

**CHURCH SQUARE
BEDFORD
BEDFORDSHIRE**

**PROGRAMME OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL
OBSERVATION, INVESTIGATION, RECORDING,
ANALYSIS AND PUBLICATION**

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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.

This report has been prepared by Adam Lodoen (Archaeological Supervisor) and Jeremy Oetgen (Project Manager). The fieldwork was undertaken by Adam Lodoen, Ian Turner and Lennard Anderson (Archaeological Supervisors). Joan Lightning (CAD Technician) produced the figures. Artefacts were identified and reported on by Jackie Wells (Finds Officer). All Albion Archaeology projects are under the overall management of Drew Shotliff (Operations Manager).

Albion Archaeology is grateful to Bedford Borough Council for commissioning the work and to Danaher & Walsh, the building contractor, for facilitating access to the site during their groundworks. Thanks are also due to Martin Oake (County Archaeological Officer, Bedfordshire County Council) for approving the investigation strategy on behalf of the Local Planning Authority.

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Structure of the Report

After the introductory Section 1, there is a summary of the results of the fieldwork in Section 2, followed by a brief Synthesis of the results (Section 3). Section 4 is a bibliography. The appendices in Sections 5 and 6 contain summary descriptions of all archaeological contexts and a detailed report on the finds that were recovered.

Key Terms

Throughout this report the following terms or abbreviations are used:

BCC	Bedfordshire County Council
BLARS	Bedfordshire and Luton Archives and Records Service
CAO	County Archaeological Officer
HER	Historic Environment Record
IFA	Institute of Field Archaeologists
<i>Procedures Manual</i>	Albion Archaeology, 2001. <i>Procedures Manual Volume 1 Fieldwork</i> , 2 nd ed.



Non-Technical Summary

In July and August 2008, a programme of archaeological observation, investigation and recording was undertaken by Albion Archaeology at Church Square, Bedford.

The observations were made during groundworks that were part of a series of streetscape improvements within the square. The site is in an archaeologically sensitive area, falling within the probable limits of the Saxon burh.

In summary, the observations of archaeological relevance were:

- *Soil layers dating from the mid 12th century to the early 19th century.*
- *Residual Saxo-Norman pottery, indicative of contemporary settlement in the area.*
- *The foundations of at least two 19th-century houses.*
- *A street surface predating the 1950s/1960s redevelopment, preserved beneath modern levelling and make-up layers.*
- *A modern linear feature that may represent recent destruction of a much older ditch or culvert.*

These observations demonstrate the potential for the survival of Saxo-Norman, medieval and post-medieval settlement remains in this part of Bedford. Though the presence of Saxo-Norman artefacts in some deposits is residual, the finds assemblage as a whole still demonstrates a continuity of settlement from the Saxo-Norman period until the present day in the area. The investigations demonstrated that traces of 19th-century and later buildings and features are likely to survive under the current square, though heavily disturbed in places. Earlier layers and features are most likely to survive relatively undisturbed in the eastern part of Church Square.

The project archive will ultimately be deposited with Bedford Museum under Accession Number 2008.169.



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 *Project Background*

Bedford Borough Council has undertaken a series of works to enhance the public realm within Church Square, Bedford.

The County Archaeological Officer (CAO) of Bedfordshire County Council advised that some of these works would be sufficiently deep to have an impact on buried archaeological deposits. A brief (BCC 2008) was issued by the County Archaeological Officer (CAO) outlining the archaeological works required to mitigate that impact.

The Borough Council commissioned Albion Archaeology to carry out a programme of archaeological observation, investigation and recording in accordance with the Brief issued by the CAO. A Project Design for the work was prepared by Albion Archaeology (2008) and approved by the CAO.

This document has been prepared by Albion Archaeology and presents the results of the programme of archaeological investigation.

1.2 *Site Location and Description*

Church Square is located in the north-west quarter of Bedford town centre, centred on grid reference TL 0480 4989 (Figure 1). It lies west of centre of the block defined by Allhallows, St Loyes Street, Harpur Street and Midland Road. On three sides the square is enclosed by ranges of shops, but the western end is open to Allhallows. At the eastern end of the square a covered way, Church Arcade, links the square to Harpur Street, whilst two narrow alleyways run towards Dane Street and James Street, respectively.

In common with most of Bedford's central shopping district, Church Square has been pedestrianised for many years. Prior to the current development, the square was paved with brick in contrasting colours and laid in herringbone pattern (Figure 2). Seating areas were provided between exotic trees of moderate size and enclosed areas of planting. An array of fountains was installed near the centre of the square in 2007.

1.3 *Historical and Archaeological Background*

1.3.1 *The historical urban context*

The archaeological and historical background has been reviewed most recently in the Extensive Urban Survey for Bedford (Edgeworth 2005). The most significant observations, drawn from a number of cited sources, are summarised below.

Bedford was probably established as a settlement in the second half of the 8th century, possibly as one of the fortified *burhs* (boroughs) created by King Offa along the southern frontier of his Mercian kingdom. Remains of a ditch were found running along Silver Street to the south of the development. However, it is unclear if this ditch represented the northern boundary of an early middle



Saxon *burh*, or if it functioned as an internal boundary of the *burh* in the later Saxon period.

The northern boundary of the later Saxon *burh* may have run east–west, along what is present-day Lime Street, but the town was probably extended further northwards during the late Saxon and Saxo-Norman periods (Edgeworth 2005, fig. 11). The *burh* was extended south of the river by order of King Edward the Elder, who visited the town in AD910. Church Square lies within the conjectured boundaries of the later Saxon *burh*.

Pottery of St Neots-type ware, which is indicative of settlement sites dating from the 10th to the 12th centuries, has been found throughout the centre of the modern town.

Bedford lay on the marches of the Danelaw and was held by the Danes for a short period in the late 9th and early 10th centuries. In AD1010 it was raided and pillaged by Danish invaders. It is most likely that the population of Bedford would have been made up of a mixture of Saxon and Danish elements during this period.

The establishment of Bedford Castle, constructed just before the end of the 11th century on the northern bank of the River Great Ouse, had a significant historical impact, but probably altered little of the structural layout of the town in the area around Church Square.

During the medieval period and into the early post-medieval period, Bedford was mainly an agricultural town. It continued to expand significantly during the following centuries, with intensive building and industrial development in the Victorian period, increasing the density of occupation within the old town and extending the urban envelope into the surrounding countryside.

1.3.2 Cartographic and aerial photographic evidence

There seem to have been no buildings in the area of the current Church Square as late as 1807. Neither Speed's map of 1610 (Figure 4) nor the Brayley map of 1807 (Figure 5) show any buildings in this location. The Jefferys map of 1765 (not illustrated) is not very accurate in its depiction of this area of the town, but it also seems to show open land in the vicinity of Church Square. However, on the Dewhurst & Nichols Bedford town map from 1836 (Figure 6), there are several buildings visible in the area. The Reynolds map from 1841 (Figure 7) seems to show the same buildings as the 1836 map, with some additions. These differences could possibly be explained through the much higher quality of Reynolds survey, though it is also possible that more houses were built in the interim period.

Subsequent maps indicate that the square was originally much smaller and was located to the east of its current position. The square can first be seen in its original position on the 1854 map of Bedford, known as the Salmon Gas Map (BLARS X133/11). Although no name is given on the 1854 map, the label 'Church Square' appears on the 1878 Mercer Map (not illustrated), and it is on the 1884 First Edition of the Ordnance Survey (Figure 8).



Wildman (1991, Plate 61) suggests that Church Square is named after the Church family, who were bakers in the town. Information supplied to Bedford Borough Council by the Bedfordshire and Luton Archives and Records Service suggests that the family owned a bakery on St Loyes Street from the early 19th century until *c.* 1950, and that they owned land in the area from at least 1813. In 1847 John Church purchased part of the land now occupied by Church Square from Thomas Davis. Church Square cottages are mentioned in deeds in 1868

The early 19th-century terraced houses around the original Church Square are probably the same buildings as remained there until the Second World War.

Aerial photographs from 1946 (*e.g.* Figure 9) show the area of the current square, along with a similar-sized area to the south, to be practically empty of buildings, perhaps suggesting bomb damage and subsequent demolition.

The current configuration of the Square dates from the 1950s / 1960s' redevelopment of the area, plans for which (Figure 10) are held by the Bedfordshire and Luton Archives and Records Service. Photographs exist of several of the buildings that were demolished in the 1950s (HER 14820; BLARS BORB K2/5A and Z50/9/536). The square in its present position is shown on a copy of the 1926 OS map with manuscript revisions dated *c.* 1965 (Figure 11).

1.3.3 Previous archaeological evidence from Church Square and its environs

Excavations at the Liberal Club, Midland Road in 1979 found evidence of 9th-century iron working, followed by further metal working in the late Saxon and Saxo-Norman periods. Late medieval dumped deposits were also revealed.

Excavations at nos. 4, 6-8, and 10 Midland Road revealed evidence of Saxo-Norman and medieval occupation in the form of beam slots, pits, postholes and occupation layers.

The Empire Cinema excavations in 1978 revealed 10th- to 12th-century occupation evidence in the form of pits, postholes, surfaces, slots and gullies, and a large ditches, one of which ran N-S alongside the course of Allhallows Lane.

During pedestrianisation of the northern end of Allhallows Lane, in the 1980s, graves dating from the 12th or 13th century were uncovered. One area of disturbance contained two individuals, another, seven adults and two children, with some associated pottery, tile and nails. These burials were associated with the medieval church of All Saints, located in this area. Close to here, a limekiln is known to have existed. The church and the limekiln are both visible on Speed's map of Bedford (1610) (Figure 4).

Excavations associated with service laying and resurfacing in Church Square in 1987 revealed undated construction layers, road build up, part of a brick wall, and a limestone well located at the south side of the square. In



September 1987, another watching brief on a trench which was being backfilled revealed little.



2. RESULTS OF OBSERVATION AND RECORDING

2.1 Introduction

The programme of archaeological observation was undertaken between 14th July and 26th August 2008. During this period, all groundworks which required monitoring were completed.

2.2 Methodology

The groundworks were carried out by the building contractor under archaeological supervision.

The location of excavations and features was recorded with reference to the architect's plans of the existing square and the proposed structural modifications.

Artefacts were collected in order to characterise and date the deposits.

The archaeological works followed the standards and field methods set out in Section 5 of the brief (BCC 2008), specifically:

- 1 Any ground works likely to have an impact on archaeological deposits were monitored in order to identify *in situ* archaeological deposits.
- 2 All disturbed soil was scanned for artefacts.
- 3 Archaeological deposits were recorded in accordance with Albion's *Procedures Manual* and the detailed requirements in Section 5 of the brief.
- 4 The location was recorded of all excavations likely to affect archaeological deposits. Plans were tied in to the OS national grid.
- 5 A photographic record was made of all significant deposits. Additional photographs were taken to record the nature of the development impacts.

Throughout the project, the standards set out in IFA's *Codes of Conduct* (Revised edition 2006), *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavations* (2001), *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief* (2001), and *Standard and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials* (2001) were adhered to.

2.3 Extent and Nature of Groundworks

The proposed layout is shown in Figure 3. The groundworks consisted of:

- re-paving, which necessitated removal of existing surfaces and make-up, grubbing up of planting/trees and removal of street furniture;
- installation of new lighting;
- excavation of five new trees pits (each c. 3.5m square and 1m deep);
- excavation of a Christmas tree pit 1.8m square and 1.2m deep);
- excavation of a slot drain 750mm deep;
- excavation of foundations for new street furniture c. 650mm deep.



2.4 Archaeological Deposit Model

The locations of the excavations (Pits 1–9 and trenches 1–2) are shown in Figure 12. A summary description of all the deposits recorded in each excavation is presented in the appendices. For the purpose of recording, deposits from different parts of the site were assigned to one of six Areas (Areas 1–3 and 5–7).

2.4.1 Natural Geology, Subsoil and Topsoil

Undisturbed geological deposits were observed in the base of Pits 6, 8 and 9, and comprised mid orange silt or blue clay. The mid orange silt layers were thought to be alluvial deposits.

A layer of topsoil¹ in Pit 3 was deemed to have been cultivated soil and consisted of sandy silt. It was probably imported onto the site in 1987 following construction of the former bedding. Layers of probable subsoil² were seen in Pit 1 and Pit 3 and varied in composition between silt sand and clay sand.

2.4.2 Medieval and later layers preserved beneath post-1950 development

Layers of deeper stratigraphy were observed in the eastern part of Church Square, in Pit 1 (Figure 14, top), Pit 5 and Pit 6 (Figure 15). These layers³ mainly consisted of dark grey or dark brown clay silt and contained Saxo-Norman (850-1150), medieval (1150-1400), post-medieval (1500-1750) and modern (post-1750) pottery. Medieval layers⁴ were only uncovered in Pit 5 and Pit 6.

The top of these layers varied between 25.9m OD (Pit 5), 25.7m OD (Pit 1) and 26.0m OD (Pit 6). The top of the medieval deposits were *c.* 25.8m OD in both pits.

Two of the layers⁵ also contained slag, but this occurs quite commonly in deposits of all periods in Bedford.

2.4.3 Early 19th-century building foundations, suspected surface and make up deposits

The foundations of a building were discovered (at *c.* 25.9m OD) in the southern part of the square (Area 7). The foundations consisted of two parallel cuts, [107] and [109], aligned east to west and filled with limestone and clunch blocks. The two foundations had been truncated at each end by existing tree pits (Figure 12 and Figure 13, top).

A second foundation was discovered in Pit 6 (Figure 12, Area 6 [126] and [128]). This consisted of two construction cuts, filled with gravel and sand, forming the south-western corner of a building. The top of the foundations was at *c.* 25.9m OD and the base of the cut at *c.* 25.6m OD.

¹ Area 3: (116)

² Area 1: (132). Area 3: (115)

³ Area 1: (120). Area 5: (135), (136). Area 6: (123), (124), (125)

⁴ Area 5: (135), Area 6: (123)

⁵ Area 5, (135); Area 6, (124)



To the north of the square, a suspected surface (Figure 12, Area 2 (111) and (112); Figure 13, bottom) was uncovered in a service trench. This consisted of flat limestone and lay at a height of *c.* 25.7m OD. It was not possible to determine the precise extent of this surface but it might have covered a large proportion of the northern part of Church Square.

A number of observed make-up deposits⁶ were likely to be post-medieval or modern in date. The soil matrix and colour of these layers varied greatly, but generally had a component of sand.

2.4.4 Possible ditch or collapsed culvert of uncertain date

A linear feature was observed in Pits 2, 3 and 4 in the far western part of the Square (Figure 12, Area 3 [141]; Figure 14, bottom). This had been backfilled with modern rubbish (plastic bags and modern bricks) and appeared to have been machine dug. The feature in its present form probably dates from the 1950s / 1960s redevelopment, or later. The current, apparently machine-dug trench could, however, represent a re-excavation and backfilling of an earlier ditch or collapsed culvert.

2.4.5 Post-1950 streetscape and associated development

The modern pavement covering the Square typically consisted of 120mm-thick pavement tiles⁷ resting on 100mm–180mm of concrete⁸ and 200mm of hardcore⁹.

A number of tree pits dug in the 1970s were re-excavated (Figure 12). These were typically 2.0m in diameter, *c.* 1.5 m deep, lined with prefabricated concrete containers and polythene and filled with garden soil.

The locations of a number of services (water and electricity) were also recorded (Figure 12, Area 5 and Area 6).

⁶ Area 2: (113), (117), (118), (119). Area 1: (121). Area 7: (140)

⁷ Area 7: (100)

⁸ Pit 7, (101); Pit 1, (130)

⁹ Pit 7 (102), Pit 1, (131)



3. SYNTHESIS

3.1 *Interpretation*

The archaeological features and deposits revealed by the trenches represent evidence for medieval and post-medieval activity on Church Square.

3.1.1 **Medieval to modern deposits (c. 1150– early 19th century)**

The deeply stratified deposits uncovered in Pits 1, 5 and 6 are not fully explained at present. The earliest of these deposits are likely to date to the early medieval period (c. 1150–1250) whereas the top layers contained modern (post-1750) pottery. In Pit 1, the deposits were dark and silty, perhaps indicating pond- or waterlogged deposits. This could be an indication of a medieval fishpond in the area.

The cartographical evidence does not corroborate this interpretation, because there are no traces of a pond in the area of the current Church Square on any of the historical maps. There were ponds – or moat-like features – further to the south and to the west that were marked on the 1807 town map (BLARS Bor B K 1 / 4) and on the enclosure map from 1795 (BLARS X 1 / 60), but these are not shown on any other maps. However, the archaeological interpretation of historical maps is limited by the fact that features may, or may not, have been depicted at the discretion of the map maker. The dark layers in Pits 5 and 6 may also have been too mixed to be pond deposits.

A more likely interpretation would be that this part of the site was a low lying, marshy and boggy area. This is supported by the fact that layers of alluvium, suggesting periodic flooding, were encountered on site. Archaeological excavations in the vicinity corroborate this interpretation. An excavation on the Liberal Club site on Midland Road in 1979 also found traces of alluvial deposition (Baker, 1986). Similarly, the excavation at the Empire Cinema site in 1978 (to the south of Church Square) had problems with a high water table (Hassal, 1983). The pond or moat-like features to the south and the west of Church Square also suggests a high water table in the area.

The Empire Cinema excavation further revealed, among other things, a north-south aligned 9th- to 12th-century ditch (ditch 16, in trench I). The ditch was 2m wide and 0.70-0.80m deep and appeared to drain water from the north of the site.

It is possible that trench [141] found in Pits 2, 3, and 4 represents a continuation of the Empire Cinema ditch to the north (though re-excavated by machine after 1950). The alignment, size and location of the trench are roughly consistent with this interpretation.

Trench [141] is, however, more likely to be a continuation of another ditch uncovered at the Empire Cinema excavation (in trench III, unidentified feature). This was a substantial ditch of 12th- to 14th-century date. It was 1.80m deep, more than 4m wide and north-south aligned. The west edge of the ditch was not discovered. It is possible that this ditch, together with trench



[141], formed a roadside ditch along the medieval Allhallows Lane (Figures 16-18).

3.1.2 Early 19th century to c. 1950

The foundations of at least two houses were observed in Pit 6 (Area 1) and adjacent to Pits 7 and 9 (Area 7). These are in all probability the remains of 19th-century houses clearly visible on the Reynolds town map of 1841 (Figure 7).

A number of make-up layers and the limestone surface (presumably a street or yard surface) testify to the different phases of development and redevelopment of the square from the early 19th century until the present day. However, it was not possible to differentiate more clearly between the phases due to the limited nature of the investigations.

3.2 Significance

The most important observation is that *in situ* medieval deposits survive at the east end of square, despite the intensive development that has taken place in the area over the last 150 years or so. Whilst there has been major truncation of the deposits in places, this has been relatively localised – *e.g.* for the insertion of the 1970s tree pits. Generally, modern disturbance of the site has been restricted to a depth of 500mm or so below the present surface (above *c.* 25.5m OD in the west part of the square and 26.0m OD in the east part). The top of the dark deposits in Pit 6 was encountered at *c.* 26.0m OD. This means that there is a high potential for well-preserved medieval and Saxon remains to survive wherever modern truncation is no deeper than 26.0m OD.

The investigations also demonstrated that the foundations of 19th-century and later buildings, surfaces and related features are likely to survive under the current square, though heavily disturbed.

The investigations further demonstrated that the area probably was not built upon until the early 19th century.

The artefact assemblage recovered is typical of Bedford town. The presence of Saxo-Norman finds in some deposits is residual, but the assemblage as a whole still demonstrates a continuity of settlement of the area from the Saxo-Norman period to the present-day.



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Historical maps consulted

Description	Date	BLARS ref.
Map of Bedford by John Speed	1610-15	45 B/W A
Bedford, 1765. Surveyed by Thomas Jefferys	1765	X. 1/56/1
Bedford, 1807. by E. W. Brayley	1807	X 1/60
Map of the town of Bedford, 1836	1836	P.U.316.1978
Map of the Town of Bedford from Actual Survey in the year 1841 by M. Reynolds	1841	–
Bedford (West) ‘Salmon Gas Map’	1854	X133/11
Map of the Borough of Bedford by Francis Mercer	1876–1878	–
Ordnance Survey, First edition	1884.	Beds XI 16
Plan of redevelopment of area around bus station, Corporation of Bedford	1957	BMB 14/A 36
Ordnance Survey, Third Edition with alterations	1926, revised c. 1965	Beds XI 16



Aerial photographs of Church Square consulted – all vertical

Year	HER Reference
1946	4081 CPE UK 1792. 11 OCT. 46
1969	HSL UK BED 69 859.8 April 69
1976	HSL UK 76 24. 24 June 76. Run 12
1981	HSL BEDS 81 4. 22.6.81 Run 14, 9468
1996	AEROFILMS/96C/564 18.7.96 Run 10.2284



5. APPENDIX 1 – ARTEFACT AND ECOFACT SUMMARY

5.1 Introduction

The evaluation produced a finds assemblage comprising pottery, ceramic building material, clay tobacco pipe, ferrous slag, animal bone and oyster shell (Table 1). The material was scanned to ascertain its nature, condition and, where possible, date range.

Context	Feature Type	Spot date*	Finds summary
113	Make-up layer	Post-medieval	Pottery (5g); ceramic roof tile (8g)
118	Make-up layer	Post-medieval	Clay pipe (3g)
120	Layer	Post-medieval	Brick fragment (307g)
123	Layer	Early medieval	Pottery (57g); animal bone (83g)
124	Layer	Post-medieval	Pottery (77g); ceramic roof tile (74g); clay pipe (9g); ferrous slag (20g); animal bone (85g); shell (3g)
125	Layer	Modern	Pottery (6g); ceramic roof tile (41g); clay pipe (8g); shell (7g)
135	Layer	Early medieval	Pottery (77g); ferrous slag (77g); animal bone (42g)
136	Layer	Post-medieval	Ceramic roof tile (132g); animal bone (180g)
140	Make-up layer	Modern	Pottery (55g); shell (37g)

Table 1: Artefact summary by context

5.2 Pottery

Twenty-seven pottery sherds (277g), ranging in date between the Saxo-Norman period to the present-day were recovered. Sherds are small, with an average weight of 10g, although not particularly abraded. Twelve fabric types were identified using common names and type codes in accordance with the Bedfordshire Ceramic Type Series, currently maintained by Albion Archaeology on behalf of Bedfordshire County Council (Table 2).

Fabric type	Common name	Sherd No.	Context / Sherd No.
<i>Saxo-Norman</i>			
Type B01	St Neots-type ware	1	(124):1
Type B01A	St Neots-type ware (orange)	1	(124):1
Type B01C	St Neots-type ware (mixed)	1	(124):1
<i>Early medieval</i>			
Type B07	Shell	13	(123):4, (124):3, (135):6
Type C01	Sand	1	(124):1
Type C05	Sand (red margins)	1	(124):1
Type C60	Hertfordshire-type grey ware	1	(124):1
<i>Post-medieval</i>			
Type P30	Staffordshire slipware	1	(113):1
Type P33	Tin-glazed ware	1	(124):1
<i>Modern</i>			
Type P39	Mocha ware	2	(140):2
Type P45	Transfer-printed ware	3	(125):3
Type P55	White earthenware	1	(140):1

Table 2: Pottery type series

Saxo-Norman pottery comprises three undiagnostic wheel-thrown, shell tempered sherds (41g) in the St Neots-ware tradition, broadly datable to the late 9th-11th centuries. The majority of the assemblage is datable to the 12th-13th centuries and comprises thirteen wheel-thrown shell tempered sherds



(149g) and three sand tempered sherds (12g), all of probable local manufacture. Diagnostic forms are a jar with a thumbled rim and inturned rim bowl. Post-medieval pottery is represented by single sherds of Staffordshire slipware and tin-glazed ware, and modern material by six sherds of 18th-19th century mocha ware, transfer-printed ware and white earthenware. No diagnostic forms occur.

5.3 Other Artefacts

Ceramic building material comprises four pieces of sand tempered flat roof tile (255g) and a stock-moulded brick fragment (307g), datable to the post-medieval period. Two partial bowls and four stem fragments from post-medieval clay tobacco pipes derived from layers (118), (124) and (125). Three pieces of dense ferrous smelting slag (97g) were recovered from layers (124) and (135).

5.4 Ecofacts

Eighteen animal bone fragments weighing 390g were recovered, the majority deriving from layer (136). Fragments are moderately small, with an average weight of 22g, although survive in good condition. Diagnostic elements are long bones, scapulae, vertebrae, phalanges and skull fragments deriving from large mammals. Layers (124), (125) and (140) yielded five pieces of oyster shell (47g).





6. APPENDIX: 2 SUMMARY OF DEPOSITS AND FEATURES





Area: 1
Extent (ha): 0.0022
OS Co-ordinates: TL0481749886
Description: Comprises a pit (Pit 1) excavated to remove an old tree container and construct a new tree pit.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
120	Layer	Dark grey black clay silt . Frequent charcoal flecks.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
121	Make up layer	Friable light brown orange sandy clay . Possibly redeposited natural?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
130	Concrete	Yellow white concrete . Same as (101)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
131	Levelling layer	Friable red gravel . Same as (102).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
132	Buried subsoil	Brown grey clay sand	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
133	Natural	Blue clay	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Area: 2
Extent (ha): 0.0011
OS Co-ordinates: TL0480949895
Description: Comprises Service Trench 2, west of Pit 5, situated in the northern half of Church Square. The trench was c. 10m long by 0.9m wide, with a c. 2m long spur to the north.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
111	External surface	Light grey limestone . Flat limestone surface. Same as (112)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
112	External surface	Light yellow grey limestone . Same as (111)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
113	Make up layer	Firm mid orange brown sandy clay frequent medium ceramic building material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
117	Make up layer	Firm light grey orange sandy clay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
118	Make up layer	Compact mid orange brown sandy gravel . Occasional lumps of clay.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
119	Make up layer	Friable mid orange brown silty sand . Frequent gravel.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Area: 3
Extent (ha): 0.0037
OS Co-ordinates: TL0478949891
Description: Comprises three separate pits (Pits 2, 3 and 4) excavated to remove loose ground around the old tree containers. The pits were very irregular in shape and each was approximately 5m wide. They were ranged in line near the western end of Church Square.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
114	Natural	Friable mid brown orange silt. Possibly alluvium. Pit 3.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
115	Buried subsoil	Firm light orange yellow silty sand. Frequent inclusion of gravel. Pit 3.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
116	Topsoil	Mid brown grey. Topsoil, presumably imported in 1987 for former planted bed. Pit 3.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
141	Modern intrusion	Linear NNE-SSW profile: vertical base: flat dimensions: max breadth 1.4m, max depth 1.6m. Modern machine trench. Visible in the section of pits 2-4.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
142	Backfill	Loose. Mix of topsoil, dark sandy gravel and redeposited natural silt. Inclusions of modern bricks and plastic bags. Visible in the section of pits 2-4.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Area: 5
Extent (ha): 0.0017
OS Co-ordinates: TL0481549897
Description: This roughly rectangular area (Pit 5), was 4.5m long by 4m wide, and was excavated to remove old tree container and construct new tree pit.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
135	Layer	Friable dark grey clay silt frequent flecks charcoal, moderate small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
136	Layer	Friable dark grey brown clay silt frequent flecks charcoal, moderate small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
137	Pipe	Linear . Modern pipe trench.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
138	Backfill	Friable light orange brown silty sand . Silty sand and gravel.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Area: 6
Extent (ha): 0.0013
OS Co-ordinates: TL0482649893
Description: Comprises the area excavated for a new tree pit (Pit 6), situated at the eastern end of Church Square. The area was c. 3.6m square

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
122	Natural	Friable light grey orange sandy clay . Possibly alluvium.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
123	Layer	Friable dark orange brown clay silt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
124	Layer	Friable dark brown black clay silt frequent flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
125	Layer	Friable dark brown black clay silt frequent flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
126	Foundation	Linear profile: near vertical base: flat . Foundation cut with packing - date unknown - no finds.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
127	Foundation	Loose light orange yellow gravel . Gravel and fine sand.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
128	Foundation	Linear profile: near vertical base: flat . Foundation cut with packing - date unknown - no finds.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
129	Foundation	Loose light orange yellow . Gravel and fine sand.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Area: 7
Extent (ha): 0.0024
OS Co-ordinates: TL0479749882
Description: Includes Pit 7 and Pit 9, and the intervening area. Pit 7 was an irregular in shape c. 4.9m x 4.5m wide, Pit 9 was 2.5m square.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
100	External surface	Red, modern paving tiles. Modern surface of Church Square.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
101	Concrete	Concrete	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
102	Levelling layer	Pink gravel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
103	Natural	Mid orange silt. Possibly alluvium.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
104	Modern intrusion	Square profile: vertical base: flat dimensions: max depth 1.85m, max diameter 2.m. Modern tree pit.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
105	Modern intrusion	Mid grey brown silt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
106	Modern intrusion	Dark grey brown silt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
107	Foundation	Linear E-W dimensions: max breadth 0.4m, max length 2.3m. Foundation for post-medieval building.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
108	Foundation	Yellow limestone. Limestone and clunch blocks.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
109	Foundation	Linear E-W dimensions: max breadth 0.4m, max length 2.3m. Foundation for post-medieval building.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
110	Foundation	Yellow limestone. Limestone and clunch blocks.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
139	Natural	Friable mid grey orange silt. Alluvial?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
140	Make up layer	Friable dark brown grey clay silt occasional small stones. Contains post medieval artefacts.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



Figure 1: Site location plan

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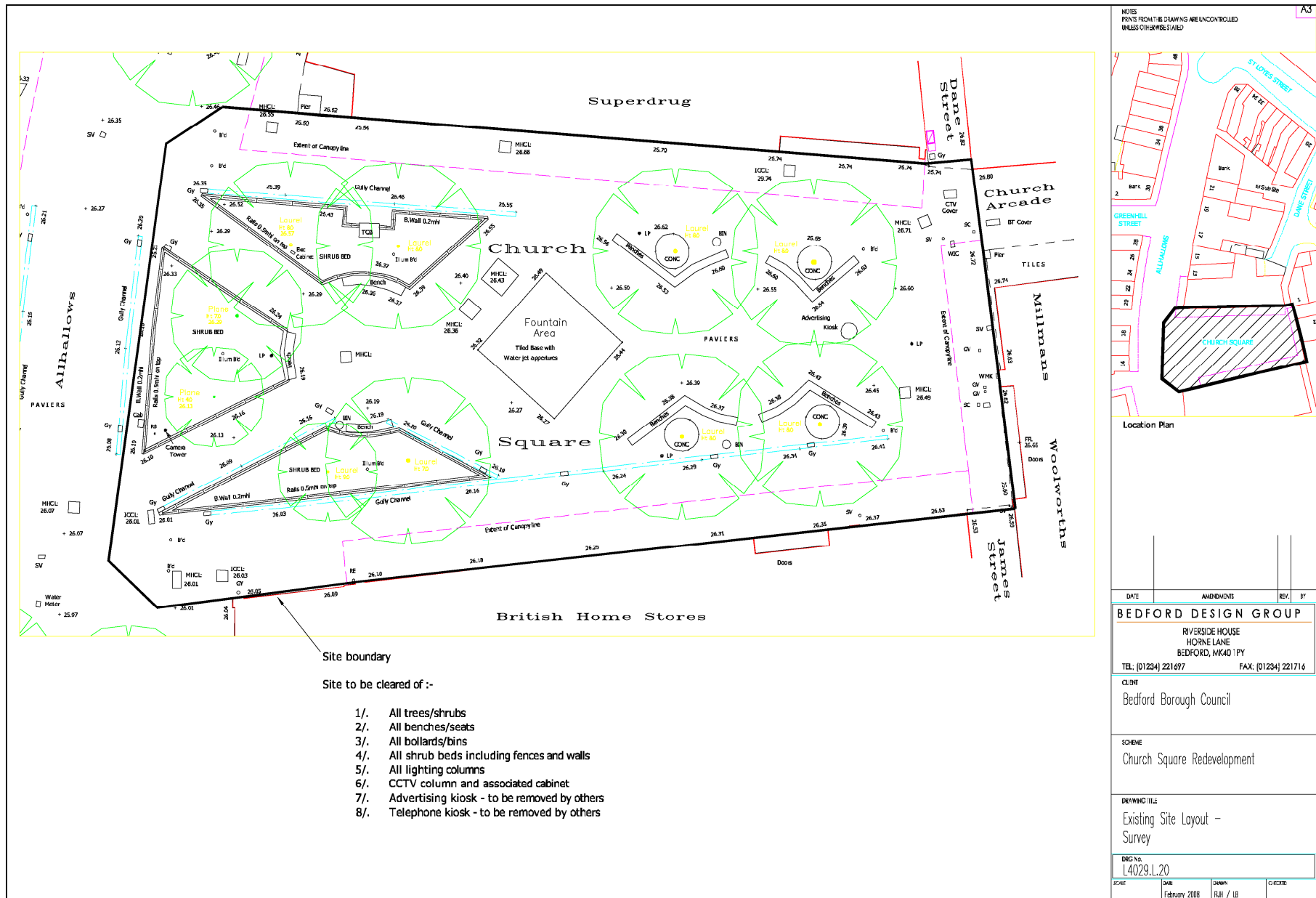


Figure 2: Site layout prior to development. (Drawing by Bedford Design Group. Not to scale)

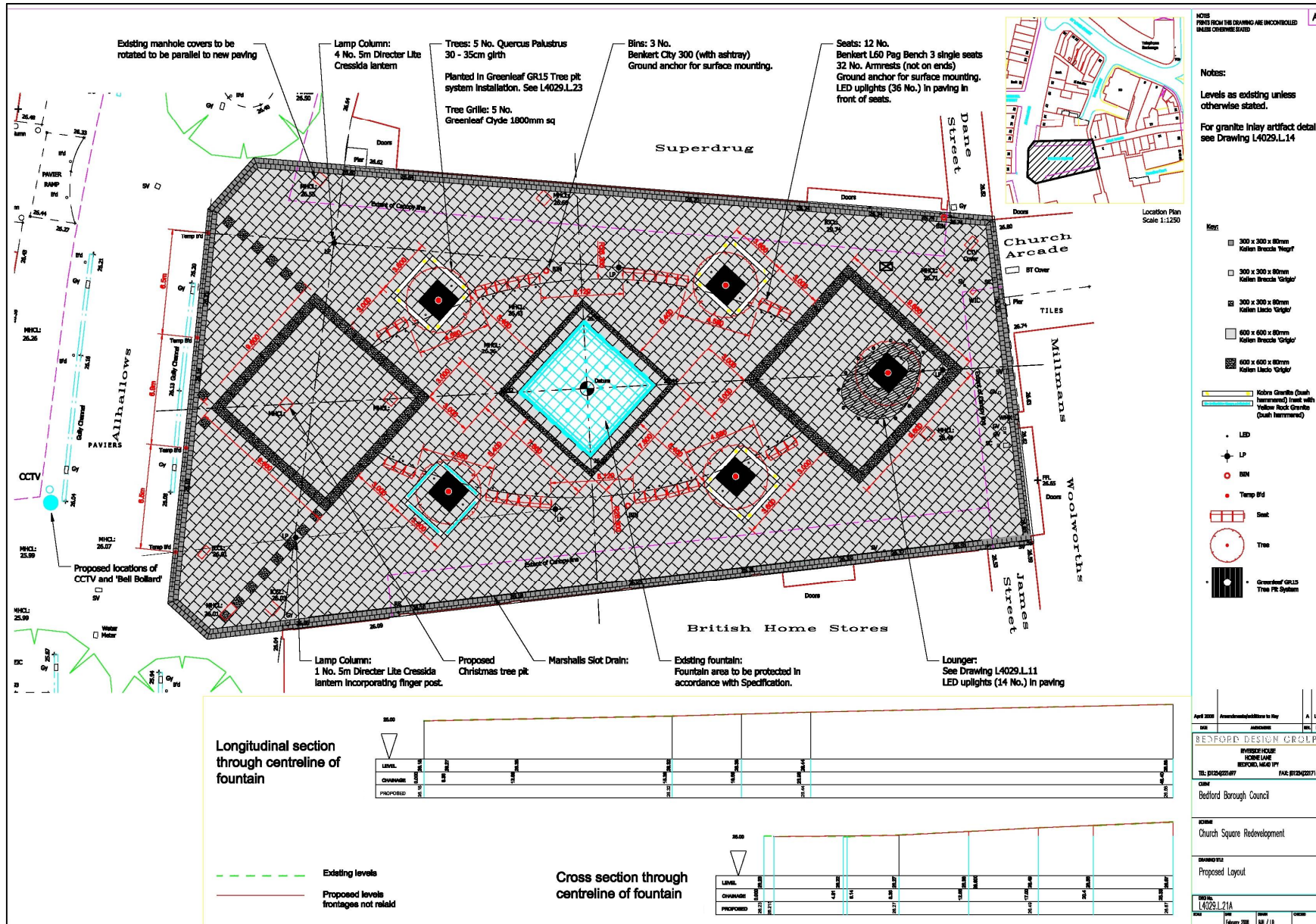


Figure 3: Site layout as proposed. (Drawing by Bedford Design Group. Not to scale)

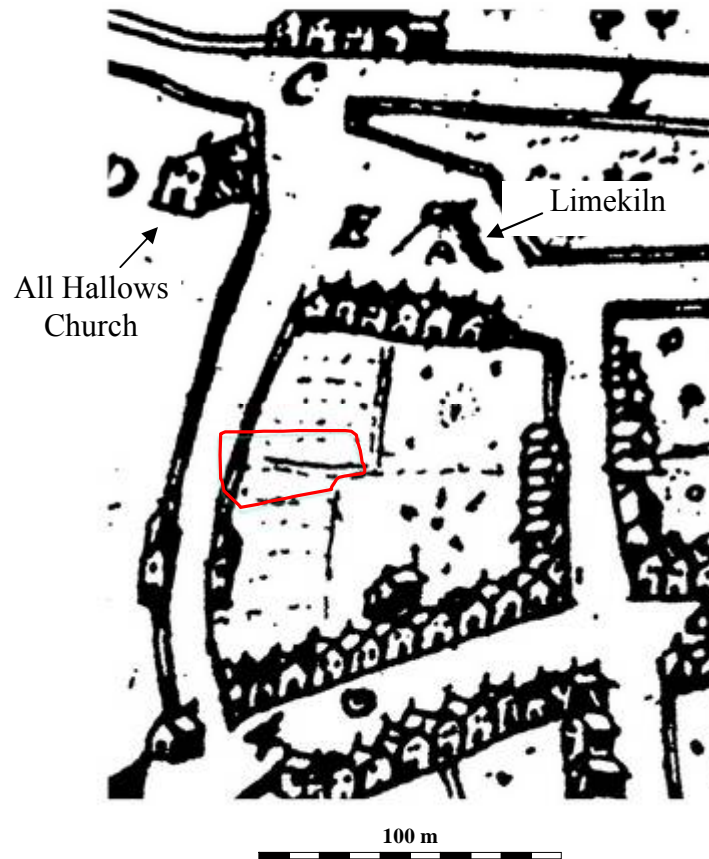


Figure 4: Speed's map 1610
(Scale and position of site are approximate)



Figure 5: Brayley map 1807
(Scale and position of site are approximate)

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Figure 6: Dewhurst & Nichols map 1836
(Scale and position of site are approximate)



Figure 7: Reynolds map 1841
(Scale and position of site are approximate)

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25 m

Figure 8: 1st edition Ordnance Survey map 1884
(Scale and position of site are approximate)

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Figure 9: Detail from 1946 aerial photograph. (4081 CPE UK 1792. 11 Oct. 46)



Figure 10: Plan of proposed redevelopment 1957
(Scale approximate)



Figure 11: Plan c. 1965, based on Third Edition
Ordnance Survey 1926
(Scale approximate)

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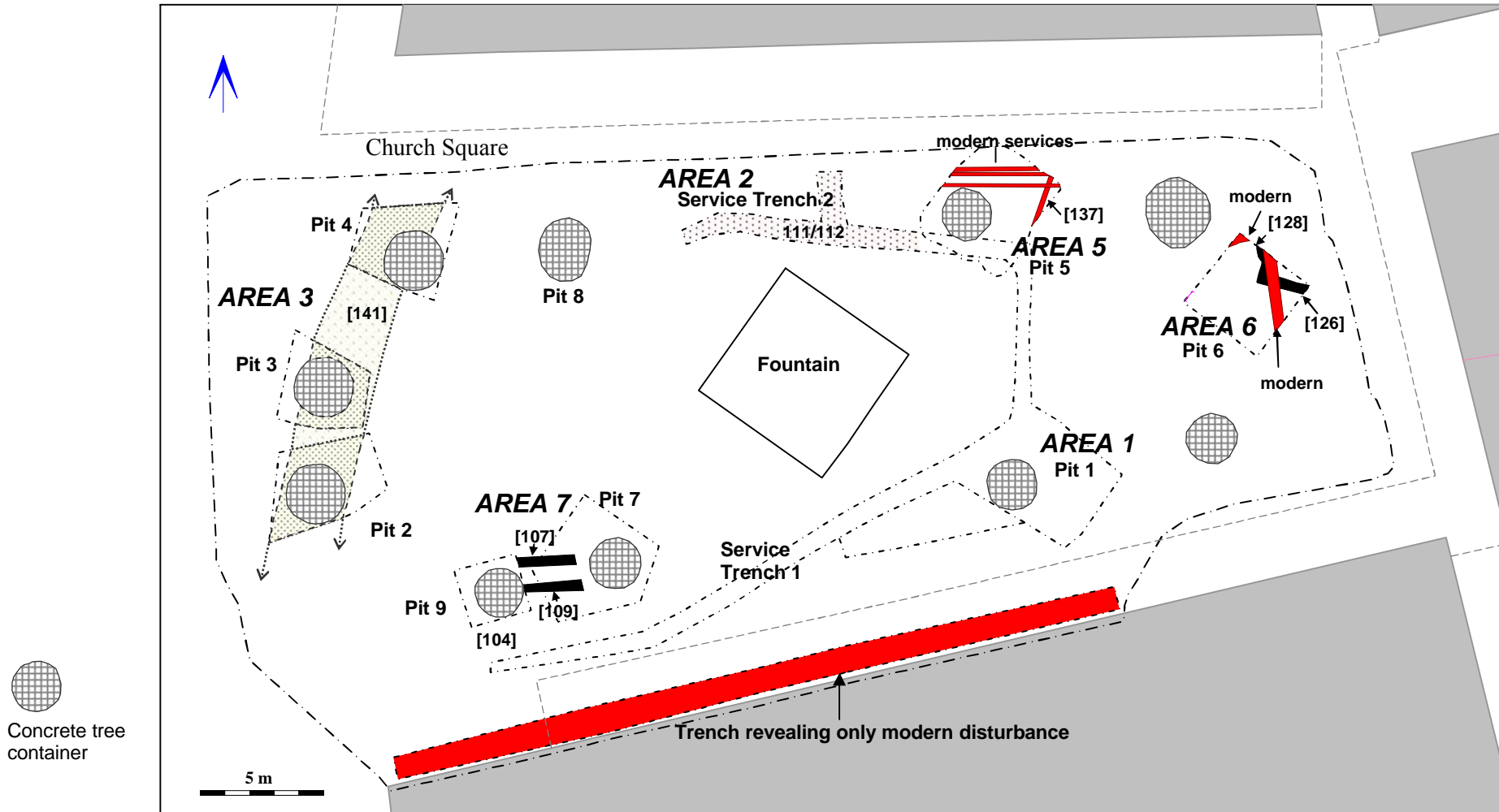


Figure 12: Plan showing the location of all archaeologically significant features

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Pits 7 and 9: 19th-century outbuilding foundations, [107] and [109]. Looking north, scale 1m



Trench 2: limestone surface (111)/(112).
Looking north-west, scale 40cm

Figure 13: Photographs of Pits 7 and 9 and Trench 2



Pit 1. Looking north, scale 2m



Pit 4. Looking north east, scale 2m

Figure 14: Photographs of Pit 1 and Pit 4



Pit 6. Looking north-east,
scale 2m



Site photograph. Looking west, Pit 6 in foreground.
Scale 2m

Figure 15: Photographs of Pit 6



Figure 16: Linear features in Church Square and in The Empire Cinema excavation
(After Hassal 1983)

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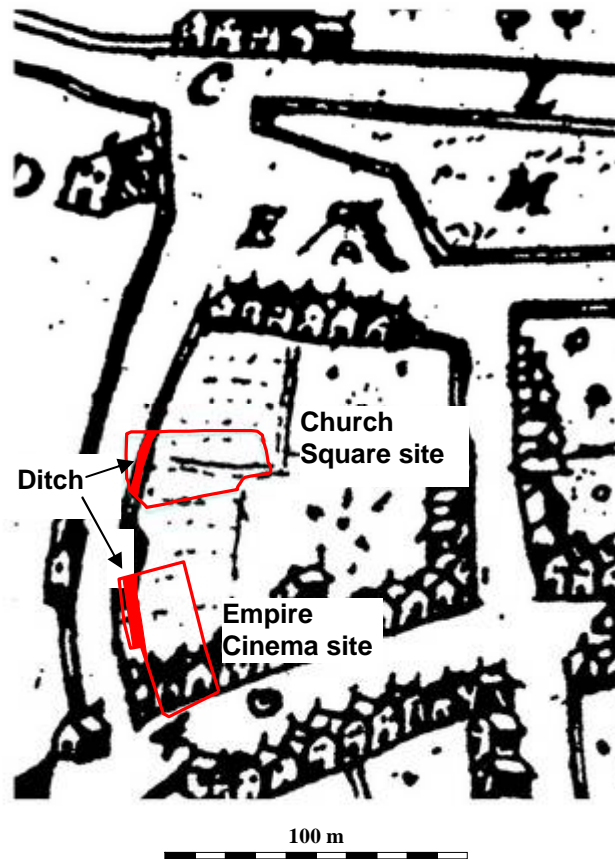


Figure 17: Excavated features superimposed on the map of 1610
(Scale and position of site are approximate)

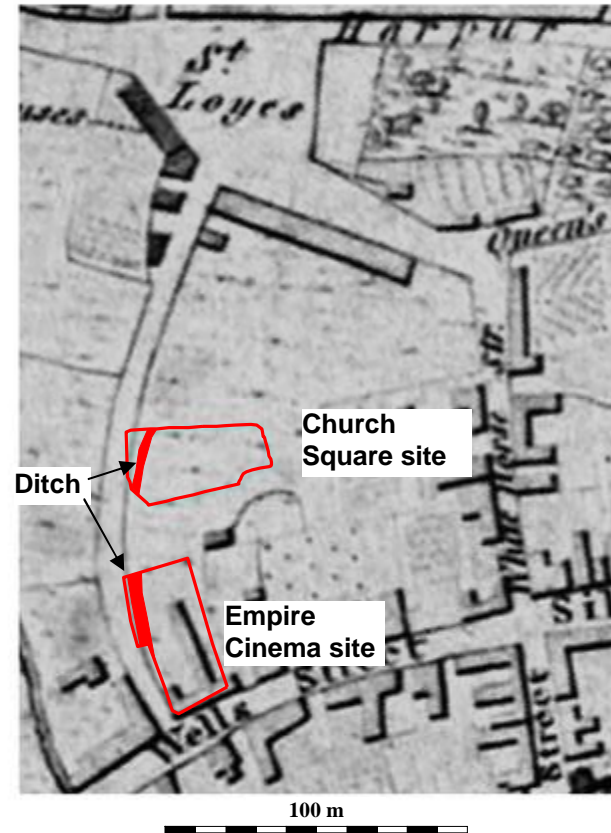


Figure 18: Excavated features superimposed on the map of 1807
(Scale and position of site are approximate)

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