

WARREN WOOD MILLBROOK BEDFORDSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCHING

Project: WW1420

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Compiled by	Checked by	Approved by	
Ben Barker	Robert Wardill	Drew Shotliff	

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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.

Acknowledgements

The project was commissioned by Paul Chadwick, of CgMs Consulting Ltd, on behalf of Center Parcs Ltd. It was monitored on behalf of the Local Planning Authority by Martin Oake, Central Bedfordshire Council's Archaeological Officer (AO).

This report has been prepared by Ben Barker (Project Officer) and Jackie Wells (Finds Officer). The fieldwork was undertaken by Ben Barker, Richard Gregson (Archaeological Supervisor), Anna Ribisz-Niziolek and Weibke Starke (Assistant Supervisors), Cat Godsiffe, and Claire Lockwood (Archaeological Technicians). Illustrations were prepared by Joan Lightning (CAD Technician).

Albion Archaeology St Mary's Church St Mary's Street Bedford. MK42 0AS

: 0300 300 6864 Fax: 0300 300 8209

e-mail: bj.barker@albion-arch.com

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Key Terms

Throughout this report the following terms or abbreviations are used:

AO	Archaeological Officer, Bedfordshire County Council (now Central Bedfordshire Council)
IfA	Institute for Archaeologists
LPA	Local Planning Authority
HER	Historic Environment Record



Non-Technical Summary

Planning permission (08/00614/FULL) has been granted for the development of a Center Parcs Holiday Village at Warren Wood, Millbrook, Bedfordshire. A schedule of planning conditions has been issued, including Condition 14 which requires an approved programme of archaeological works to be undertaken.

A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was prepared following initial consultations with the Archaeology Officer at Bedfordshire County Council (now Central Bedfordshire Council). It included method statements for both a woodland earthworks survey and archaeological trial trenching. A supplementary WSI presented an updated methodology for the archaeological trial trenching, incorporating the results of the woodland earthworks survey.

Sixteen trial trenches were opened by machine within the 148ha development area. The trench layout was targeted on features identified by the woodland earthworks survey.

The trial trenching showed that many of the woodland earthworks were poorly preserved. The best-preserved boundary, to the west of Breakheart Hill Plantation, was dated to the early medieval period, and it is suggested that it may be contemporary with earthworks previously associated with a post-medieval pond complex further to the south. Significantly, investigation of the earthworks around Fox Covert produced three sherds of residual late Bronze Age/early Iron Age pottery. No traces of Watch House or Warren House were located by the trenching.



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Planning Background

Planning permission (08/00614/FULL) has been granted for the development of a Center Parcs Holiday Village at Warren Wood, Millbrook, Bedfordshire. A schedule of planning conditions has been issued, including Condition 14 which requires that:

"Development shall not commence until a programme of archaeological work, in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The archaeological programme shall be carried out in accordance with the approved scheme."

A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was prepared by CgMs Consulting (CgMs 2008) following initial consultations with the Archaeology Officer at Bedfordshire County Council (now Central Bedfordshire Council). It included method statements for both a woodland survey and archaeological trial trenching. A supplementary WSI (CgMs 2008a) presented an updated methodology for the archaeological trial trenching, which incorporated the results of the woodland earthworks survey (Simco 2008).

1.2 Site Location, Topography and Geology

The development area is c.148 hectares in extent and is centred on TL 00807 37268 (Figure 1). It is bounded to the north by the Woburn Road (A507) and to the east by Fordfield Road. It occupies part of the Greensand Ridge which trends south-west to north-east through this part of Bedfordshire.

Locally, the Lower Greensand produces a sharply undulating terrain. Along the northern site boundary Woburn Road undulates at around c.100 m OD. Within the site, a plateau occupies part of the north-eastern portion of the site, with moderate gradients sloping down to Fordfield Road. Slopes within the site vary from long, gentle slopes to short, steep inclines, and overall the site grades down to the southern site boundary at c.78 m OD. A valley runs north to south from the centre of the site, which it drains. It is initially narrow but broadens out to the south.

The solid geology of the immediate area of the site comprises Oxford Clay of Jurassic date (IGS 1979). Overlying the Oxford Clay, the 1:50,000 scale Geological Survey (Sheet 203, 1981) indicates that the site comprises of Lower Greensand.

1.3 Archaeological Background

An archaeological desk-based assessment of the site has been compiled and lodged with Bedfordshire County Council (CgMs 2005). In addition, a woodland earthworks survey was undertaken in February 2008 (Simco 2008). The archaeological background provided here is a summary of the findings of both the assessment and the survey, as presented in the revised WSI (CgMs 2008a).



1.3.1 Lower Palaeolithic

Examination of a regional assessment of the late Palaeolithic period (Wymer 1999) indicates that the area was glaciated in the Anglian period. This resulted in the deposition of Boulder Clay, and Glacial Sands and Gravels as outwash materials. Accordingly, no Lower Palaeolithic material is expected on the site.

1.3.2 Upper Palaeolithic and Mesolithic

In the Upper Palaeolithic and Mesolithic periods, hunter-gathers exploited estuarine and river valley habitats and so, because of the location of the site on a ridge away from the Rivers Ouse and Flit, a low potential for evidence of this period is identified on the site.

1.3.3 Neolithic – Bronze Age

Within 1km of the site, a single flint artefact of Bronze Age date was found during fieldwalking. In view of the limited number of sites and finds locally and the location of the site a good distance from a river valley, a low potential is identified for sub-surface remains of Bronze Age settlement or the presence of lithics within topsoil and subsoil horizons.

1.3.4 Iron Age

Cropmark sites of possible Iron Age date have been identified relatively close to the eastern site boundary on Oxford Clay. However, there is no evidence to suggest that settlement extended into the site. Therefore, a low potential is identified for settlement-related features and for stray artefacts.

1.3.5 Roman

The limited number of Roman sites and finds within the vicinity of the site, which tend to cluster on the Oxford Clay and avoid the Lower Greensand, suggest that settlement deposits and stray artefacts are unlikely on the site. The woodland survey, on the basis of place-name evidence, tenuously suggests the discovery of a Roman coin hoard at Moneypot Hill.

1.3.6 Saxon-Early Medieval

The regional and local settlement pattern that replaced the Roman one remains obscure. There are no Saxon sites or finds recorded within 1km of the site. The woodland earthwork survey identified no features of pre-medieval origin. Accordingly, the potential of the study site for evidence relating to this period is considered to below.

1.3.7 Medieval

The documentary evidence indicates that the site lay beyond the areas of settlement, within land in common pasture, during the medieval period. Within areas of common, the parish had rights to stock grazing, wood and turf cutting. The woodland earthwork survey identifies a boundary curving east through Moneypot Hill as typical of a medieval park boundary, possibly associated with Millbrook Park. Such activities are unlikely to leave significant archaeological deposits.



1.3.8 Post-medieval

The map regression exercise, undertaken as part of the archaeological desk study and woodland earthwork survey, demonstrates the presence of post-medieval / modern building remains at 'Warren House' and 'Watch House'. In addition, evidence of quarrying and remains of various ditches and banks enclosing parcels of woodland and earthwork dams within Pond Plantation have been identified. However, other activities such as turf cutting are unlikely to leave significant archaeological remains. The woodland earthwork survey identified numerous probable post-medieval earthworks, including a Pond Plantation, the route of a former road between Moneypot and Breakheart Hill, a feature of previous landscaping at Fox Covert and previous boundaries of field and enclosures.

Building remains were identified in two locations. In the centre of the Valley spanning the line of the stream a collapsed modern structure on footings made of bricks is suggested as 18th/19th century in date. Further brickwork is located to the west where 'Millbrook Warren Lodge' first appears on the Ordnance Survey map of 1927. No further archaeological work is suggested for these building as trenching would provide no additional information and the above ground descriptions have already been recorded within the woodland earthwork survey.

1.3.9 Modern

A local historian has suggested that the heath was used to train the local militia in the 1914-1918 war and that an area of the site contains the remains of contemporary trenches. The woodland earthwork survey confirmed the presence of irregular, linear trenching to the east of Moneypot Hill. The zig-zag configurations of trenches are typical of World War I practice trenches.

1.4 Project Objectives

The project objectives were described in the Written Scheme of Investigation (CgMs 2008a) and are summarised below.

The objective of the archaeological trenching was to undertake an initial investigation and recording of the earthworks identified by the woodland earthwork survey. The trenches were targeted where earthworks or other features had been identified within the development footprint, in order to establish the features' character, date and condition.

The evaluation trenching, combined with the woodland earthwork survey, aims to test the model of archaeological potential constructed in the desk-based assessment. Particularly, it seeks to undertake an initial investigation of the earthworks, clarifying their archaeological potential and particularly establishing whether further investigation of threatened features would yield useful information.

1.5 Research Frameworks

The trial trenching was conducted within the research frameworks defined by Research and Archaeology: a Framework for the Eastern Counties 2. Research Agenda and Strategy (Brown & Glazebrook 2000) and the research framework



for Bedfordshire *Bedfordshire Archaeology-Research and Archaeology: Resource Assessment, research, Agenda and Strategy* (Oake et al 2007).

1.6 Archiving

The archive of finds and records generated during the project will be archived to the standards outlined in Appendix 3 of English Heritage's *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (2009). Details of the project and its findings have been submitted to the OASIS database (reference albionar1-92042) in accordance with the guidelines issued by English Heritage and the Archaeology Data Service.

The integrated project archive (including both artefacts/ecofacts and project documentation) will be prepared upon approval of this report. It will be deposited with Bedford Museum.



2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 Introduction

The methodological approach to the project was detailed in Section 5 of the revised Written Scheme of Investigation (CgMs 2008a) and was approved by the AO. It was designed to meet the parameters defined by *PPG16 Archaeology* and *Planning* and conforms to the current requirements of *Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment* (DCLG 2010) and the accompanying Practice Guide (DCLG/EH 2010). The archaeological investigation was conducted in accordance with appropriate national and regional standards and guidelines including:

•	IfA	Code of Conduct
		Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field
		Evaluation
•	Albion Archaeology	Procedures Manual: Volume 1 Fieldwork (2nd edn,
		2001)
•	Archaeological	Archaeological Archives: A Guide to best practice in
	Archive Forum	creation, compilation, transfer and curation (2007)
•	English Heritage	Management of Research Projects in the Historic
	5	Environment (2009)

2.2 Implementation

The archaeological investigation and recording were undertaken between 31st January and the 10th February 2011. A total of 16 trenches were opened (Figure 1). The trench layout was largely designed to target those earthworks likely to be impacted by the proposed development.

The trenches were opened by a mechanical excavator fitted with a flat-edged, 1.5m-wide ditching bucket, operated by an experienced driver, under close archaeological supervision. Wherever possible the trenches were widened to a minimum of 1.8m, although in places this was constrained by the presence of trees. The overburden was removed down to the top of undisturbed geological or archaeological deposits, whichever was encountered first. Where colluvial deposits were present, the trench was first machined to the top of these before being reduced to the level of *in situ* geological deposits.

The spoil heaps were scanned for artefacts. All deposits were recorded in a unique number sequence, using Albion Archaeology's *pro forma* sheets. The trenches were subsequently drawn and photographed as appropriate. The works were monitored on behalf of the LPA by the AO.



3. RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

All archaeological features located in the trenches are shown on Figures 2 and 3. The vast majority of the trenches were machined down to un-weathered Lower Greensand beneath varying thicknesses of disturbed colluvial sands (see Appendix 2).

3.2 Millbrook Park Boundary

Trenches 1, 2, 3 and 4 targeted a curving E-W aligned pre-enclosure earthwork identified in the woodland earthwork survey as the possible medieval boundary for Millbrook Park.

Trenches 2, 3, and 4 were devoid of archaeological features. However, Trench 1 (Figure 4) located traces of a NW-SE aligned ditch [104] that may have been the remnants of a boundary ditch. It was less than 0.1m deep and only 0.4m wide. Its absence in Trench 2 may be explained by the high level of root disturbance at this location. Trenches 3 and 4 were much less disturbed, but contained no visible evidence of a bank or a ditch.

The results of these trenches indicate that, if the medieval boundary of Millbrook Park follows the suggested line, its survival is ephemeral at best.

3.3 Pond in the Slade

Trench 5 (Figure 5) was targeted on a 2m-deep, oval hollow, which had been identified as the site of a pond that was first mapped in 1812 (Simco 2008). It was interpreted by the woodland earthwork survey as either a post-medieval or modern feature, on the basis that it cut the purported Millbrook Park boundary.

The trench revealed that the depression appeared to largely be of natural origin, with deposits of banded sands and gravels overlying Oxford Clay. There were no traces of waterlogged deposits and no artefacts. A large linear feature [504] was cut into the clay at the eastern end of the trench. It was more 3.7m wide and up to 1m deep, but there was no evidence of it continuing beyond the confines of the depression. Traces of another cut [511] were identified towards the western end of the trench, closer to the centre of the depression. This was of a similar depth and cut into the underlying natural clay deposits. Both of these features were filled with sterile, subsoil-like deposits. It is likely that both features were the result of quarrying for clay within the depression.

Machining-dug sondages through the sands and gravels confirmed that they were of natural origin. The water table was reached at a depth of c. Im below ground level. As such, it is likely that the quarry holes would have become flooded; they may have been pond-like in appearance. The lack of organic build-up, however, suggests that the pond did not become established.

3.4 Western Boundary of Breakheart Hill Plantation

Trenches 6 and 13 targeted a scarp that runs along the western boundary of Breakheart Hill Plantation.



Trench 6 (Figure 6) transected the bank and identified an associated ditch to the east and to the west. The bank itself was less than 0.4m high and indistinguishable from the subsoil (602) in its composition. The ditches [604] and [608] were both c. 2.6m wide and c. 0.5 deep, although it is possible the eastern ditch [604] had been re-cut. The fills of ditches were organically sterile but produced a total of twelve sherds of early medieval pottery.

Trench 13 was devoid of archaeological features, but contained up to 1m of colluvial sands that are likely to have derived from the slope to the east. No trace of the bank could be seen in the surrounding topography, but the boundary was still marked by the presence of mature trees that continued to the north.

These results suggest that the earthwork boundary along the western boundary of Breakheart Hill Plantation may not be continuous, but is likely to be 12th to 13th century in date.

3.5 Pond Complex and Pond Plantation

Simco (2008) identified a pond complex along the N-S valley, within Pond Plantation, that was first mapped in 1812. The evaluation targeted trenches on the ponds themselves, the earthworks immediately to the west of the pond complex, and one of the three dams that separated the four ponds.

Trenches 6 and 7 transected the two northernmost ponds but found no trace of clay lining or a build-up of organics. The presence of waterlogging may have been suggested by the slight greying of the natural sandy deposits, suggesting anaerobic conditions. Traces of the watercourse [1618] were identified in Trench 15 but this was limited to a thickening of the topsoil and higher concentration of slightly more gravelly material.

The pond complex was defined on its western side by a substantial bank and partial internal ditch. These features were tested by Trenches 8 and 9. Within Trench 8 (Figure 7) the bank was only 0.3m high. A shallow ditch [803], more than 1m wide and 0.4m deep, was recorded immediately to the east. It had been partially covered by slumping of the bank but is likely to be contemporary. The ditch fill (805) produced a single, heavily abraded fragment of early medieval pottery. This may suggest contemporaneity with the earthworks along the western side of Breakheart Hill to the north.

Within Trench 9 (Figure 8) the earthworks were more pronounced. The bank was c. 0.5m high and the eastern ditch survived as a depression. Hand excavation suggested that the ditch had been dug on two separate occasions, as [905] and [907], suggesting maintenance of the boundary. Traces of a heavily truncated ditch [910] were also located on the western side of the bank; it was 1.1m wide and 0.36m deep. No dating was recovered from the sterile sandy silt fill (911), but it appears to have been cut through the bank material, suggesting it was a later event. This layout of ditches to the east and west of the bank is similar to that recorded in Trench 6, further to the north, and may again suggest contemporaneity.



The woodland earthwork survey (Simco 2008) suggests that the bank identified in Trenches 8 and 9 turns eastwards and forms the dams across the north and south ends of Pond Plantation. The northern dam was transected by Trench 15 (Figure 9). This showed that there were at least three phases of construction of this earthwork. Initially it appears to have been created by the construction of a bank that was later 'plugged' on two occasions by the insertion of imported clay within cuts [1507] and [1514]. If the initial bank was a continuation of the earthworks to the west, it should be considered whether its initial function was as a dam. It seems unlikely that the permeable material used for the initial bank would have been an effective barrier until the clay was inserted. A fragment of undiagnostic tile was noted in the upcast from the dam, but otherwise the deposits were sterile. The high organic content of the deposits associated with the later phases of construction suggest that a post-medieval date is likely for their deposition.

3.6 Barn Piece

Trench 10 was targeted on the very slight traces of a boundary bank that was believed to be of pre-enclosure origin (Simco 2008). No trace of bank or ditch was located within the trench, although the area was heavily root disturbed. A tree planting trench [1004] was located at the eastern end of the trench. This feature corresponded with a row of trees. It was 0.6m wide and 0.4m deep, and was filled with material (1005) identical to the subsoil (1002). The trench could not have functioned as a boundary ditch due to its vertically-sided profile, which would have been subject to immediate weathering if it had been open for any length of time.

3.7 Fox Covert

Trench 11 was targeted on the western boundary of Fox Covert, a roughly rectangular enclosure of nearly 11 hectares, defined by an earthwork bank or scarp on all sides (Simco 2008).

The trench did not reveal any evidence for a ditch associated with the bank, which was less than 0.3m high (Figure 10). The bank material was indistinguishable from the subsoil (1102).

Of greater significance was the recovery of three sherds of late Bronze Age / early Iron Age pottery from tree planting trench [1104], c.7.5m to the west of the bank. This ditch was less than 0.2m deep and 0.7m wide. It was particularly ephemeral and was filled with material very similar to the subsoil. Its exact alignment with a row of plantation trees would suggest that it was a tree planting trench that has disturbed a much earlier feature.

The results from the single trench through the boundary of Fox Covert cannot be used to date the earthwork but suggest the presence of prehistoric activity in the vicinity.

3.8 Site of Watch House

Trench 12 targeted a level area just south of the south-east corner of Fox Covert that may have been the site of the Watch House (Simco 2008). No trace of archaeological features or deposits was identified within the trench. A sondage



through a band of darker sand within geological natural (1203) indicated that it was the product of iron-panning.

3.9 Moneypot Hill

Trench 14 tested an area of probable quarrying on the north side of Moneypot Hill Plantation. The quarrying was thought to be associated with the construction and maintenance of the turnpike road. With the agreement of the AO, the trench was relocated to transect the south-westernmost quarry. The area had been heavily disturbed by rooting, but no traces of anthropogenic deposits were identified. A machine-cut sondage to a depth of 1.2m showed that there were no surviving outcrops of Greensand bedrock. Whilst the area could have been exploited for the extraction of sand, the steep relief would also have made the area prone to localised land slips which may account for the quarry-like appearance of the scarp.

3.10 Site of Warren House

Trench 16 was located near the top of what was formerly known as Gypsey Hill, a likely site for Warren House (Simco 2008). The trench identified an undated E-W aligned ditch, cut through an area of mixed geological deposits (Figure 11). Ditch [1605] was 0.75m wide and 0.25m deep. It was filled by a silty clay deposit (1606) that was devoid of artefacts or ecofacts. The lack of disturbance and absence of domestic refuse would suggest that Warren House was not located in the immediate vicinity of Trench 16. Ditch [1605] is likely to have served an agricultural function.

3.11 Artefacts

3.11.1 Introduction

The evaluation produced a small finds assemblage, comprising pottery and a single piece of ceramic roof tile (Table 1). The material was scanned to ascertain its nature, condition and, where possible, date range.

Tr.	Feature	Description	Context	Spot date*	Finds Summary	
6	604	Ditch	605	Early medieval	Pottery (47g)	
	606	Ditch	607	Early medieval	Pottery (25g)	
	606	Ditch	608	Early medieval	Pottery (22g); roof tile (19g)	
8	803	Ditch	805	Early medieval	Pottery (2g)	
11	1104	Ditch	1105	Late Bronze Age / early Iron Age	Pottery (15g)	
* - sp	* - spot date based on date of latest artefact in context					

Table 1: Artefact summary by trench and feature

Sixteen pottery sherds, weighing 111g were recovered. These were examined by context and quantified using minimum sherd count and weight. The pottery is abraded and fragmented, with an average sherd weight of 7g. Four fabric types were identified using common names and type codes in accordance with the Bedfordshire Ceramic Type Series, currently maintained by Albion Archaeology. Fabrics are listed below in chronological order (Table 2).



Fabric type	Common name	Sherd No.	Context/Sherd No.
Late Bronze Age / early Iron Age			
Type F01C	Flint and quartz	3	(1105):3
Medieval			
Type C59A	Coarse sand	8	(605):1, (607):4, (608):2, (805):1
Type C59B	Sand	4	(605):4
Type C60	Hertfordshire-type grey ware	1	(605):1

Table 2: Pottery type series

The earliest pottery, recovered from the fill of ditch [1104], comprises three abraded flint- and sand-tempered sherds, representing one vessel (15g) of late Bronze Age/early Iron Age date.

The remainder of the assemblage is datable to the 12th—late 13th century, and derived mainly from the fills of ditches [604] and [606]. The pottery comprises locally manufactured coarse and fine sand-tempered wares, characteristic of the period. Some sherds appear to be hand-made and others wheel-thrown, although surface abrasion makes it difficult to be certain. A square rimmed jar with a diameter of approximately 200mm is the only diagnostic form. Decoration comprises applied horizontal thumbed strips on two joining body sherds which may derive from a jug.

A flat roof tile fragment (19g) in a hard-fired, sand-tempered fabric was recovered from the upper fill (608) of ditch [606]. Datable to the post-medieval period, it may represent an intrusive find.

3.12 Ecofacts

3.12.1 Faunal remains

No animal bone was recovered from any of the trenches. This is likely to be a function of the nature of the archaeological features investigated and the acidity of the soils.

3.12.2 Ecofact samples

The lack of visible charred plant remains, the well-drained soils and the acidic nature of Greensand geology precluded the implementation of a viable environmental sampling strategy.



4. DISCUSSION

4.1 Chronological assessment

The earliest evidence for activity was located within Trench 11, immediately to the west of the earthworks that define Fox Covert. The presence of three sherds of late Bronze Age/early Iron Age pottery is significant as it was previously believed that there was little potential for Bronze Age or Iron Age deposits within the development area. It should, however, be noted that the pottery is likely to be residual within a later feature, and the survival of associated prehistoric features from this period within the development area is uncertain. Along the Greensand Ridge there is evidence of possible Bronze Age activity at Ruxox, near Flitwick, and of Iron Age hillforts at Wavendon, Heath and Reach, and Sandy.

The presence of early medieval pottery within the ditches associated with the earthworks to the west Breakheart Hill and Pond plantation is also significant. It is unlikely that this material is residual and suggests that the earthworks may have been associated with the boundaries, or internal divisions, of the medieval Millbrook Park. The evaluation has shown that the curving E-W earthwork to the south of Moneypot Hill is poorly preserved. An associated ditch was only located in one of the four trenches, and the bank was barely visible at ground level.

No traces of any of the houses shown on Jefferys' 1765 Map of Bedfordshire (Simco 2008) were found.

The general lack of datable material has hampered the interpretation of any of the remains as post-medieval; however, the presence of any deposit rich in topsoil is likely to be indicative of a recent origin. As such, the creation of the dam and associated ponds is likely to be of post-medieval date and probably accounts for the extraction of clay from the pond-like feature in The Slade (Trench 5). The lack of pond-like deposits within Trenches 6 and 7 may suggest that the ponds were short-lived.

4.2 Assessment of Results

The results of this investigation should be considered in the context of the following limiting factors:

- Bioturbation the trenching was conducted within a coniferous tree plantation and, as such, many of the trenches were heavily root disturbed. Whilst all sections were inspected for truncated features, shallower archaeological deposits may have been lost to root disturbance.
- Modern disturbance the plantation trees appear to have been planted in rows, presumably in machine-cut 'furrows'. Traces of these were identified in at least three trenches. This has led to the inevitable truncation of early features. More recent disturbance has been confined to the logging tracks and rides, but these have inevitably eroded and have artificially enhanced the prominence of adjacent banks.



• Soil type – machining to the 'archaeological level' on the Lower Greensand deposits proved to be difficult. This was countered by machining most trenches of questionable depth in two stages, thereby ensuring that all potentially masking colluvial deposits had been removed. Despite this precaution the soils are highly acidic and do not favour organic survival; thus, the definition of all but recent features is likely to have been poor.

Regardless of these limitations, the dearth of archaeological finds would support the view that this part of the Greensand Ridge was not a favourable location for settlement in any period. The evaluation has shown that it does contain the remains of other significant evidence, such as the creation of a medieval hunting park. The recovery of the late Bronze Age/early Iron Age pottery is intriguing but it is not associated with any known activity or site.



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6. APPENDIX 1: CONTENTS OF ARCHIVE

The archive of finds and records generated during the project will be archived to the standards outlined in Appendix 3 of English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects*.

The material generated by the trial trenching comprises:

Context sheets and registers	1 file
Digital films	3
35mm films	2
Drawings	8 permatrace sheets
Finds	1 small box



7. APPENDIX 2: TRENCH SUMMARY



Max Dimensions: Length: 15.00 m. Width: 1.80 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.7 m. Max: 0.8 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 336: Northing: 37549)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 344: Northing: 37562)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds Present	:
101	Topsoil	Friable dark brown black sandy silt occasional small stones Depth 0.20m	V]
102	Subsoil	Friable mid brown orange silty sand Colluvium. Depth 0.60m.	✓]
103	Natural	Friable light yellow red sand moderate small-medium stones		
104	Ditch	Linear N-S sides: concave base: flat dimensions: min breadth 0.4m, min depth 0.1m, min length 2.3m Ditch running parallel to logging track. Probably highly truncated but not visible in topsoil. Bank probaby located the East as overburden is 0.20m thicker.	√ to]
105	Sole fill	Friable mid brown grey silty sand Very similar to (102).	~	



Max Dimensions: Length: 15.00 m. Width: 1.80 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 1. m. Max: 1.2 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 375: Northing: 37489)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 389: Northing: 37493)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds Pr	esent:
201	Topsoil	Friable dark brown black sandy silt moderate small-large stones Depth 0.40m.	V	
202	Subsoil	Friable mid brown orange sand Depth 0.60m.	V	
203	Natural	Friable mid yellow orange sand occasional small stones		



Max Dimensions: Length: 5.00 m. Width: 5.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.4 m. Max: 0.5 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 440: Northing: 37445)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 440: Northing: 37440)
OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 444: Northing: 37445)
OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 445: Northing: 37440)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds l	Present:
301	Topsoil	Friable dark brown black sandy silt occasional small-medium stones Depth 0.30m.	V	
302	Subsoil	Friable mid brown orange sand Depth 0.20m.	✓	
303	Natural	Friable mid red sand frequent small-large stones		



Max Dimensions: Length: 15.00 m. Width: 1.80 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.6 m. Max: 0.7 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 490: Northing: 37414)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 504: Northing: 37418)

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
401	Topsoil	Friable dark brown black sandy silt occasional small-medium stones Depth 0.15m.	V	
402	Subsoil	Friable mid brown orange sand Depth 0.50m.	✓	
403	Natural	Friable mid orange red sand frequent small-medium stones At West and East ends of trench.	✓	
404	Natural	Friable light orange yellow clay sand frequent small-medium stones Concentrated in the middle of the trench.	V	



Max Dimensions: Length: 14.80 m. Width: 2.10 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.35 m. Max: 0.8 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 581: Northing: 37366)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 595: Northing: 37370)

OS Grid Ref.: TL

Reason: To investigate the pond in the Slade.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
501	Natural	Friable mid yellow sandy gravel With clay patches.	✓	
502	Subsoil	Friable mid grey brown silty sand moderate small stones	✓	
503	Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown sandy silt occasional small stones With frequent tree roots.	~	
504	Ditch	Linear N-S sides: U-shaped base: concave dimensions: min breadth 3.7m, min depth 1.m, min length 2.1m Possible ditch	~	
505	Primary slump	Friable light orange brown silty sand moderate small stones Primary slump from West bank of feature after construction. Depth 0.24m.	n 🗸	
506	Fill	Friable mid grey brown silty sand occasional small-medium stones Occasional lenses of clay. Probably hillwash and silting. Depth 0.39m.	✓	
507	Fill	Friable light yellow brown silty sand moderate small-medium stones Band of possible redeposited natural from banks or windblow. Depth 0.07m.	✓	
508	Fill	Plastic mid grey brown clay Lense of clay. Depth 0.07m.	✓	
509	Final fill	Friable mid red brown sandy silt occasional small stones Natural silting. Depth $0.25\mathrm{m}$.	✓	
510	Colluvium	Friable mid red brown sandy silt occasional small-medium stones Covering feature and sealing possible West bank. Depth 0.12-0.25m.	✓	
511	Pond/Quarry pit	Linear N-S sides: U-shaped base: flat dimensions: min breadth 1.8m, max depth 0.32m, min length 2.1m Possible pond or quarry pit, cut into clay.	✓	
512	Primary fill	Friable mid grey brown sandy silt moderate medium-large stones, occasional small stones Silting up of feature, with occasional lumps of clay. Depth 0.26m.	✓	
513	Upper fill	Friable mid orange brown silty sand occasional medium stones Redeposited natural, windblow. Depth 0.06m.	✓	



Max Dimensions: Length: 25.50 m. Width: 2.25 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.32 m. Max: 0.75 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 792: Northing: 37269)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 815: Northing: 37260)

Reason: To investigate an eathwork associated with the western boundary of Breakheart Hill Plantation

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
601	Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown silt Depth 0.20m.	~	
602	Subsoil	Friable mid red brown sandy silt Depth 0.55m.	✓	
603	Natural	Firm mid brown red silty sand	✓	
604	Ditch	Linear N-S sides: U-shaped base: flat dimensions: max breadth 2.6m, max depth 0.5m, max length 2.m Cut of ditch, part of ditch and bank feature.	✓	
605	Sole fill	Loose mid red brown silty sand High frequency of root disturbance.	✓	✓
606	Ditch	Linear N-S sides: U-shaped base: flat dimensions: max breadth 2.6m, max depth 0.5m, min length 2.m Cut of ditch, part of ditch and bank feature. Fills - (607) and (608).	✓	
607	Primary fill	Loose mid brown grey silty sand High frequency of root disturbance. Primary for ditch due to slumping.	ill 🗸	✓
608	Upper fill	Loose mid red brown silty sand High frequency of root disturbance. Disuse fill of ditch.	✓	\checkmark



Max Dimensions: Length: 25.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.45 m. Max: 0.8 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 744: Northing: 37130)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 769: Northing: 37131)

Reason: To investigate a pond within Pond Plantation

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds Property	esent:
700	Topsoil	Friable dark brown black silty peat Humic peaty topsoil with frequent roots. Less dark towards West end. Depth 0.70m.	V	
701	Subsoil	Friable mid orange brown sandy silt Depth 0.20m.	✓	
702	Natural	Compact light orange grey silty sand Mottled orange/blue patches.		
703	Natural	Compact mid orange grey silty sand Variation in natural at West end.		



Max Dimensions: Length: 15.00 m. Width: 2.30 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.4 m. Max: 0.42 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 685: Northing: 37043)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 697: Northing: 37034)

Reason: To investigate an earthwork within Pond Plantation

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds I	Present:
800	Topsoil	Loose mid brown sandy silt Depth 0.44m.	✓	
801	Subsoil	Friable mid brown silty sand Depth 0.44m.	✓	
802	Natural	Firm mid orange white sand		
803	Ditch	Linear N-S sides: U-shaped base: uneven dimensions: min breadth 1.m, ma depth 0.44m, max length 1.8m Cut of ditch with rooting.	x V	
805	Sole fill	Friable mid brown sandy silt moderate flecks charcoal Sole fill of ditch, probabl weathering/slumping of bank deposit. Depth 0.44m.	ly 🗸	✓
804	Bank deposit	Friable mid orange brown silty sand Bank deposit of redeposited natural. Depth 0.16m.	V	



Max Dimensions: Length: 25.00 m. Width: 2.25 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.6 m. Max: 0.7 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 664: Northing: 36938)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 678: Northing: 36935)

Reason: To investigate an earthwork within Pond Plantation

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
901	Topsoil	Friable dark black sandy silt Depth 0.31m.	✓	
902	Subsoil	Friable mid orange brown silty sand Depth 0.20m.	✓	
903	Natural	Friable light grey orange sand Minimum depth 0.12m. With moderate ironstone.		
904	Natural	Friable light orange grey sand Area of root disturbed/mixed natural between ditches. Depth 0.28m, Width 0.79m, minimum Length 1.10m.		
905	Ditch	Linear N-S sides: U-shaped base: uneven dimensions: max breadth 0.73m, max depth 0.42m, min length 1.1m Cut of ditch, parallel to one of similar siz [907] which together form the ditch and bank system. Heavily rooted.	ze 🗸	
906	Sole fill	Friable mid orange brown silty sand occasional small stones Sole mixed fill of ditch, covered by layer of slumped in subsoil and topsoil. Depth 0.42m.	✓	
907	Ditch	Linear N-S sides: 45 degrees base: uneven dimensions: max breadth 0.75m, max depth 0.22m, min length 1.1m Cut of ditch with bank to West side and parallel ditch to East [905].	✓	
908	Sole fill	Friable mid grey brown silty sand Sole fill of ditch due to silting, heavily rooted Covered by layer of subsoil and topsoil. Depth 0.22m.	l. 🗸	
909	Bank deposit	Friable mid orange brown silty sand Mixed subsoil deposit of bank next to parallel ditched. Depth 0.77m, Width 2.50m.	✓	
910	Ditch	Linear N-S sides: U-shaped base: flat dimensions: max breadth 1.1m, max depth 0.36m, min length 2.2m Cut of ditch only visible in section with the bank to the East of it and trackway to the West.	✓	
911	Sole fill	Friable dark orange brown sandy silt Sole fill of ditch due to silting. Depth 0.36m.	✓	



Max Dimensions: Length: 15.00 m. Width: 1.80 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 1.1 m. Max: 1.3 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 471: Northing: 37140)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 485: Northing: 37144)

Reason: To investigate an earthwork associated with Barn Piece

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1001	Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown sandy silt Depth 0.10m.	✓	
1002	Subsoil	Friable mid orange brown silty sand Frequent root disturbance.	✓	
1003	Natural	Friable light yellow brown silty sand occasional small stones Natural with rare fragments of ironstone and sandstone.		
1004	Tree planting trench	Linear N-S sides: near vertical base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.6m, max depth 0.4m, min length 2.3m Tree planting trench visible 1m below ground level at South East end of trench.	✓	
1005	Sole fill	Friable mid orange brown silty sand Same as subsoil (1002). Depth 0.40m.	✓	



Max Dimensions: Length: 25.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.5 m. Max: 0.6 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 938: Northing: 36941)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 963: Northing: 36941)

Reason: To investigate an earthwork associated with the western boundary of Fox Covert

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds Pr	esent:
1101	Topsoil	Friable dark brown black sandy silt Depth 0.10m.	✓	
1102	Subsoil	Friable dark orange brown sandy silt Subsoil - indistinguishable from ban material. Depth 0.40m - 0.60m.	k 🗸	
1103	Natural	Friable mid yellow brown sand		
1104	Tree planting trench	Linear N-S sides: 45 degrees base: flat dimensions: min breadth 0.72m, madepth 0.2m, min length 1.8m Cut of ditch with poorly defined edges.	x 🗸	
1105	Sole fill	Friable mid orange brown silty sand Mottled fill similar to (1102). Depth 0.20m	n.	~



Max Dimensions: Length: 25.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.5 m. Max: 0.5 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 1059: Northing: 36611)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 1082: Northing: 36623)

Reason: To investigate the likely site of Watch House

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds Pres	sent:
1201	Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown sandy silt Depth 0.15m.	✓	
1202	Subsoil	Friable mid orange brown sandy silt Depth 0.35m.	✓	
1203	Natural	Friable mid brown orange sand Slightly mottled in places and found to contain iron panning.		



Max Dimensions: Length: 15.00 m. Width: 1.80 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 1.15 m. Max: 1.3 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 812: Northing: 37496)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 816: Northing: 37481)

Reason: To investigate an eathwork associated with the western boundary of Breakheart Hill Plantation

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds I	Present:
1301	Topsoil	Friable dark brown black silty sand Frequent root disturbance. Depth 0.15m.	✓	
1302	Subsoil	Friable mid grey brown silty sand Frequent root disturbance. Depth 1.15m.		
1303	Natural	Friable light yellow brown silty sand moderate small stones		



Max Dimensions: Length: 14.00 m. Width: 1.80 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.9 m. Max: 1. m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 367: Northing: 37657)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 382: Northing: 37661)

 $\textbf{Reason:} \quad \textbf{To investigate the westernmost quarry within Moneypot Hill Plantation.}$

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds Pro	esent:
1401	Topsoil	Friable dark black sandy silt Depth 0.15m.	✓	
1402	Subsoil	Friable dark orange brown silty sand Depth 0.85m.	✓	
1403	Natural	Friable mid yellow orange sand moderate small-large stones		



Max Dimensions: Length: 21.75 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.66 m. Max: 0.7 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 738: Northing: 37040)

OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 738: Northing: 37065)

Reason: To investigate the central dam within Pond Plantataion

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1500	Topsoil	Friable dark brown sandy peat Depth 0.58m.	✓	
1501	Natural	Friable mid grey orange sand		
1502	Buried Topsoil	Friable dark brown sandy peat With root disturbance. Depth 0.28m.	✓	
1503	Buried Topsoil	Firm dark brown black peat Very humic with rooting. Buried protopeat/topsoil. Depth 0.12m.	✓	
1504	Bank deposit	Friable dark brown orange silty peat With rooting. Depth 0.12m.	✓	
1505	Bank deposit	Friable mid grey orange sand With moderate rooting and brown patches. Bank deposit - redeposited natural. Depth 0.26m.	✓	
1506	Bank deposit	Friable mid orange brown silty sand With moderate rooting, deposit lies underneath the topsoil. Depth 0.36m.	✓	
1507	Dam	Linear E-W sides: U-shaped base: flat dimensions: min breadth 1.m, max depth 1.22m, max length 1.61m Dam - possibly modern.	✓	
1508	Primary fill	Compact mid brown clay Mixed deposit of clay and light sand. Backfill of the dam. Depth 0.18m.	✓	
1509	Fill of dam	Compact mid brown clay occasional medium stones Backfill of the dam with occasional ironstones. Depth 0.30m.	✓	
1510	Fill of dam	Friable mid orange grey sand Backfill of the dam. Depth 0.18m.	\checkmark	
1511	Fill of dam	Hard mid red brown clay moderate small stones Backfill of the dam. Depth 0.25m.	✓	
1512	Fill of dam	Friable light brown grey sand Backfill of dam. Depth 0.18m.	\checkmark	
1513	Fill of dam	Hard mid grey clay Backfill of the dam. Mixed deposit from grey clay to orange grey sand, with rooting.	e- 🗸	
1514	Dam	Linear E-W sides: V-Shaped base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.86m, madepth 1.06m, min length 1.m Cut of the dam, re-cut within [1507].	ax 🗸	
1515	Fill of dam	Friable mid grey orange silty sand With moderate rooting. Backfill of the dam. Depth 1.06m.	✓	
1516	Ditch	Linear N-S sides: U-shaped base: concave dimensions: min breadth 1.m, max depth 0.6m, max length 1.8m Cut of ditch, heavily rooted.	✓	
1517	Sole fill	Friable dark brown sandy peat Same as (1500). Peaty infilling of ditch. Depth 0.60m.	✓	



Trench: 16

Max Dimensions: Length: 15.00 m. Width: 1.80 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.4 m. Max: 0.7 m.

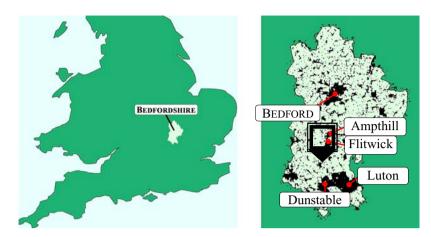
Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 1106: Northing: 37926)

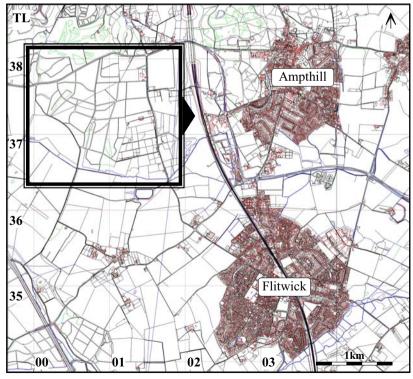
OS Grid Ref.: TL (Easting: 1109: Northing: 37912)

Reason: To investigate the likely site of Warren House

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1601	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey sandy silt Depth 0.15-0.20m.	✓	
1602	Subsoil	Friable mid grey brown silty sand Depth 0.20-0.50m.	✓	
1603	Natural	Friable mid grey brown clay frequent small stones Stone concentration at higher south end of trench.		
1604	Natural	Friable mid brown orange sand Concentrated at deeper Northern end of trench.		
1605	Ditch	Linear E-W sides: 45 degrees base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.75m, max depth 0.25m, min length 1.8m Cut of ditch.	✓	
1606	Sole fill	Friable mid brown orange silty clay frequent small-medium stones Large concentration of stones near the base. Depth 0.25m.	✓	







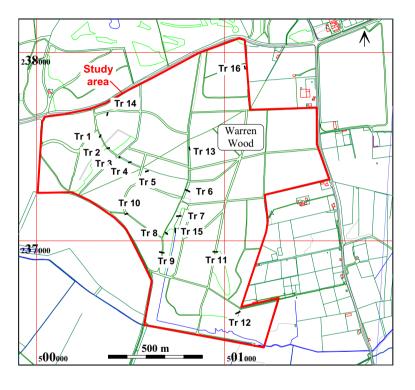


Figure 1: Site location plan

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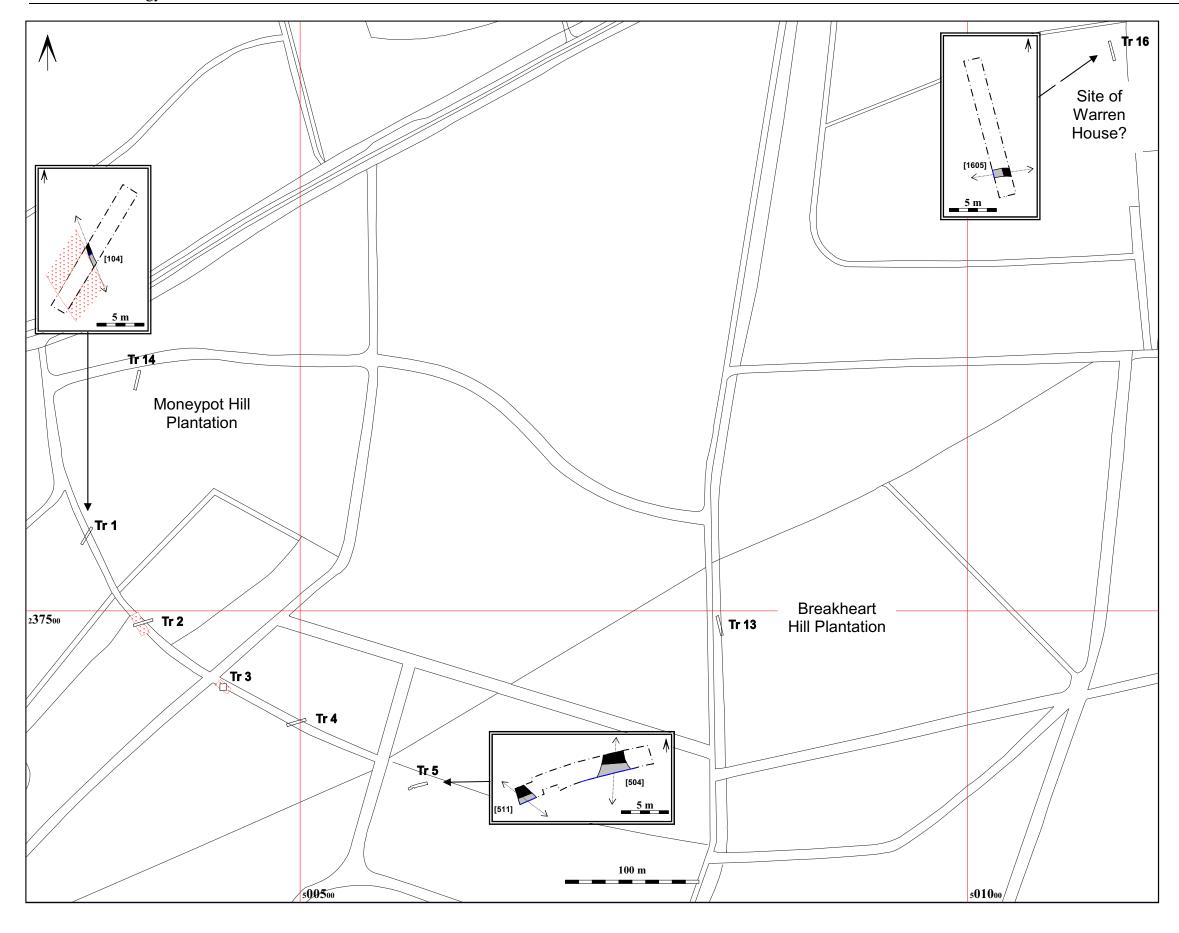
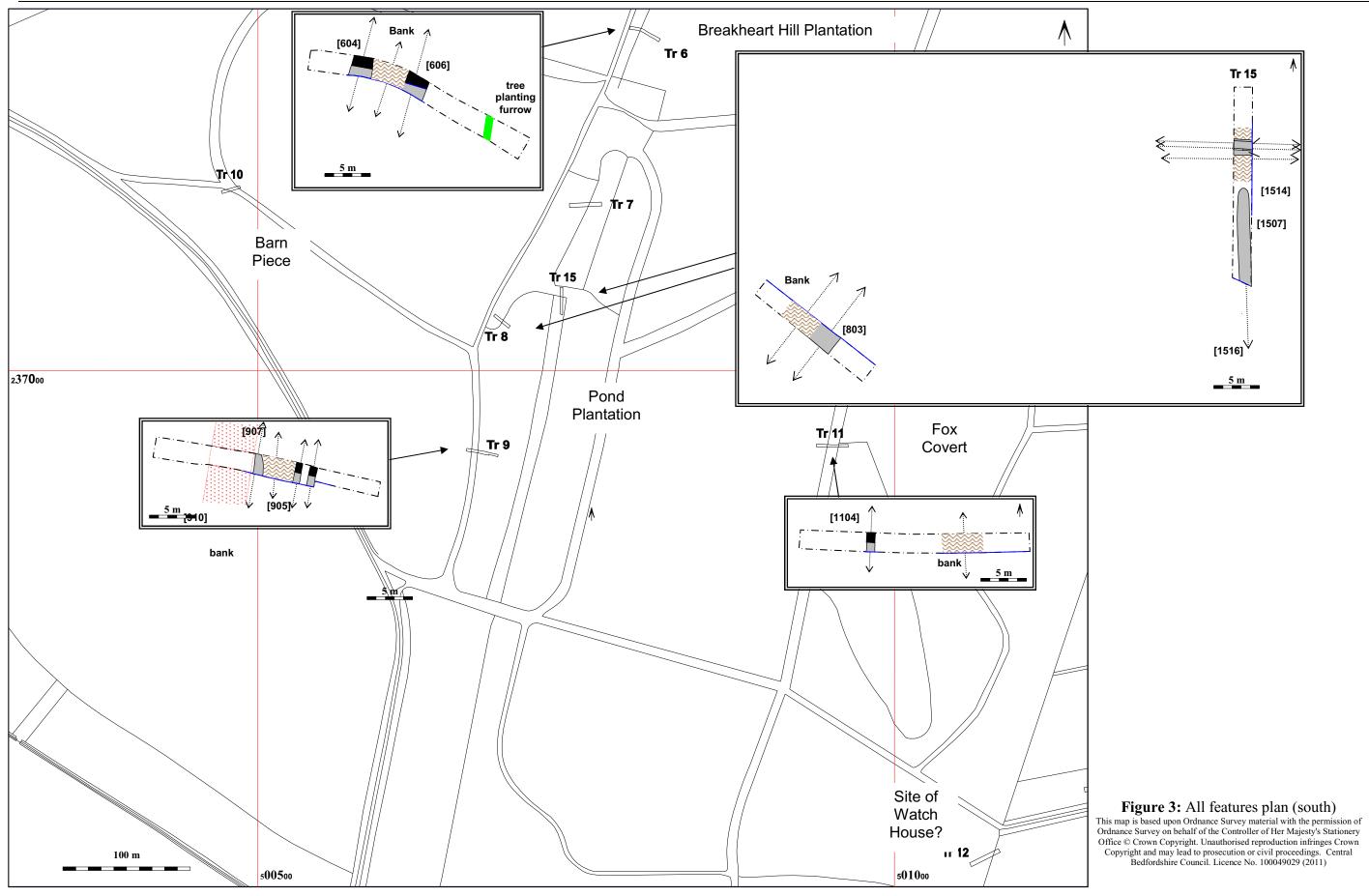


Figure 2: All features plan (north)

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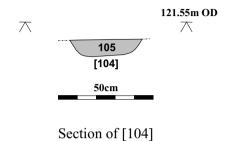






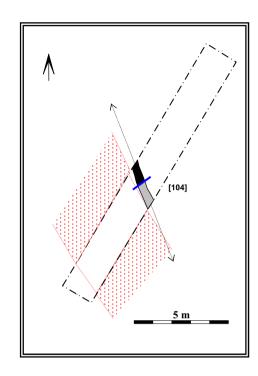


Trench 1 looking north-east. Scale 1m





Photograph of [104]. Scale 20cm



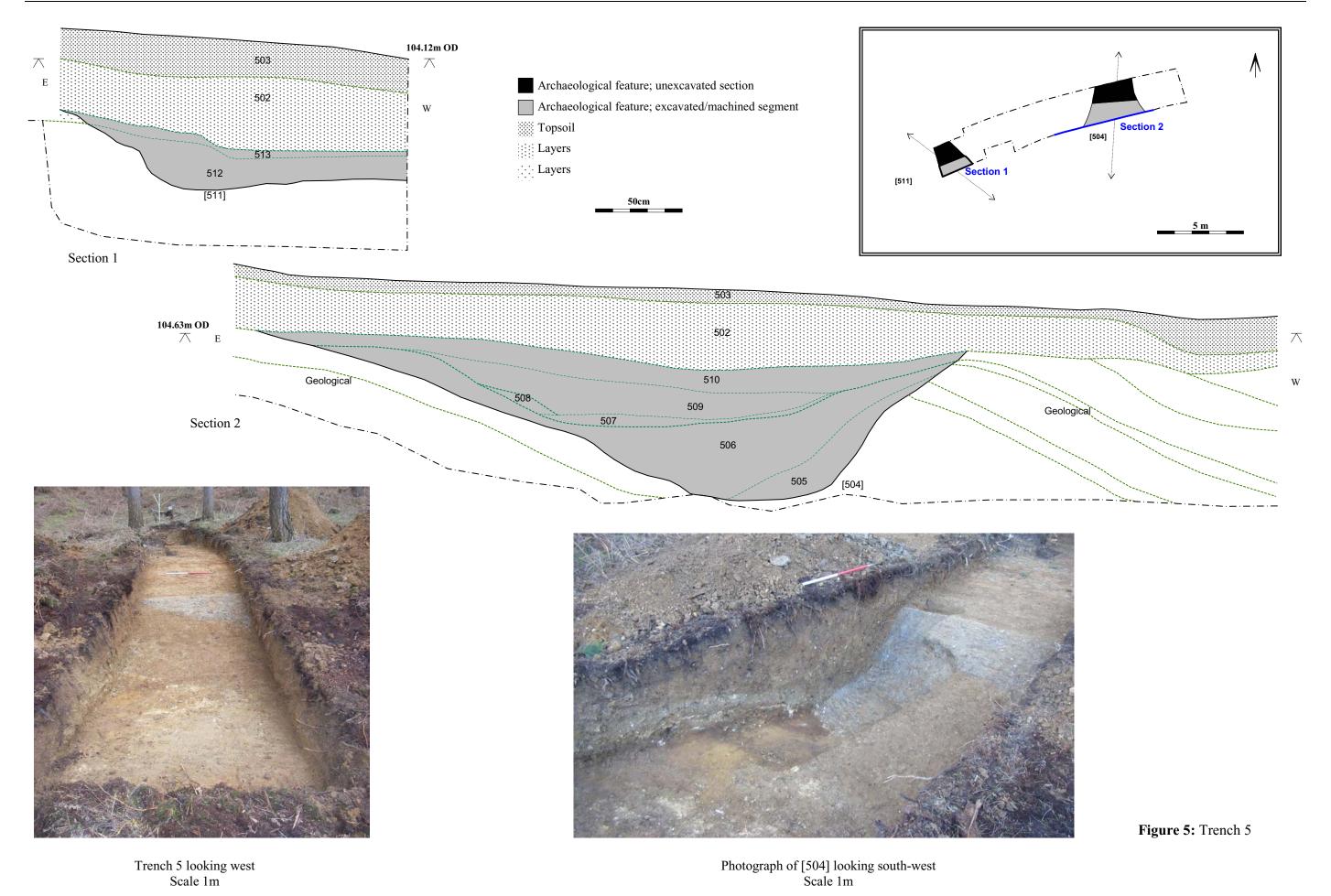
Archaeological feature; unexcavated section

Archaeological feature; excavated/machined segment

Modern track

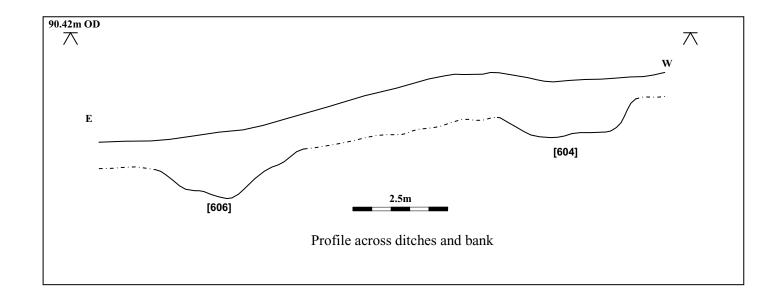
Figure 4: Trench 1

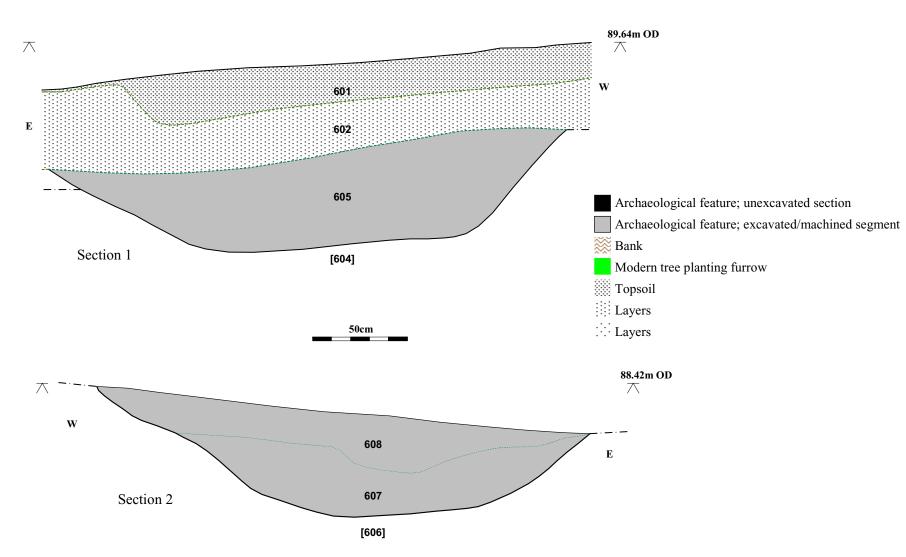


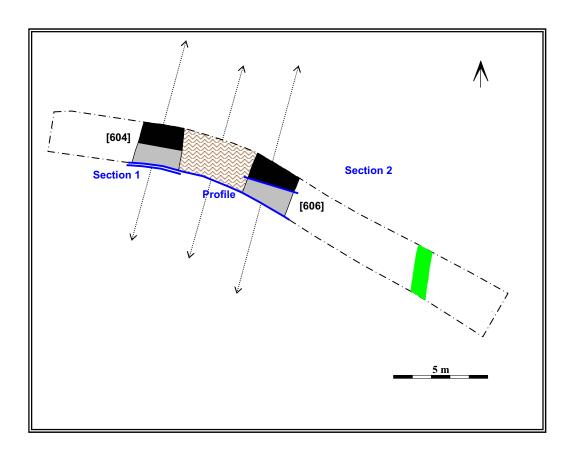


Warren Wood, Millbrook, Bedfordshire: Archaeological Trial Trenching







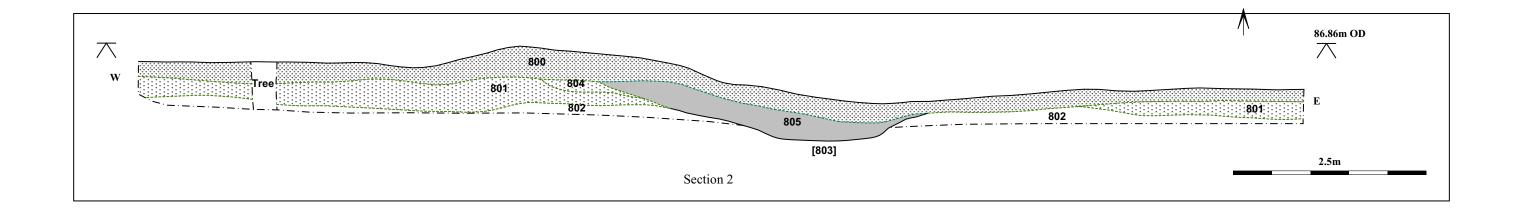




Trench 6 looking south Scale 1m

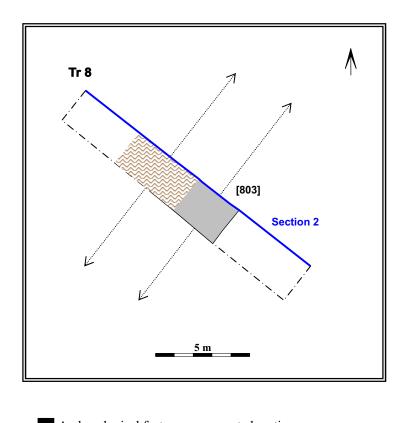
Figure 6: Trench 6







Trench 8 looking north. Scale 1m.



Archaeological feature; unexcavated section

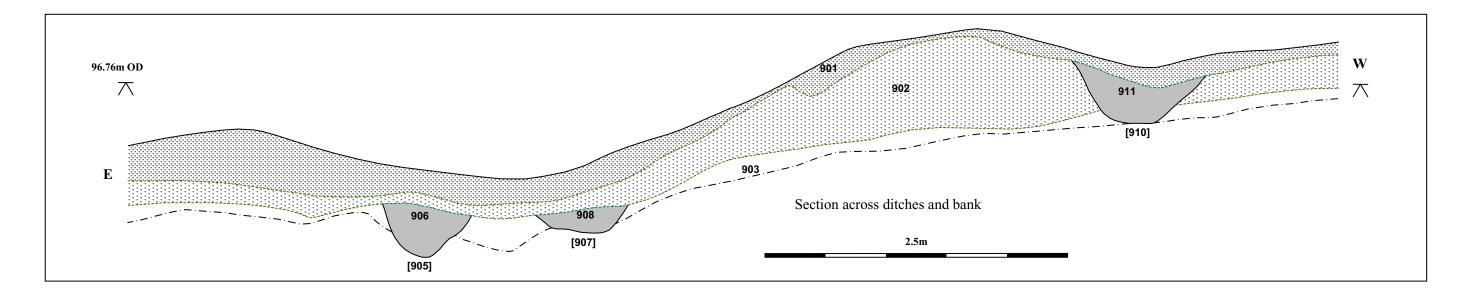
Archaeological feature; excavated/machined segment

Bank

- Topsoil
- :::: Layers
- ::: Layers

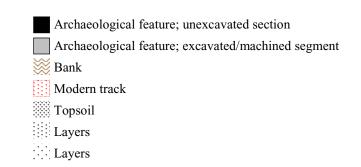
Figure 7: Trench 8







Trench 9 looking south. Scale 1m.



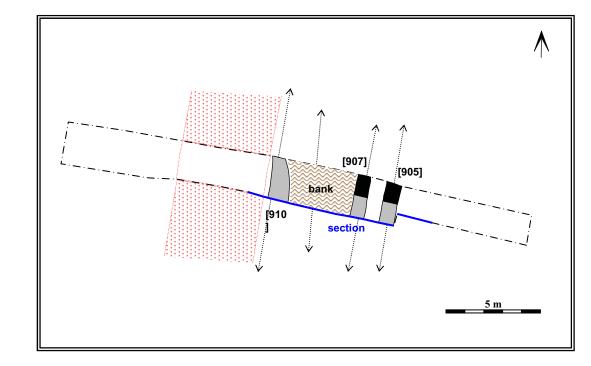
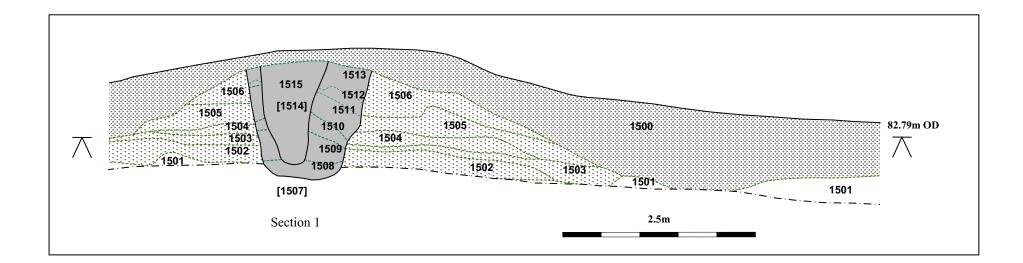


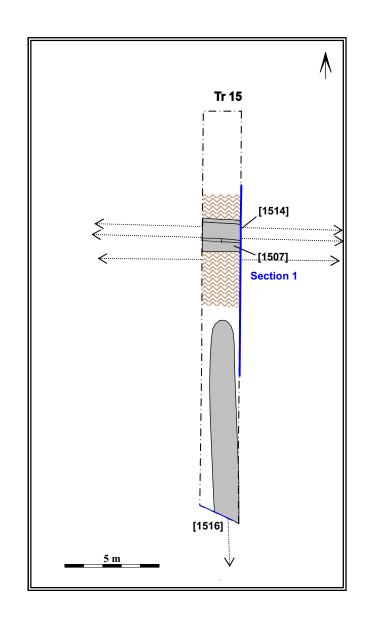
Figure 8: Trench 9







Trench 15 looking north-west. Scale 1m.



Archaeological feature; unexcavated section

Archaeological feature; excavated/machined segment

Bank

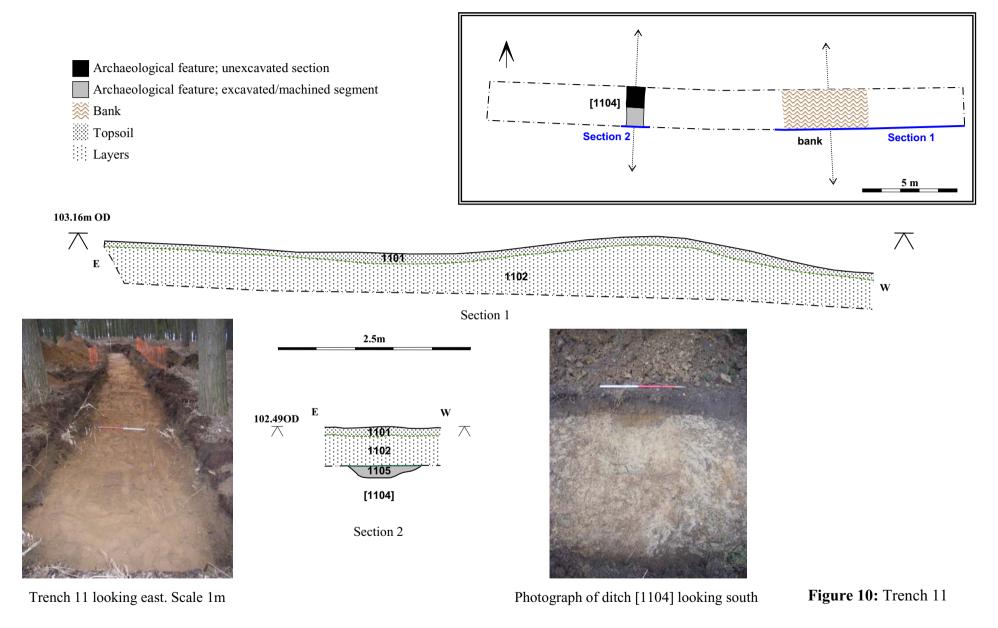
Topsoil

Layers

Layers

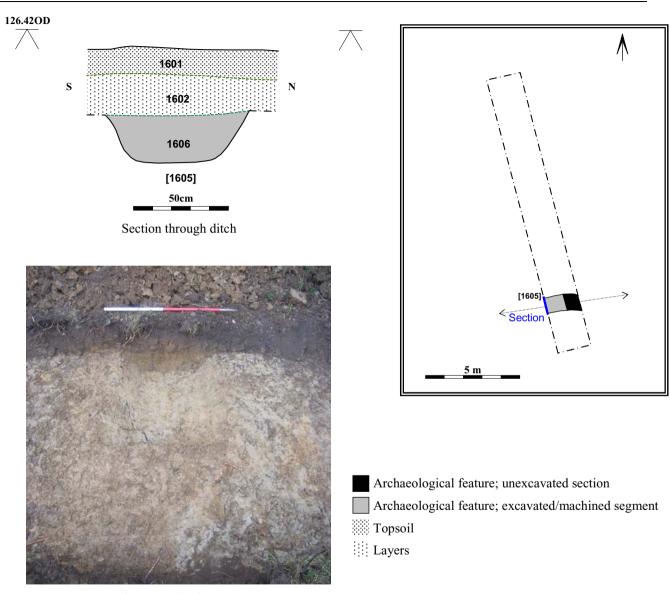
Figure 9: Trench 15







Trench 16 looking north.
Scale 1m



Photograph of [1605]. Figure 11: Trench 16
Scale 1m