

**FORMER ST BEDE'S SCHOOL
BROMHAM ROAD
BEDFORD**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCHING

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Preface

Every effort has been made in the preparation and submission of this document and all statements 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.

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1.1	24 th November 2008	Figure 3 added

Structure of the Report

Section 1 is an introduction to the project, the methodology for which is presented in Section 2. Section 3 comprises a description of the results of the fieldwork and their significance is discussed in Section 4. Section 5 is a bibliography and Sections 6 and 7 appendices containing context and finds information.

Key Terms

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

<i>BCC</i>	Bedfordshire County Council
<i>CAO</i>	County Archaeological Officer
<i>IFA</i>	Institute of Field Archaeologists
<i>Procedures Manual</i>	<i>Procedures Manual Volume 1 Fieldwork</i> , 2 nd edn, 2001 Albion Archaeology

Acknowledgements

The project was commissioned by Philip Brown of JPP Consulting on behalf of Orbit Housing Association and monitored on behalf of the Local Planning Authority by Lesley-Ann Mather, Archaeological Officer of Bedfordshire County Council Heritage Environment Section.

The report was prepared by Richard Gregson with contributions by Jackie Wells (finds) and Joan Lightning (illustrations). All Albion projects are under the overall management of Drew Shotliff.



Non-technical Summary

Albion Archaeology was commissioned by JPP Consulting on behalf of Orbit Housing Association to carry out a trial trenching evaluation at the site of a proposed residential development at the former St Bede's School site, Bromham Road, Bedford.

The site is located within an area of archaeological potential and nearby is the site of Greyfriars Friary and to the south, a possible medieval moated site.

Archaeological features were found in three of the four trial trenches comprising several postholes, pits, linear features and structural remains. All features are dated by artefact or circumstantial evidence to the post-medieval or modern periods.

The evidence from the trial trenching suggests that the site of the proposed housing development area contains little or no significant archaeological remains.



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 *Project Background*

A planning application is to be submitted to Bedford Borough Council for a residential development at the former St Bede's School site, Bromham Road, Bedford.

The planning authority's archaeological adviser, Bedfordshire County Council's Archaeological Officer (CAO), indicated that because of the site's archaeological potential, a programme of archaeological investigation was required.

The CAO issued a brief (BCC 2008a) outlining the requirement for a three-staged approach to the programme of archaeological work:

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

The CAO issued a further brief for the Stage I archaeological field evaluation (BCC 2008b), detailing the requirements for the trial trenching at the site.

Albion Archaeology was commissioned by JPP Consulting on behalf of Orbit Housing Association to carry out the Stage I field evaluation. A Project Design (Albion Archaeology 2008) was prepared and approved by the CAO prior to commencement of fieldwork.

1.2 *Site Location and Description*

The former St Bede's School lies on Bromham Road (A428), to the north-west of Bedford town centre. The site of the proposed development measures just under 1ha and is centred on grid reference TL 04270 50020 (Figure 1).

The irregularly shaped plot encompasses brick-built school buildings, primarily to the north of the site, and hard or grass-surfaced open spaces to the south.

The site is situated at a height of around 31m OD, within the valley of the River Great Ouse, with the river itself lying approximately 700m to the south-west at its closest. This location is reflected in the geology of the area that comprises drift material of valley gravel, overlying Oxford Clay.

1.3 *Archaeological Background*

The site lies outside the medieval core of Bedford with the area remaining largely undeveloped until the second half of the 19th century.

Adjacent to the south-eastern boundary of the development area is a possible medieval moated site (HER 15936). Late 19th-century and later mapping shows a rectilinear pond and a building called the Moat House (Figure 3).



Approximately 130m to the east is the site of Greyfriars Friary (HER 268). Following dissolution in 1538, the Friary became a farm before becoming ruinous; it was finally demolished in 1899.

Very little archaeological investigation has taken place in this part of Bedford. Although the area is likely to have been significantly disturbed by modern urban development, there is potential for pockets of undisturbed land to have survived which may contain remains relating to the medieval or earlier history of this part of the town.

1.4 Project Objectives

The principal objective of the trial trenching was to determine whether archaeological remains were present at the site and, if so, assess their extent, condition, nature and significance. This information was to be used to inform any subsequent mitigation strategy designed to protect or preserve by record any significant remains that might be present.

The broader objective of the project was to add to the knowledge and understanding of the origins and nature of settlement in the area and produce an archive report that fully describes the archaeological works.



2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 Standards

Throughout the project the standards set out in the following documents were followed.

• IFA	<i>By-Laws and Code of Conduct</i>
	<i>Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation</i>
• English Heritage	<i>Management of Archaeological Projects (1991)</i>
• Albion Archaeology	<i>Procedures Manual: Volume 1 Fieldwork (2nd edn, 2001).</i>
• ACAO	<i>Briefs and Specifications for Archaeological Assessment and Field Evaluation (1993)</i>
• BCC	<i>Preparing Archaeological Archives for Deposition in Registered Museums in Bedfordshire (1998)</i>

2.2 Trial trenching

The trial trenching took place between 22nd and 24th October 2008. Four trenches were opened, covering a total area of 133m² (Figure 2).

The trenches were opened by a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, working under close archaeological supervision. Overburden was removed down to the top of the undisturbed geological deposits and/or archaeological remains. The spoil heaps were scanned for artefacts.

A photographic record was compiled of each trench. All deposits and features were recorded using a unique number sequence, commencing at 100 for Trench 1, 200 for Trench 2 *etc.* A full methodology was provided in the Project Design (Albion Archaeology 2008).



3. FIELDWORK RESULTS

3.1 *Overburden and Geological Deposits*

Trenches 1 and 3 and the north end of Trench 2 were situated within tarmac areas. Below the tarmac were a series of make up and levelling layers and in some cases earlier tarmac surfaces. The make up layers were placed directly over topsoil.

The top and subsoil was generally consistent in composition and colour in Trenches 1 and 4 and varied in total thickness from 0.50m to 0.80m. The topsoil consisted of mid - dark grey brown sandy silt, 0.25m to 0.55m thick which sealed a lighter hued orange or grey brown sandy silt subsoil, 0.15m to 0.35m thick. No subsoil was identified in Trenches 2 and 3. However, both trenches did contain a buried topsoil layer, 0.35 to 0.5m thick, lying beneath later levelling and make up layers.

Undisturbed geological strata were reached at depths of between 0.25m and 1.60m below the ground surface. In Trenches 1 and 4 the deposit comprised mid brown orange terrace gravels. In Trenches 2 and 3 it comprised a possibly colluvial deposit of light brown orange sandy or clay silt.

3.2 *Archaeological Remains*

Archaeological remains were recorded in Trenches 1, 2 and 3. They comprised pits, postholes, linear features and the remains of demolished structures (Figure 2). No archaeological features were present in Trench 4.

3.2.1 *Trench 1*

Trench 1 measured 22m long and 1.6m wide and was excavated to a depth of 0.25m below ground level at the western end and 0.45m at the eastern end. Disturbed ground incorporating a probable modern service run encased in concrete crossed the trench in its eastern half.

Several archaeological features were uncovered in the trench including three postholes, two pits and a robbed out wall foundation. The majority of these features were located in the eastern half of the trench. Occasional fragments of residual late medieval pottery were recovered from the excavated overburden.

Postholes [106], [110] and [118]

Three circular probable postholes were found in Trench 1 (Plate 1). They were all of a similar size and filled with the same brown grey sandy silt. As they were presumed to be contemporary with each other, two were sampled to determine their nature. The postholes all measured around 0.40-0.50m in diameter; the two excavated examples [110] and [106] were 0.08m and 0.3m deep respectively. The easternmost posthole [106] contained evidence of the removed or decayed post within the hole preserved as a lighter hued deposit (109), and a piece of post-medieval roof tile.

Pit / posthole [112]

Sub-rectangular feature [112] was 1.2m long, 0.65m wide and 0.61m deep. It had near vertical sides and a concave base. The main deposit within it (113)



comprised brown grey sandy silt. A lens of re-deposited natural (114) overlay this deposit at the western end. Artefacts recovered from the lower deposit included pieces of late medieval pottery and post-medieval roof tile. The shape and size of this feature is suggestive of a pit. However, its deep, steep sided profile is more characteristic of a structural feature, possibly a large posthole.

Pit [115]

A large possible pit was uncovered towards the middle of the trench. During overburden stripping, the feature was observed to truncate the topsoil and consequently the top 0.40m of the feature was removed by mechanical excavator. After overburden removal, two deposits were identified in the trench surface and section. The lower deposit (116) comprised brown grey sandy silt and was similar to the deposits within other archaeological features in the vicinity. The upper deposit (117) comprised light yellow brown silty sand. The purpose of the pit is unknown, although it must have been a relatively modern feature since it truncated the topsoil. It is possible that it is associated with the modern service encased in concrete that crosses it.

Linear feature [120]

A N-S orientated linear feature probably representing a robbed out wall foundation was found towards the west end of the trench (Plate 2). It was 0.57m wide and 0.68m deep with near vertical sides and a flat base. It truncated topsoil and was sealed by the make up layer associated with the tarmac playground. The lower deposit within the feature (121) comprised light yellow silty sand mortar-like material. This is likely to have been the binding for the wall that was left after the bricks or stone work of the wall footings had been robbed out. The upper deposits (122) and (123) comprised re-deposited clays and sands probably infilling the void of the removed wall.

3.2.2 Trench 2

Trench 2 measured 22m long and 1.6m wide and was excavated to a depth of 0.77m below ground level at its southern end and 1.60m at the northern end (Plate 3).

Several archaeological features were recorded in the trench including a shallow linear feature, the remains of a wall, and two postholes.

Linear feature [203]

An E-W orientated linear feature was located towards the middle of the trench (Plate 4). It was 0.58m wide and 0.12m deep with near vertical sides and a flat base. The deposit within it (204) comprised mid brown grey clay sand. Its form is characteristic of a garden feature, such as a bedding trench or, alternatively, the base of a robbed out wall.

Wall (214)

The remains of an E-W orientated wall (214) were found towards the north end of the trench (Plate 6). It was 0.50m wide and 0.25m high. The footings of the wall were placed in a shallow trench 0.55m wide and 0.10m deep [212]. Within the trench there was a levelling layer (213) comprising compact mid brown grey clay silt. This was overlain by the wall (214) which comprised two courses of



roughly hewn and squared limestone blocks and occasional bricks. The lower part of the wall was buried by layers of topsoil and dump material. The upper part of the wall had been robbed out with the void [219] being backfilled with a mixture of topsoil and discarded pieces of limestone (216).

Postholes [205] and [207]

A sub-square posthole [205] was uncovered adjacent to linear feature [203] (Plate 5). It measured 0.25m by 0.25m and 0.09m deep, with asymmetrical, near vertical sides and a flat base. The deposit within it (206) comprised dark brown grey sandy silt and contained a sherd of modern pottery.

A sub-circular posthole [207] was recorded adjacent to the wall foundation trench [212] (Plate 6). It was 0.6m in diameter and 0.5m deep with near vertical sides and a concave base. The position of the removed or decayed post, 0.15m in diameter and 0.32m deep, was preserved as a looser deposit (210). Overall, the deposits within the posthole varied from mid orange grey to mid brown grey in colour and from clay sand to silty sand in composition. Datable artefacts recovered from the feature included post-medieval roof tile and late medieval pottery.

3.2.3 *Trench 3*

The excavation of Trench 3 was halted after approximately 15m of the planned 22m had been excavated due to the discovery of contaminated material in the overburden (Plate 7).

Much of the already excavated trench contained extensive remains of a substantial brick building, including wall footings and service runs. The contaminated material was part of the debris from the building used to infill and level the site following its demolition.

Undisturbed geological deposits were encountered in the first 5m of the trench and these lay beneath approximately 1.25m of overburden. This overburden comprised a series of make up and levelling layers and buried topsoils beneath tarmac.

3.2.4 *Trench 4*

Trench 4 measured 24m long and 1.6m wide (Plate 8). Undisturbed geology was encountered at a depth of around 1m below ground level. No archaeological remains were present within the trench.



4. DISCUSSION OF RESULTS

Artefact and circumstantial evidence suggest that all archaeological remains found within the four trenches were post-medieval or later in date.

In Trench 1, the majority of features contained a similar fill and those that could be dated by artefacts are believed to be post-medieval. The probable robbed out wall may correspond to a boundary wall shown on 19th and 20th -century Ordnance Survey mapping (Figure 3).

The wall in Trench 2 also corresponds to a structure marked on early OS mapping as do the remains of the large building found in Trench 3. Two of the remaining three features in Trench 2 contained post-medieval artefacts and the third was characteristic of a garden feature or robbed out wall.

Of some archaeological interest was the finding of redeposited sherds of late medieval (14th-15th centuries) pottery indicating activity in the area of that date.

Overall, the evidence from the evaluation suggests that the site of the proposed housing development contains little or no archaeologically significant remains.



5. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Bedfordshire County Council, 2008b, *Brief for an Archaeological Field Evaluation of Land at St Bede's School, Bromham Road, Bedford, Bedfordshire*



6. APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT SUMMARY



Trench: 1

Max Dimensions: Length: 22.00 m. Width: 1.60 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.25 m. Max: 0.7 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL04292/50036

OS Grid Ref.: TL04313/50043

Reason: Site evaluation.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
100	Tarmac	Tarmac 0.22m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
101	Make up layer	Loose mid brown orange sand occasional medium-large ceramic building material, moderate small-large stones 0.17m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
102	Tarmac	Tarmac 0.12m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
103	Topsoil	Firm dark grey brown sandy silt occasional small stones 0.37m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
104	Subsoil	Firm mid orange brown sandy silt occasional small stones 0.15m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
105	Natural	Loose mid brown orange sandy gravel	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
106	Posthole	Circular profile: near vertical base: v-shaped dimensions: max depth 0.3m, max diameter 0.45m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
107	Packing	Firm dark brown grey sandy silt occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
108	Postpipe	Circular profile: near vertical base: v-shaped dimensions: max depth 0.16m, max diameter 0.27m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
109	Fill	Firm mid brown grey sandy silt occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
110	Posthole	Circular profile: concave base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.08m, max diameter 0.4m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
111	Fill	Firm dark brown grey sandy silt occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
112	Pit	Sub-rectangular E-W profile: near vertical base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.65m, max depth 0.61m, max length 1.2m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
113	Fill	Firm dark brown grey sandy silt occasional small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
114	Redeposited natural	Loose mid brown orange sandy gravel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
115	Pit	Sub-rectangular E-W profile: near vertical dimensions: min breadth 1.5m, min depth 0.4m, max length 4.05m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
116	Backfill	Firm dark brown grey sandy silt moderate small stones, occasional medium-large stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
117	Backfill	Loose light yellow brown silty sand frequent small stones, occasional medium-large stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
118	Posthole	Circular dimensions: max diameter 0.5m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
119	Fill	Firm dark grey brown sandy silt	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
120	Robber trench	Linear N-S profile: near vertical base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.57m, max depth 0.68m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
121	Lower fill	Loose light yellow silty sand	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
122	Fill	Firm dark grey sandy clay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
123	Upper fill	Loose mid yellow grey silty sand occasional medium ceramic building material, moderate small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 2

Max Dimensions: Length: 22.00 m. Width: 1.60 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.7 m. Max: 1.6 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL04289/50004

OS Grid Ref.: TL04297/49983

Reason: Site evaluation.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
200	Topsoil	Firm dark grey brown sandy silt occasional small-medium stones 0.25m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
201	Buried topsoil	Firm mid brown grey sandy silt moderate small stones 0.42m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
202	Natural	Compact light brown orange clay silt	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
203	Ditch	Linear E-W profile: near vertical base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.58m, max depth 0.12m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
204	Fill	Firm mid brown grey clay sand occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
205	Posthole	Sub-square profile: near vertical base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.25m, max depth 0.09m, max length 0.25m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
206	Fill	Firm dark brown grey sandy silt occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
207	Posthole	Sub-circular profile: near vertical base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.5m, max diameter 0.6m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
208	Packing	Firm mid orange grey clay silt occasional small ceramic building material, occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
209	Postpipe	Circular profile: vertical base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.32m, max diameter 0.15m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
210	Fill	Loose mid brown grey silty sand occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
211	Dump material	Firm dark grey sandy silt occasional small ceramic building material, moderate small-medium stones 0.47m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
212	Foundation trench	Linear E-W profile: vertical base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.55m, max depth 0.1m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
213	Levelling layer	Compact mid brown grey clay silt occasional small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
214	Wall	Random coursed, roughly hewn and squared limestone blocks (130mm x 80mm x 30mm - 340mm x 130mm x 60mm) with occasional brick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
217	Make up layer	Loose mid grey orange sandy gravel frequent small-medium ceramic building material, frequent small-medium stones 0.6m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
218	Tarmac	Tarmac 0.10m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
219	Robber trench	Linear E-W profile: near vertical base: uneven dimensions: max breadth 0.65m, max depth 0.42m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
216	Backfill	Loose mid grey sandy silt moderate small-medium ceramic building material, frequent small-medium stones Demolished part of wall.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 3

Max Dimensions: Length: 15.00 m. Width: 1.60 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: m. Max: 1.25 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL04289/49961

OS Grid Ref.: TL04295/49940

Reason: Site evaluation.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
300	Tarmac	Tarmac 0.16m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
301	Levelling layer	Loose, light yellow, crushed sandstone rubble. 0.15m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
302	Make up layer	Compact mid red brown sand frequent small-large ceramic building material, frequent small stones 0.06m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
303	Make up layer	Firm dark grey clay silt occasional flecks ceramic building material, moderate flecks charcoal, occasional small stones 0.15m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
304	Buried topsoil	Firm mid grey brown sandy silt occasional flecks ceramic building material, occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones 0.13m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
305	Make up layer	Loose mid brown orange sandy gravel 0.10m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
306	Buried topsoil	Firm mid grey brown sandy silt occasional small stones 0.50m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
307	Natural	Firm light brown orange sandy silt	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 4

Max Dimensions: Length: 23.75 m. Width: 1.60 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.82 m. Max: 1. m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL04263/50022

OS Grid Ref.: TL04262/49999

Reason: Site evaluation.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
400	Topsoil	Firm dark grey brown sandy silt occasional small ceramic building material, occasional flecks charcoal, moderate small stones 0.55m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
401	Subsoil	Firm mid grey brown sandy silt occasional small stones 0.35m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
402	Natural	Loose mid brown orange sandy gravel	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



7. APPENDIX 2: ARTEFACT SUMMARY

7.1 Introduction

The evaluation produced a small finds assemblage comprising pottery, ceramic roof tile, ferrous slag, clay pipe, animal bone and a copper alloy button (Table 1). The material was scanned to ascertain its nature, condition and, where possible, date range.

Tr.	Feature	Description	Context	Spot date	Finds summary
1	100	Tarmac	100	Late medieval	Pottery (50g)
	106	Posthole	107	Post-medieval	Roof tile (25g)
	112	Pit / posthole	114	Post-medieval	Pottery (12g); roof tile (48g); slag (156g), animal bone (6g)
2	205	Posthole	206	Modern	Pottery (1g)
	207	Posthole	208	Post-medieval	Pottery (2g); roof tile (61g); animal bone (4g)
	219	Robber trench	216	Post-medieval	Clay pipe (5g); button

Table 1: Finds Summary by trench and feature

7.2 Pottery

Ten unabraded pottery sherds, weighing 65g were recovered, and quantified using minimum sherd count and weight. With the exception of a modern sherd (1g) recovered from posthole [205], all are datable to the 14th-15th centuries, and comprise undiagnostic sand tempered sherds in the late medieval grey ware tradition (fabric type E01¹).

7.3 Other finds

Robber trench [219] contained a fragment of clay tobacco pipe stem and a cast discoidal copper alloy button, both of post-medieval date. Five sand tempered pieces of post-medieval flat roof tile (134g) ranging in thickness between 12-17mm were recovered from postholes [106], [207] and pit / posthole [112]. Three undiagnostic animal bone fragments (10g) derived from posthole [207] and pit / posthole [112]. The latter also contained 156g of dense ferrous smelting slag.

¹ Fabric type defined in accordance with the Bedfordshire ceramic type series, currently maintained by Albion Archaeology on behalf of Bedfordshire County Council.

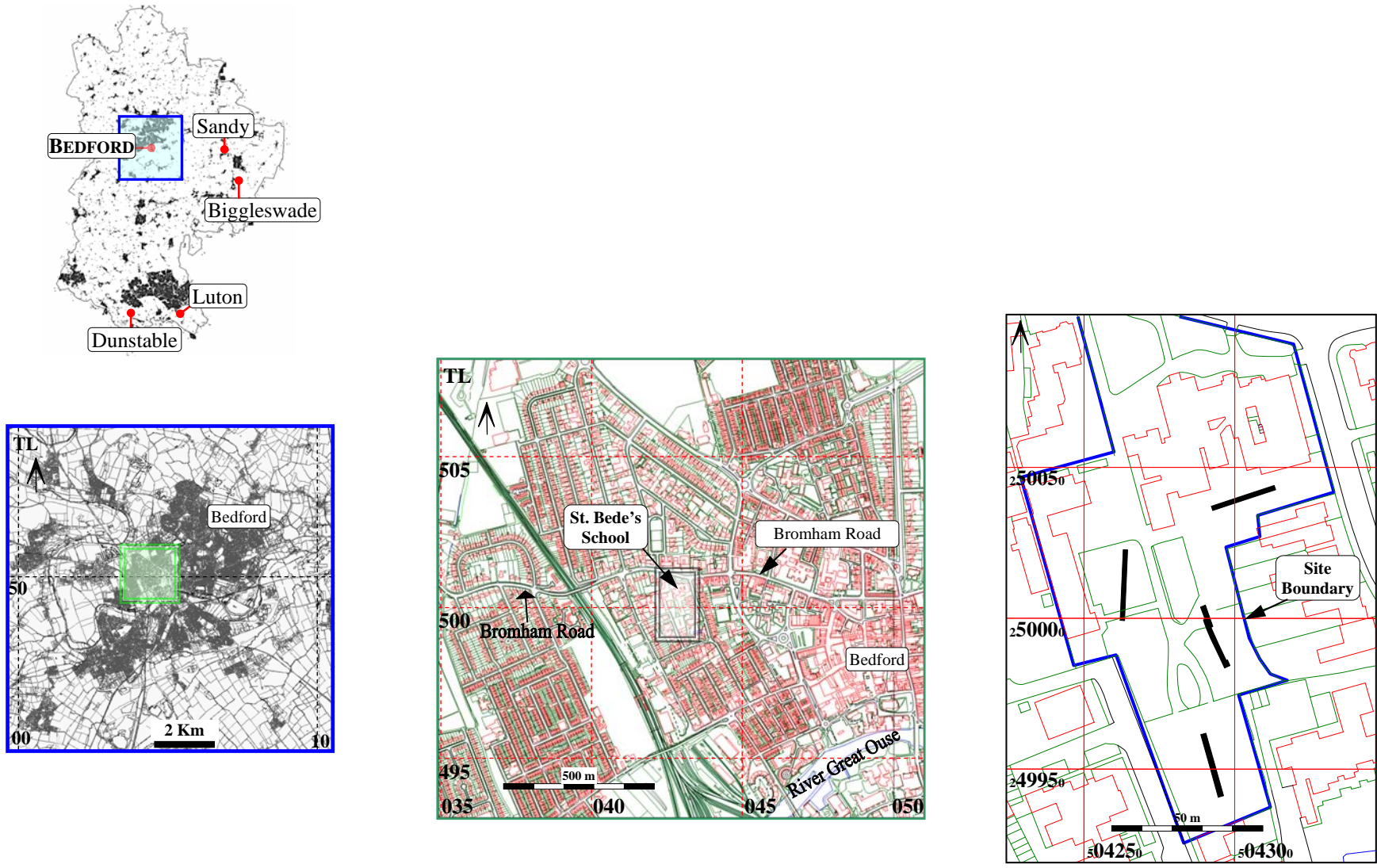


Figure 1: Site location plan

Base map reproduced from the Ordnance Survey Map with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, by Bedfordshire County Council, County Hall, Bedford. OS Licence No. 100017358. © Crown Copyright

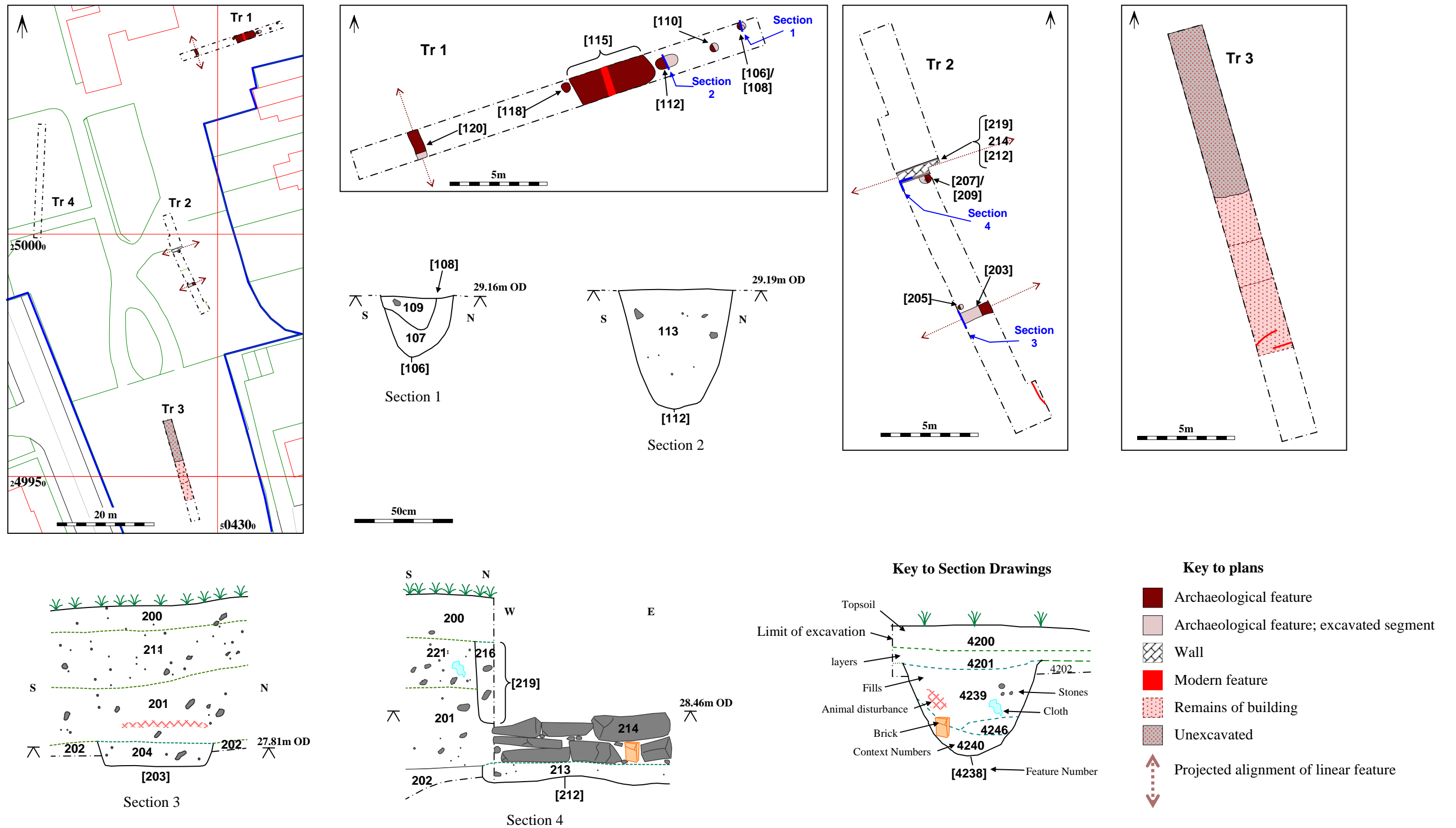


Figure 2: Trench plan and section drawings
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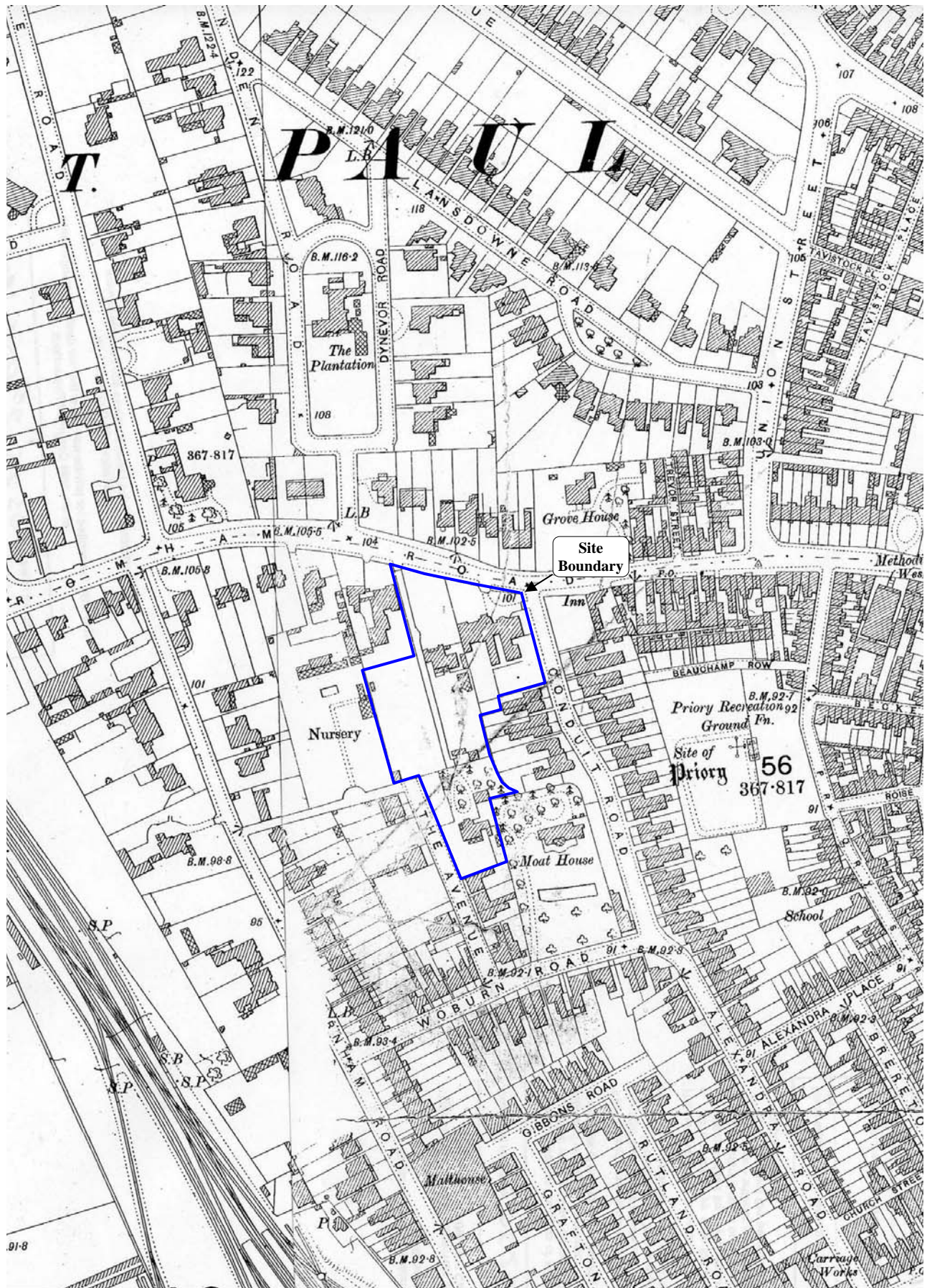


Figure 3: 1901 Ordnance Survey 2nd edition map



Plate 1: Trench 1, view from the east showing features [106], [110] and [112]



Plate 2: Trench 1, view from the west showing feature [120]



Plate 3: Trench 2, view from the north.



Plate 4: Trench 2, feature [203]



Plate 5: Trench 2, feature [205]



Plate 6: Trench 2, features [207] and (214)



Plate 7: Trench 3, view from the south



Plate 8: Trench 4, view from the north