact of the development the CAO issued a *Brief* for an archaeological evaluation of the land[1]. This required a scheme of trial excavation in order to characterise the location, extent, nature, date and state of preservation of any archaeological features or deposits. In response Albion produced a *Project Design and Desk Based Assessment* which detailed the scope and methodology of the proposed project and assessed the archaeological potential of the vicinity of the site, based on previously published work[2]. The project methodology was approved by the CAO prior to the commencement of trial excavation.

1.2 Site Location and Description

Huntingdon is a small town situated on the north bank of the braided channels of the River Great Ouse, in the mid west of Cambridgeshire. Formerly the county town of Huntingdonshire, it was absorbed into Cambridgeshire in the re-organization of county boundaries in 1974. The principal axis of the town is formed by the A141 which has a roughly north-west to south-east orientation, following the route of the Roman road known as Ermine Street. Originally focused on the crossing of Ermine Street and the River Great Ouse, the town has expanded beyond its historic core to the north-east, the north and the north-west in the last two centuries.

The site is located to the north of the historic core on the western side of Ermine Street, centred on National Grid Reference TL (5/2) 2344 7229 (Figure 1). In plan the site has an elongated irregular form, extending approximately 100m north-east to south-west by between 15-35m wide, covering an area of approximately 0.2 hectares (Figure 1). The eastern and south-eastern limits of the site are defined by Ermine Street and Merritt Street respectively, with the south-western limit defined by the rear boundary of houses fronting Merritt Street. The western extent is delimited by the railway line. The northern boundary with adjacent properties is irregular.

The British Geological Survey maps indicate that the site is situated within a sinuous band of terraced river gravels, orientated roughly north-west to south-east in the vicinity of the site. Below this are grey mudstones with infrequent stone bands, which are a component of the Oxford Clay.

[1] Cambridgeshire County Council 2004, *Brief for Archaeological Field Evaluation, 27 Ermine Street/16 Merritt Street, Huntingdon*, 16th July, 2004

[2] Albion Archaeology 2004, *Land at 27 Ermine Street/16 Merritt Street, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire: Archaeological Project Design and Desk-Based Assessment* 04/93

Topographically the site is fairly flat, ranging in elevation from 11 to 13 metres above Ordnance Datum, with a slight slope down to the south-west corner. A stream known as Balm Brook flows roughly east-west just half a kilometre to the south.

The site is presently occupied by a garage, houses, workshops, gardens, car parking areas and yards. The main access route and the central car parking areas have been surfaced with tarmac. To the rear of the site the open areas are surfaced with rubble hardcore. Gardens are well established and enclosed by low walls, with only narrow access through gates. Most of the site is now in use as a garage and associated business premises. The house, 16 Merritt Street, is currently in use as a store.

1.3 Historical and Archaeological Background

A review of documentary evidence, historic maps, Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) entries, results of previous archaeological work and other evidence has been undertaken. This has already been presented in the *Project Design and Desk-Based Assessment* (Albion Archaeology 2004) and will only be summarised here.

The site is situated next to the present course of Ermine Street (Figure 1), but the exact course of the Roman road is in doubt. It is possible that the modern road is built on the same line as the ancient route. Another possibility is that the ancient route crosses the site to the south-west of the present road, as indicated for example by the projected trajectory of the Roman road marked on the SMR map. Potential was also identified in the *Project Design and Desk-Based Assessment* for possible survival of roadside burial or settlement, from both Roman and subsequent periods.

The site is situated some distance to the north-west of the northern boundary of Saxon and medieval Huntingdon, and was probably part of unenclosed common land up to the post-medieval period. In the 19th century the site was developed as part of the general expansion of the town. The construction of the embankment for the Great Northern Railway, which forms the western boundary of the site, also had a major impact on the area. The essential layout of the site shown on a 1:500 Ordnance Survey map of 1886 (Figure 2) survives virtually intact to this day.

2. RESULTS OF THE TRIAL EXCAVATION

2.1 Introduction

The proposed trenching strategy was sent to the CAO on the 1st October and approved after discussions and modifications on the 13th October. The locations of three trenches were agreed. Trenches 1 and 2 were placed in areas of walled gardens near the Ermine Street and Merritt Street frontages and Trench 3 in the south-west corner of the property close to the railway (Figure 3). The evaluation was undertaken over a period of four days from 19th-22nd October 2004.

2.2 Methodology

- For reasons of access, Trenches 1 and 2 were opened using a mini-digger, while Trench 3 was opened by a three ton excavator. Both machines were fitted with toothless buckets. Their operation was supervised by an archaeologist.
- Topsoil and other recent deposits were removed by machine, down to the top surface of geological deposits. This was cleaned to check for any truncating features. On the suggestion of the CAO, small test pits were hand-dug into gravel deposits in Trench 1 to ascertain whether these were the product of human or geological processes.
- All archaeological and geological deposits (contexts) were assigned an individual number in a single sequence commencing at (101). Each trench was issued with a block of numbers with Trench 1 starting at (101), Trench 2 at (200) etc. Numbers in brackets within the text refer to the context number issued on site. Within this report context numbers referring to cut features are expressed [**], layers or deposits within cut features are expressed (**). Details of all contexts are listed in Appendix 1.
- The trenches were only backfilled after investigation and recording had been completed to the satisfaction of the CAO.

2.3 Results of the Trial Excavation

As there was a contrast between the north-eastern and south-western parts of the site, these two areas will be differentiated in the following summary.

2.3.1 Trenches 1 and 2

Situated on the two terraced lawn areas in the north-eastern part of the site (Figure 3).

2.3.1.1 Topsoil (101), (200)

Immediately below the turf of the present lawns was dark grey-brown clay up to 0.30m thick (Figure 4: sections 1 and 2), containing frequent small angular stones and occasional sherds of Victorian pottery. Other artefacts included small quantities of animal bone, ceramic building material and clay tobacco pipe. This layer was very similar in both trenches. This material, which is relatively thick for a normal topsoil may have been part of the landscaping associated with the creation of the terraced gardens. The thickness of the soil may indicate recent cultivation, possibly as allotments.

2.3.1.2 Subsoil (102), (201)

Immediately below the topsoil was red-brown silty clay with frequent small angular stones containing occasional sherds of Victorian pottery. Small quantities of a variety of artefact types were recovered including animal bone, ceramic building material, glass, clay tobacco pipe and a fragment of whetstone. Generally this deposit was approximately 0.5m thick in both trenches, though increasing to 0.8m thick at the north-east end of Trench 1 (Figure 4: sections 1 and 2). This deposit had a sharp interface with the contrasting underlying geological layers (gravel in Trench 1, orange clay in Trench 2). Pottery fragments and other 19th century artefacts were found right down to the base of the subsoil layer. Amongst these late finds was one residual sherd of Mill Green ware of high medieval date.

The contrast between the subsoil and the underlying geological layers could be taken to indicate that some truncation of the ground has taken place followed by the importation of subsoil to alter the ground level, rather than a gradual development of a soil profile. These processes are all likely to have taken place in the 19th century, and may well have been associated with the construction of the nearby railway embankment (which could have entailed quarrying or other ground disturbance) and the subsequent laying out of the houses and gardens.

2.3.1.3 Services and Other Modern Intrusions

No modern services were present in Trench 1, though extension of the trench south-west was prevented by a gas pipe under the existing flower-bed. At the north-east of Trench 1, several large reinforced concrete slabs were set into the subsoil, forming the base for former hoardings which occupied that part of the garden (black features on Figure 3).

In Trench 2 the remains of a modern path (203) were identified, which linked the gate on Merritt Street to the house. Below the path at a depth of 0.18m was a water pipe (red feature on Figure 3), avoidance of which meant that excavation of the trench was interrupted. A large sewer pipe aligned roughly east-west diagonally crossed the south-west side of the garden at a depth of 0.40m and prevented further extension of the trench in that direction.

The north-eastern part of Trench 2 was greatly disturbed by a large irregular feature [204] on Figure 3. Further investigation identified this as a tree-throw; the large infilled cavity created when the root bole of a tree is removed. This disturbance extended from the top of the subsoil right down into the geological stratum below (Figure 4: section 2). The 1:500 map of 1886 (Figure 2) actually shows a tree to have been situated on this spot, and it seems likely that the whole root bole was ripped out at some time in the 20th century.

2.3.1.4 Geological Stratum (103), (204)

In Trench 1 subsoil was removed directly onto the upper surface of a layer of sterile fine pale yellow loose sandy gravel, with only a slight merging of the two deposits. The undisturbed geological stratum was revealed at a depth of 0.8m below the present ground level in the south-west of the trench, increasing to 1.20m in the north-east (Figure 4: section 1). At first it was thought possible that this gravel was artificially laid, as part of the

construction of the Roman road. Two 1 metre square test pits were excavated by hand at either end of the trench.

The upper surface of the geological stratum in Trench 2 was a firm orange-brown gravely clay encountered at a depth below ground level of approximately 0.80m. As already noted in Section *2.3.1.3* above, this had been greatly disturbed by the tree-throw and associated tree-root activity in the north-east part of the trench.

Test pits

In the test pit at the south-western end a horizontal layer of gravel 0.4m thick was removed to reveal a red gravely clay similar to the geological stratum in Trenches 2 and 3 (Figure 5: plate 1).

The north-eastern test pit was excavated to a depth of 0.8m (1.8m below ground surface). Here a band of slightly firmer redder gravel overlay the yellow gravel. A further band of red gravely clay 0.20m thick was encountered at a depth of 0.6m and this was sandwiched between layers of the loose yellow gravel (Figure 4: section 1 and Figure 5: plate 2). It became apparent at this stage that this was a geological sequence of deposits and not artificially laid material.

These deposits are probably episodes of deposition within the terraced river gravels

2.3.2 Trench 3

This trench is situated in the south-western part of the site, on an area of external surface (Figure 3). No artefacts were recovered from deposits in this trench.

2.3.2.1 Modern External Surface (300)

A layer comprising compacted small rubble fragments, up to 0.3m thick had been laid to form a surface or hardstanding (Figure 4: section 3). This material was directly above the topsoil. This deposit had apparently been laid in the last twenty years.

2.3.2.2 Topsoil (301)

The dark grey-brown plastic silty clay was up to 0.4m thick, containing a moderate amount of small angular stones and occasional flecks of charcoal.

2.3.2.3 Subsoil

Averaging 0.45m thick, the mid grey-brown silty clay contained frequent small and medium sized angular stones and pebbles. This deposit had been disturbed by recent activity.

2.3.2.4 Modern Features

During the machining of the trench several post-medieval/modern features were observed to cut the subsoil (Figure 3). These features include a square posthole [307] which still contained part of a wooden post. The post was not retained. Another two features [309] and [311] truncated the fill of the ditch described below (see Section *2.3.2.5* and Figure 5: plates 3 and 4).

Boundary Ditch

The linear feature was well defined in plan, orientated west-north-west to east-south-east. It was identified below the subsoil (Figure 3 and Figure 5: plates 3 and 4). In section the ditch was 1m wide and 0.6m deep, with a slightly asymmetrical profile comprising a slightly convex eastern side while the west side was slightly concave, with two fills being identified (Figure 4: sections 3 and 4). The fills ranged from mid grey brown to mid red brown clayey silt. Initially a 1m long segment was hand excavated, though following the CAO's monitoring meeting the rest of the fill was excavated in order to try and obtain datable artefacts. Neither of the two fills contained any dating evidence

A sample <1> was taken from the lower fill (306) in order to try and recover any artefacts and any environmental evidence. However, the presence of modern glass and pottery in the processed sample suggest that the soil collected on site had been contaminated by later features. No material of this nature was found in the initial excavated section.

The asymmetrical profile of the ditch and associated primary fill suggests that a bank was situated to the east of the ditch. The fills are more mineralised than the modern features on the site suggesting that this is a relatively early feature. It may define a field boundary orientated obliquely to the present course of Ermine Street, some 90m to the north-east.

2.3.2.5 Geological Stratum

The upper surface of a undisturbed geological stratum was a light orange-brown sandy clay with occasional patches of coarse gravel. This was identified at an average depth of 1.2m below the present ground level.

2.4 Artefacts

2.4.1 Introduction

The evaluation produced an artefact assemblage comprising mainly pottery, deriving from topsoil and subsoil deposits in Trenches 1 and 2 (Table 1). The material was scanned to ascertain the nature, condition and, where possible, date range of the artefact types present. Small quantities of modern ceramic building material were recorded but not retained from definite modern features within Trench 3.

Tr.	Feature	Type	Context	Spotdate*	Pottery	Other finds
1	101	Topsoil	101	Modern	7:22	Animal bone (72g); roof tile (32g); clay pipe stem (1g)
	102	Subsoil	102	Modern	8:83	Animal bone (32g); brick and roof tile (413g); clay pipe stem (14g); glass bead (9g); whetstone (173g); vessel glass (32g)
2	200	Topsoil	200	Modern	5:36	-
	201	Subsoil	201	Modern	2:72	Animal bone (8g); mortar (12g)
	204	Treethrow	205	Modern	1:2	Roof tile (48g)
				Total	**23:215**	-

* - Spotdate based on date of latest artefact in context

(sherd/frag count: weight in grammes)

Table 1: Artefact assemblage by trench and context

2.4.2 Pottery

Twenty-three pottery sherds, weighing 215g were recovered. These were examined by context and quantified using minimum sherd count and weight. With the exception of one sherd of late 12th-14th century date, the pottery is modern in origin. Five fabric types were identified and, in the absence of a Cambridgeshire type series, defined using common names and type codes in accordance with the Bedfordshire Ceramic Type Series, held by Albion Archaeology (Table 2).

Fabric type	Common name	Sherd No.	Context/Sherd No.
Medieval			
Type C56	Mill Green ware	**1**	(201):1
Modern			
Type P38	Creamware	**10**	(101):4, (102):3, (200):2; (205):1
Type P43	Pearlware	**1**	(102):1
Type P45	Transfer-printed Ware	**8**	(101):1, (102):4, (200):2, (201):1
MOD	Miscellaneous modern	**3**	(101):2, (200):1

Table 2: Pottery type series

Subsoil (201) yielded an abraded sherd (37g) of probable Mill Green ware, a type originating in Essex, datable to the high medieval period. The sherd is decorated with a green glaze overlying a white slip and is likely to derive from a jug. Modern fabric types comprise creamware, pearlware, willow-pattern and a single fragment of flower pot.

2.4.3 Other artefacts

These include a large circular glass bead and a sandstone whetstone fragment. Neither are datable, although given the context of their recovery, are likely to be modern. Four post-medieval flat roof tile fragments and an incomplete brick (493g) were recovered. Six unstratified pieces of animal bone, (128g), comprising a rib and long bone fragments were collected. All are undiagnostic of species and are probably modern.

3. CONCLUSION

3.1 Overview

Despite the location of the site next to the present Ermine Street, no trace of the Roman road or any roadside settlement or burial was found.

The only archaeological feature identified in any of the trenches was an undated ditch, sealed by the subsoil and truncating the geological strata in the south-west corner of the site. Although undated the fact that the fills were sealed below the subsoil and appear to have undergone a degree of mineralisation suggests a relatively old feature. The ditch is aligned obliquely to the present course of Ermine Street, suggesting that it defines a land division not associated with the present routeway.

There are indications that the ground has been disturbed in the north-eastern part of the site particularly in Trench 1, where the subsoil contains 19th century finds right down to the top of the river gravel, the upper boundary of which appears to have been truncated. The explanation for this pattern of evidence is unclear. One possibility is that the area between the road and the railway was the subject of sporadic quarrying and other disturbance during the building of the railway embankment in the 1840s. It is possible that the band of gravel, found only in Trench 1 and not in Trenches 2 and 3, was specifically targeted for quarrying. As the thick subsoil seems to be very disturbed, this may suggest that it was redeposited material rather than the product of extensive agricultural activity.

Further disturbance was encountered in Trench 2, where quite extensive tree-root disturbance was found to extend through the subsoil and into the geological stratum below. This can be tied in with the evidence of the 1886 map which shows the location of a tree on that spot. It might be expected that other trees marked on the map might have caused similar damage.

The existence of the gravel in Trench 1 and not elsewhere needs a geological rather than an archaeological explanation. Although it was initially thought possible that the gravel could be an artificially laid layer, this idea was discounted upon the digging of the two test pits – showing the gravel to dip down to a considerable depth in the direction of the present road. It is suggested here that this is a channel of glacial origin and that the gravel is of water-borne origin.

The evaluation would suggest that archaeological remains are most likely to survive in the south-western part of the site.

4. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Albion Archaeology 2001, *Procedures Manual, Volume 1: Fieldwork. 2nd Edition*

Albion Archaeology 2004, *Land at 27 Ermine Street/16 Merritt Street, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire: Archaeological Project Design and Desk-Based Assessment*, 24th September

Cambridgeshire County Council 2004, *Brief for Archaeological Field Evaluation, 27 Ermine Street/16 Merritt Street, Huntingdon*, 16th July

APPENDIX 1

TRENCH SUMMARY

Trench: **1**

Max Dimensions: **Length: 7.50 m. Width: 1.80 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: m. Max: m.**

Co-ordinates: **OS Grid Ref.: TL2346672314**

OS Grid Ref.: TL2346072309

Reason: **To investigate north-eastern grassed area, adjacent to the street frontage and possible route of the Roman road.**

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
101	Topsoil	Plastic dark grey brown silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, frequent small stones This includes the modern grassed area and the material below to a depth of 0.3m. It was dark grey-brown in colour with a plastic silty clay matrix containing frequent small angular stones and occasional sherd of Victorian pottery. It would appear to have been imported presumably to form the present garden. The deposit contained a variety of artefacts including modern pottery, animal bone, ceramic building material and clay tobacco pipe.	☑	☑
102	Subsoil	Plastic mid red brown silty clay frequent small stones The deposit contained a variety of artefacts including modern pottery, animal bone, ceramic building material, glass, a whetstone fragement and clay tobacco pipe.	☑	☑
103	Natural	Loose light yellow brown sandy gravel	☑	☐

Trench: 2

Max Dimensions: Length: 6.30 m. Width: 1.80 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: m. Max: m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL2435772305

OS Grid Ref.: TL2345372300

Reason: To investigate south-western grassed area.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
200	Topsoil	Plastic dark grey brown silty clay frequent small stones This includes the modern grassed area and the material below to a depth of 0.3m. It was dark grey-brown in colour with a plastic silty clay matrix containing frequent small angular stones and occasional sherd of victorian pottery. It would appear to have been imported presumably to form the present garden. The deposit contained modern pottery.	☑	☑
201	Subsoil	Plastic mid red brown silty clay moderate small stones The deposit contained modern pottery as well as animal bone and a fragment of mortar.	☑	☑
202	Natural	Plastic mid red brown clay gravel	☐	☐
203	Pathway	Compact dark grey brown silty clay frequent medium ceramic building material, frequent small-medium stones	☐	☐
204	Treethrow	Irregular profile: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.8m, max length 3.m	☐	☐
205	Treethrow	Loose mid grey brown sandy clay frequent small stones A very small fragment of modern roof tile was recovered.	☐	☑

Trench: 3

Max Dimensions: Length: 9.00 m. Width: 1.80 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 1.05 m. Max: 1.05 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL2340972264

OS Grid Ref.: TL2340272257

Reason: To investigate triangular area of open ground in the vicinity of possible hollow.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
300	**External surface**	**Compact dark grey brown silty clay frequent small ceramic building material, frequent medium-large concrete, frequent medium-large stones Approximately 0.2m thickness of hardcore material comprising bricks and concrete rubble bound by a dark grey silty clay.**	☑	☐
301	**Topsoil**	**Plastic dark grey brown silty clay frequent small stones This was a dark grey-brown in colour with a plastic silty clay matrix containing a moderate amount of small angular stones and occasional flecks of charcoal Sealed below external surface (300).**	☑	☐
302	**Subsoil**	**Plastic mid red brown silty clay moderate small stones**	☑	☐
303	**Natural**	**Plastic mid red brown clay gravel moderate small sand, frequent small stones**	☐	☐
304	**Ditch**	**Linear ESE-WNW profile: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.1m, max depth 60.m, max length 1.8m**	☑	☐
305	Upper fill	Plastic mid red brown silty clay moderate small stones	☑	☐
306	Lower fill	Plastic mid grey brown silty clay moderate small stones A sample <1> was taken of this deposit, although the area of the sample was subsequently found to have been contaminated by modern features [309] and [311].	☑	☑
307	**Modern disturbance**	**Square dimensions: max diameter 1.1m**	☐	☐
308	Fill	Compact dark grey brown silty clay frequent medium ceramic building material, frequent small stones	☐	☐
309	**Modern disturbance**	**Linear dimensions: max breadth 20.m, max length 90.m**	☐	☐
310	Fill	Compact dark grey brown silty clay moderate small ceramic building material, frequent small stones	☐	☐
311	**Modern disturbance**	**Irregular dimensions: max breadth 45.m, max length 55.m**	☐	☐
312	Fill	Plastic mid grey brown silty clay occasional small ceramic building material, moderate small stones	☐	☐

FIGURES

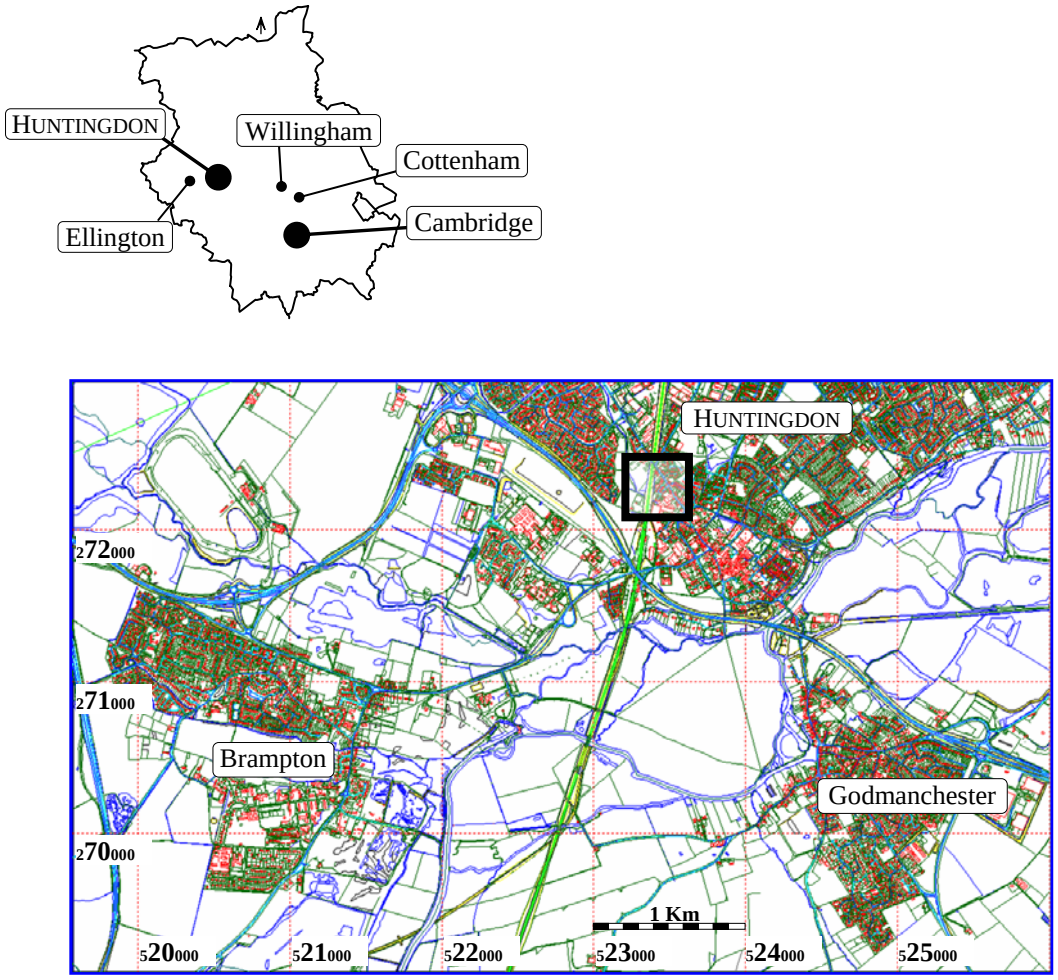


Figure 1: Site location plan

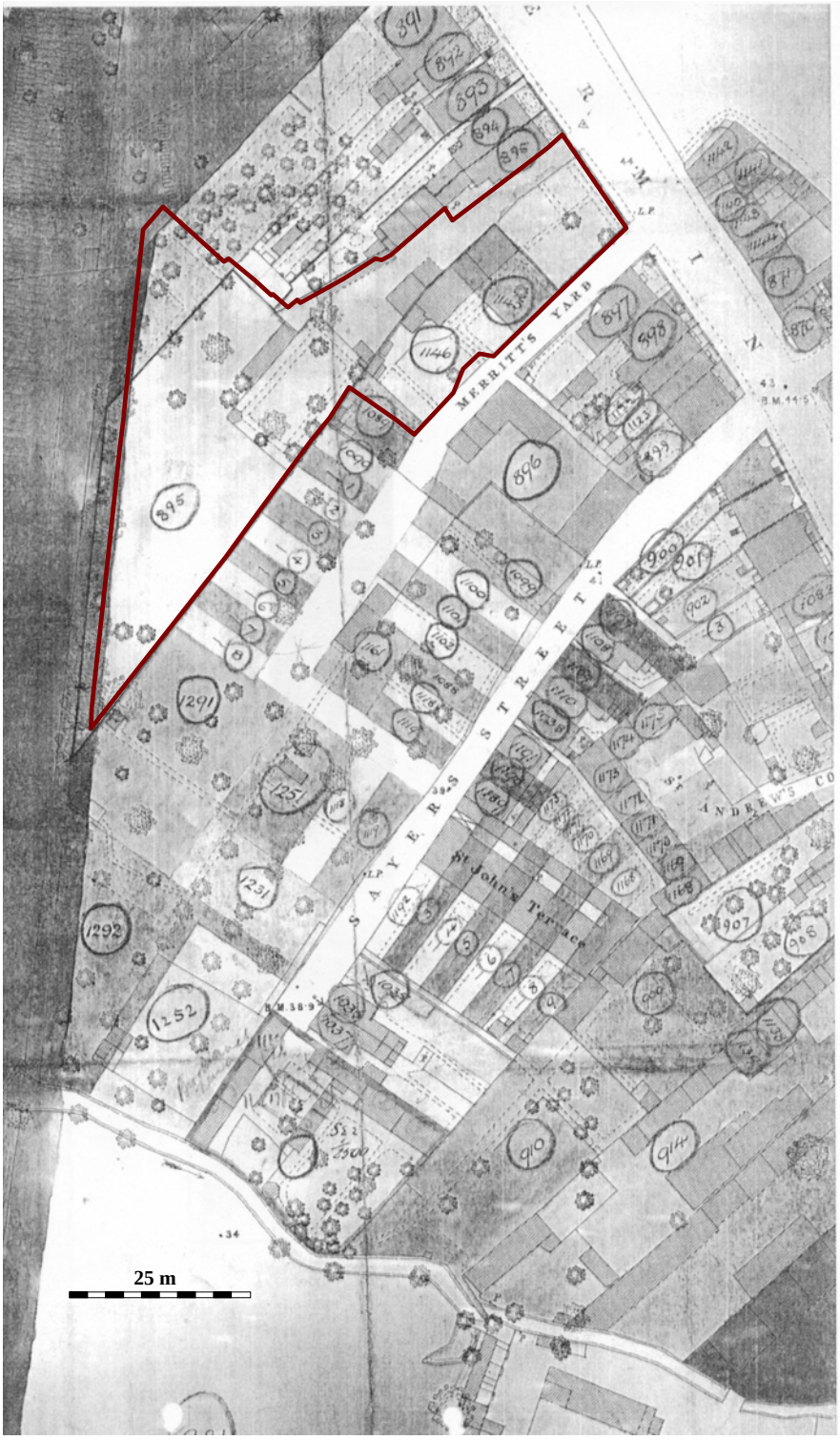


Figure 2: The 1886 Ordnance Survey 1:500 map

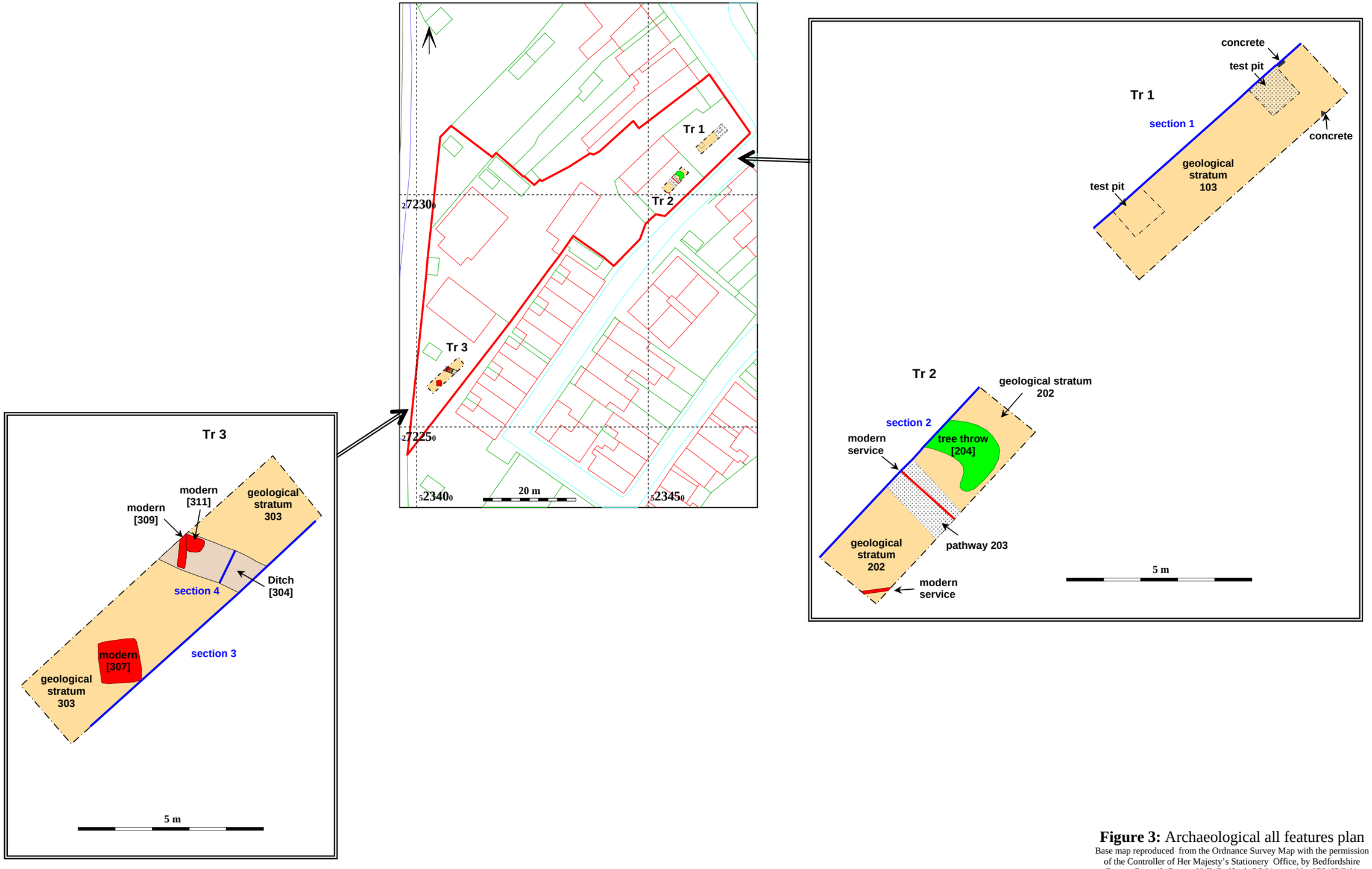
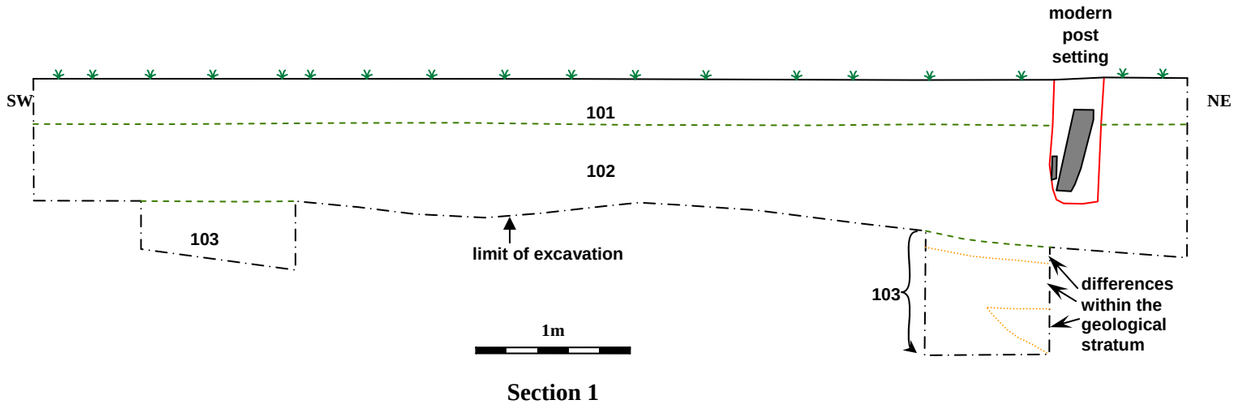
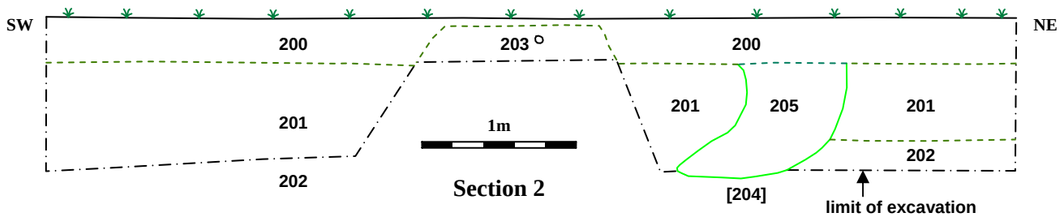


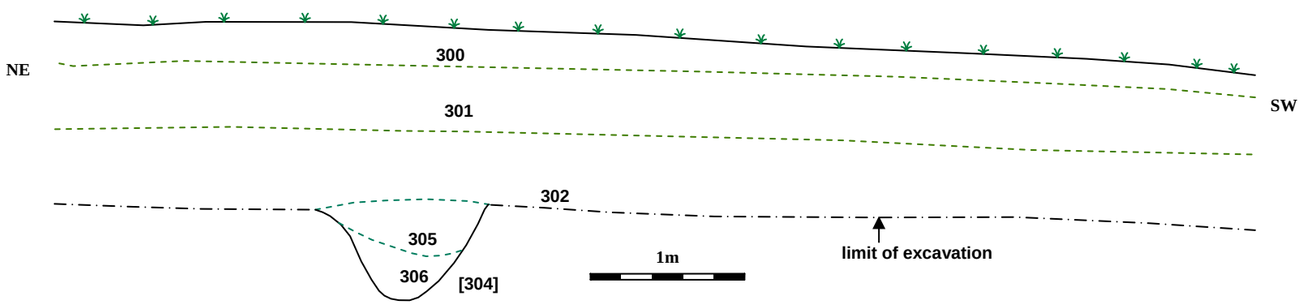
Figure 3: Archaeological all features plan



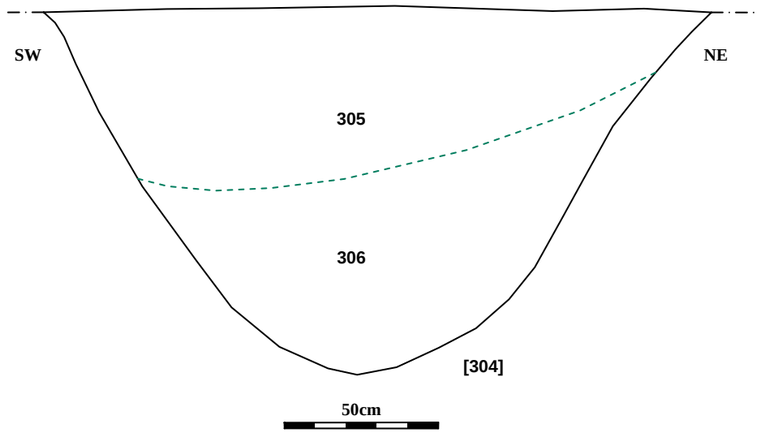
Section 1



Section 2



Section 3



Section 4

Figure 4: Section drawings

Plate 1: Test pit through gravel, Trench 1, SW end

Plate 2: Test pit through gravel, Trench 1, NE end

Plate 3: Ditch [304], Trench 3, from NE dark areas are modern intrusions

Plate 4: Ditch [304], Trench 3, from SE

Figure 5: Selected photographs
all scales are 1m in 0.5m divisions