



## Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION:  
LAND TO THE NORTH-EAST  
OF MIDDLETON PRIMARY SCHOOL  
MIDDLETON  
MILTON KEYNES**

NGR: SP 8851 3910

*on behalf of Milton Keynes Council*



Mo Muldowney BA AI/A and Alastair Hancock BSc PGDip MI/A

June 2013

ASC: 1620/MKM/02




Letchworth House  
Chesney Wold, Bleak Hall  
Milton Keynes MK6 1NE  
Tel: 01908 608989 Fax: 01908 605700  
Email: [office@archaeological-services.co.uk](mailto:office@archaeological-services.co.uk)  
Website: [www.archaeological-services.co.uk](http://www.archaeological-services.co.uk)



## Site Data

<i>ASC project code:</i>	MKM	<i>ASC project no:</i>	1620
<i>OASIS ref:</i>	Archaeol2_153234	<i>MKHER Event no:</i>	1348
<i>County:</i>	Buckinghamshire		
<i>Village/Town:</i>	Milton Keynes Village		
<i>Civil Parish:</i>	Milton Keynes		
<i>NGR (to 8 figs):</i>	SP 8851 3910		
<i>Extent of site:</i>	c.1 hectare		
<i>Present use:</i>	Rough ground		
<i>Planning proposal:</i>	Construction of drop off parking and sports pitches		
<i>Local Planning Authority:</i>	Milton Keynes Council		
<i>Planning application ref:</i>	11/02409/MKCOD3		
<i>Date of fieldwork:</i>	10 <sup>th</sup> to 13 <sup>th</sup> June 2013		
<i>Commissioned by:</i>	Milton Keynes Council Saxon Court 502 Avebury Boulevard Milton Keynes MK9 3HS		
<i>Client:</i>	As above		
<i>Contact name:</i>	Gina Devonshire / Richard Ferrington		

## Internal Quality Check

<i>Primary Author:</i>	Mo Muldowney	<i>Date:</i>	24 <sup>th</sup> June 2013
<i>Revisions:</i>	A Hancock	<i>Date:</i>	24 <sup>th</sup> June 2013
<i>Edited/Checked By:</i>		<i>Date:</i>	25 <sup>th</sup> June 2013

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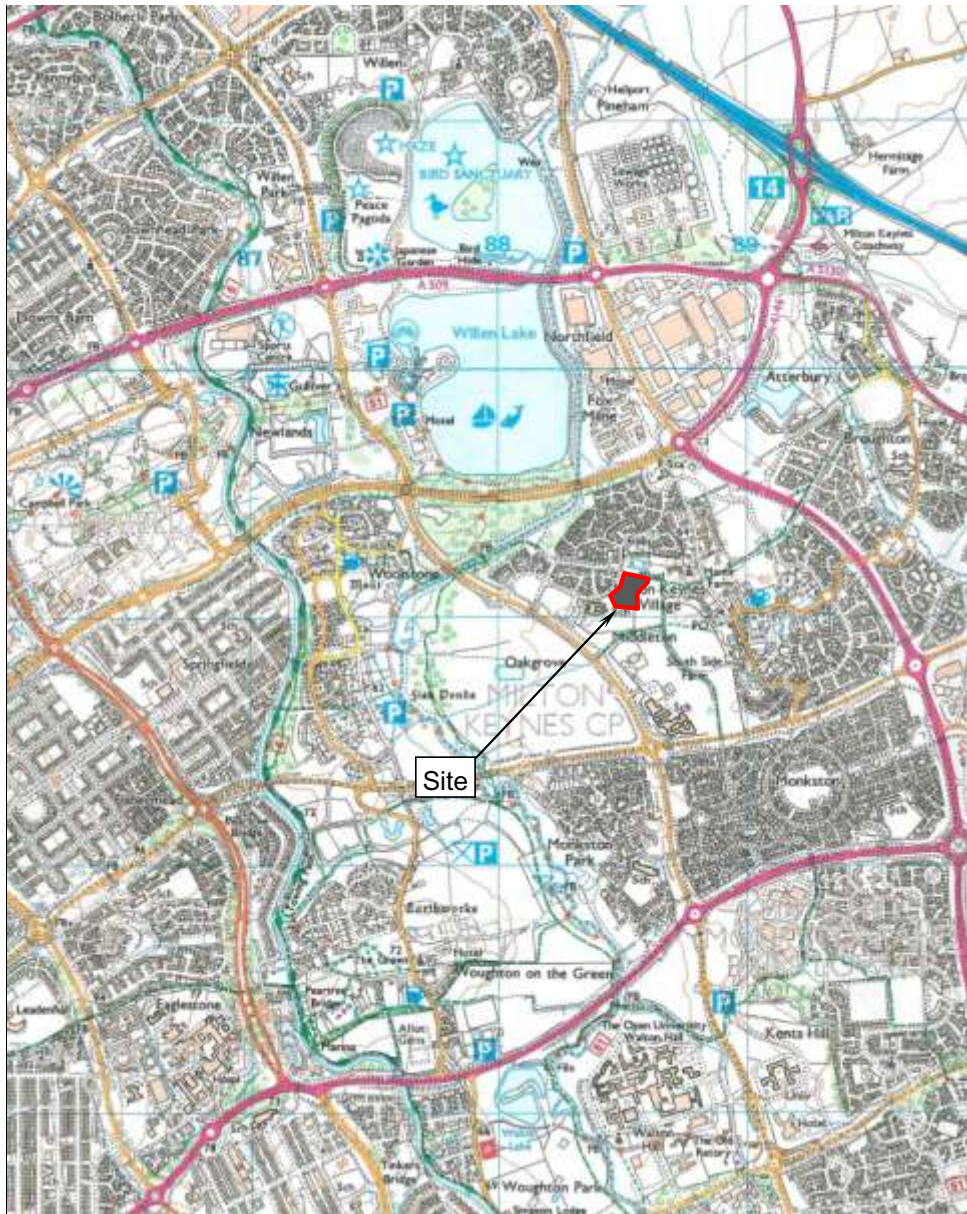


Figure 1: General location (scale 1:25,000)

## Summary

*In June 2013 an evaluation was carried out on land to the north-east of Middleton Primary School, Middleton, Milton Keynes, ahead of the proposed construction of a drop-off parking area, sports pitch and associated landscaping. Poorly dated ditches, and post holes were identified at the north of the site and Late Pre Roman Iron Age (LPRIA) or early Romano-British ditches and pits at the west. A large pit or intercutting pits at the centre and southwest of the site identifies quarrying of LPRIA or early Roman date. The southeast of the site had been significantly disturbed by recent extractive activity associated with Hartigans quarry. The LPRIA or early Roman remains are locally significant as they are the first identified in Middleton.*

## 1. Introduction

1.1 In June 2013 *Archaeological Services and Consultancy Ltd* (ASC) carried out an archaeological evaluation of Land to the North-East of Middleton Primary School, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire. The project was commissioned by Milton Keynes Council, and was carried out according to a project design prepared by ASC (Hancock 2013), which was approved by Milton Keynes Council's archaeological advisor (AA) to the local planning authority (LPA), Milton Keynes Council. The relevant planning application reference is 11/02409/MKCOD3.

### 1.2 *Planning Background*

This evaluation was required under the terms of the *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF), as a condition of planning permission for the development of the site.

### 1.3 *Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd*

ASC is an independent archaeological practice providing a full range of archaeological services including consultancy, field evaluation, mitigation and post-excavation studies, historic building recording and analysis. ASC is recognised as a *Registered Organisation* by the Institute for Archaeologists and is also accredited ISO 9001, in recognition of its high standards and working practices.

### 1.4 *The Site*

#### 1.4.1 *Location & Description*

The site is located approximately 200m to the west of the historic core of Milton Keynes Village (hereafter referred to by its 'new town' name of 'Middleton'), in the civil parish of Milton Keynes, on the eastern side of the new city of Milton Keynes at NGR SP 8851 3910 (Fig. 1).

The site is an irregularly shaped parcel of land of *c.*1 hectare, (Fig. 2). Recently established hedgerows border the site to the north and east; it is bounded by fencing delimiting it from Noon Layer Drive and the playing fields of Middleton Primary School to the northwest and south. The remnant of a quarry haul road, flanked on its western side by the remains of a post medieval field boundary, bisect the site from south to north.

#### 1.4.2 Geology & Topography

The natural soils of the area belong to the Bishampton 2 Association, described as a “*deep fine loamy and fine loamy clayey soils with slowly permeable subsoils and slight seasonal waterlogging associated with similar slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged soils*”, (Soil Survey, Sheet 6, 572t). The soils are developed on 2<sup>nd</sup> terrace river gravels which overlie Oxford Clay (BGS, Sheet 203). The site is currently unmanaged and covered by relatively dense scrub but the overall topography of the site is relatively level and lies at approximately 65m OD.

#### 1.4.3 Proposed Development

The proposed development comprises extension to the facilities associated with Middleton Primary School through construction of drop off parking and sports pitches.

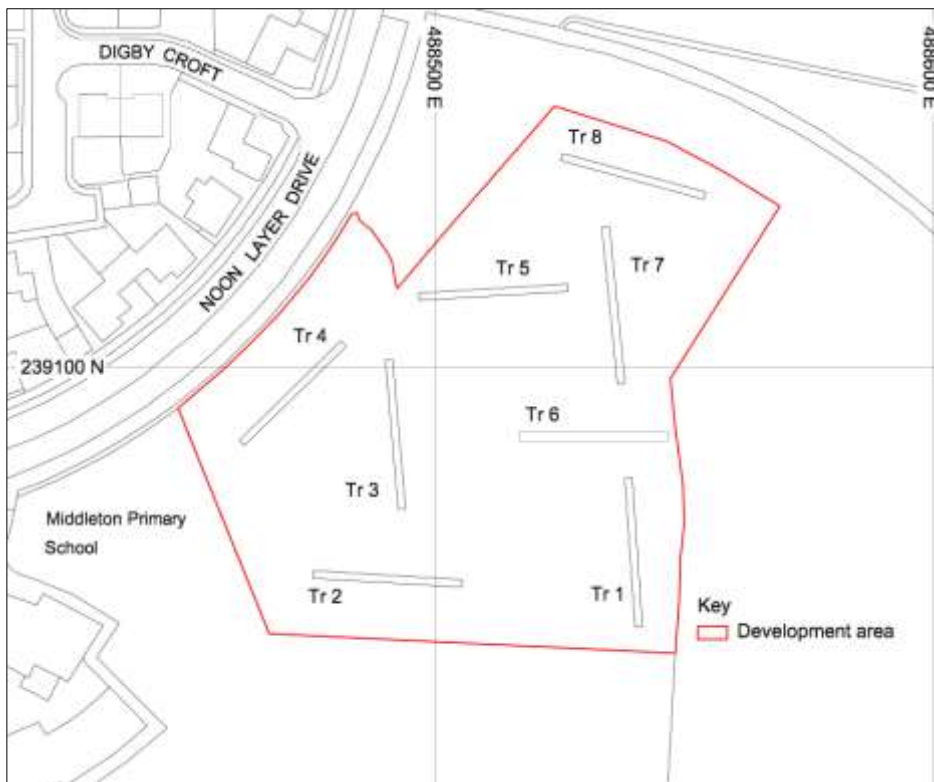


Figure 2: Site plan (scale 1:1250)

## 2. Aims & Methods

### 2.1 *Aims*

As described in the project design, the aims of the evaluation were:

- To ensure that sufficient information was available to properly assess the significance of heritage assets (comprising archaeological interest) within the area of the proposed development
- To obtain sufficient information to establish the extent, character, quality, date and condition of any archaeological remains within the area of the proposed development
- To allow a scheme to be produced containing provisions for the mitigation by recording by excavation, analysis and publication of any significant archaeological remains revealed.

### 2.2 *Standards*

The work conformed to the requirements of the brief (Crank 2013), to the relevant sections of the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard & Guidance Notes* (IFA 2008) and *Code of Conduct* (IFA 2010), to English Heritage guidelines (EH 1991, EH 2006, EH2009), and to the relevant sections of ASC's own *Operations Manual*.

### 2.3 *Methods*

The work was carried out according to the project design, which involved:

- The excavation of eight 30m x 1.6m trial trenches to inspect and assess archaeological deposits in order to achieve the evaluation objectives.

### 2.4 *Constraints*

A metalled quarry haul road and a flanking clay bank ran north-south through the centre of the site. The metalled surface was underlain by a compacted type 1 substrate and the presence of this material meant that the eastern end of Trench 5 could not be opened. The southeast of the site had been subject to significant disturbance during modern extractive activity at Hartigans quarry and Trench 6 and the majority of Trench 1 were not excavated as they were located at an area covered by over 1.8m of modern made ground (Fig. 3). Hand-excavation was hampered by a high water table, which caused some slots to fill with water at a depth of approximately 0.4m thus preventing further investigation.

### 3. Archaeological & Historical Background

- 3.1 The following section provides a summary of the readily available archaeological and historical background to the development site and its environs. The site lies within an area of archaeological and historical interest, and has the potential to reveal evidence of a range of periods.

The following section provides a summary of the readily available archaeological and historical background to the site and its environs, based largely on the relevant chapter in Croft & Mynard (1993), on additional material from Milton Keynes Library and from ASC's own library.

3.2 ***Prehistoric, Roman & Saxon (up to AD1066)***

The earliest evidence of human activity in the Middleton area was identified c.0.8km west of the present village, on the terrace gravels in the Ouzel valley. Archaeological excavations in advance of gravel extraction in the early 1970s in the area now called *Oakgrove* revealed two Bronze Age ring ditches with evidence of contemporary settlement, Iron Age enclosures and structures, and Saxon pits and sunken-featured buildings (Williams 1993). Subsequent evaluations to the immediate north of the quarry in 1976 and 1989 revealed further evidence of Iron Age activity, along with occupation of the Roman period, represented by pits, ditches and a well (*ibid*, 188-189). More recently, excavations in advance of development adjacent to the Ouzel at Monkston Park (Bull and Davis 2006), 1km south and at Broughton (Atkins and Rees 2008, Stansbie 2008) have revealed extensive evidence of occupation and activity covering a similar time period. Roman and late Saxon pottery has also been found at the historic core of the village, during works in and around the churchyard (Croft & Mynard 1993, 121, Summerfield-Hill 2009). The site of the village's late Saxon cemetery and evidence suggesting mid Saxon occupation has been located a short distance to the northeast of the village hall (Parkhouse et al. 1996).

3.3 ***Medieval (1066-1500)***

The village of Middleton is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of 1086 as *Midelstone* (Morris 1978). In the 13<sup>th</sup> century it became *Middleton* (also spelt *Myddleton*) *Keynes*, with the addition of the name of the family who held the manor at that time. The village developed around a triangular green at the intersection of roads from Willen, Broughton, Walton and Woolstone. The 14<sup>th</sup>-century parish church is located to the north of the green. Extending over a considerable area to the west of the church are earthworks comprising an elaborate moat and fishpond complex, probably constructed in the early 14<sup>th</sup> century, which are protected as a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM 19006, MK632, MK660). The site is located only a few metres beyond the southwest boundary of the scheduled area. Ridge and furrow earthworks survived at the site until the latter part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the agricultural earthworks illustrate that the site lay within the medieval village's open field system (Croft and Mynard 1993).

3.4 ***Post-Medieval & Modern (1500-present)***

Prior to the establishment of the new town of Milton Keynes, and with the exception of enclosure of the open fields, Middleton appears to have changed relatively little in the last five hundred years or so. The earliest enclosures in the parish date from the



1560s, and by 1685 most of the parish had been enclosed. There is no enclosure award for Middleton (*ibid.*), but early mapping (Hancock 2013, figs 4 to 6) shows that the site lay within agricultural fields and that the remnant of the field boundary that bisects it was established during this period. The village remained largely unaffected by the major developments in communications, which occurred nearby, during the 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, continuing to be engaged primarily in agriculture. The street forming the south side of the village green appears to have fallen out of use by the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, as had the road crossing the valley westwards to Woolstone.

## 4. Results

### 4.1 General

A thin organic topsoil (100) and a mid orange brown silty clay plough/subsoil (101) covered the natural deposit across the majority of the north, west and southwest of the site. The natural deposit (102) varied from light yellow clay with chalk marl to light orange clay silt. The greatest depth (1.0m) of topsoil and plough/subsoil was present at the north (Trench 8), but it shallowed (0.46m) toward the west (Trench 4). A deep deposit of modern made ground was present at the southeast of the site and the natural deposit was not reached at this area.

Detailed information regarding the trial trenches and their contents appears in Appendix 1.

### 4.2 Trench 1 (Fig. 3)

This partially excavated trench revealed a deep deposit of modern made ground at the southeast of the site. Machining was discontinued at a depth of approximately 1.8m and the opened length of trench was immediately partly backfilled for safety reasons.

### 4.3 Trench 2 (Fig. 3 & 4)

The trench revealed a small patch of natural at its western end, but the base of the rest of the trench comprised mid brown to dark grey clay silt fills (137 and 138) of a very large archaeological feature, perhaps a series of intercutting quarry pits [139] (Fig. 4).

### 4.4 Trench 3 (Fig. 3 & 4: Plate 1)

A patch of natural was present at the west end of the trench, but clay silt fills of a very large archaeological feature covered the centre and the east (Fig. 4). Three sondages were excavated by hand into the clay silt fills, they quickly filled with water and excavation was abandoned at an approximate depth of 0.46m. The large feature comprised one, or perhaps two, quarry pits [125 and 118] with moderately steep, regular edges. A small annular copper alloy object and assemblages of 1<sup>st</sup> century AD pottery were recovered from the excavated fills.

### 4.5 Trench 4 (Fig. 3, 4 & 5: Plate 2)

The trench revealed five archaeological features comprising three ditches [122, 131, 136], a probable ditch terminus [133] and a pit [129] (Fig. 4). Ditch [122] was located approximately 5m from the south-west end of the trench and was oriented north to south. The ditch was 2m wide by 0.6m deep with steep sides and a flat base (Fig. 5, Plate 2) and a large assemblage of 1<sup>st</sup> century pottery, burnt stone and a small amount of animal bone was recovered from its single silty clay fill (121) (Appendix 3). Ditch [131] was located approximately 4m from the north-east end of the trench, it was not fully excavated, but it was approximately 1.7m wide and it appeared to return or possibly intersect with another ditch of similar proportions. Two sherds of 1<sup>st</sup> century pottery were recovered from its fill. The other features were not investigated.

4.6 **Trench 5** (Fig. 3, 4 & 5: Plate 3)

The eastern end of Trench 5 was not opened due to the presence of a metalled and compacted quarry haul road, which was flanked by a clay bank and a field boundary ditch. A single sub-circular pit [103] was located approximately 4m from the west end of the trench. The pit was 0.8m in diameter with a 0.26m deep slightly irregular concave profile. The pit contained a primary fill (104) of light orange grey silty clay and a light greyish brown silty clay upper fill (105), which contained a few fragments of undiagnostic pottery, bone and fired clay.

4.7 **Trench 6** (Fig. 3)

Trench 6 was not opened as it was located at an area of deep modern made ground.

4.8 **Trench 7** (Fig. 3)

Archaeological features were not identified cut into the natural deposit at the centre or north of this trench. The southern end of the trench was not machined to natural as a deep deposit of modern made ground was present.

4.9 **Trench 8** (Fig. 3, 4 & 5: Plates 4, 5 & 6)

Six archaeological features were identified at Trench 8 (Fig. 4).

Two post holes, [108] and [110], were present at the eastern end of the trench (Plate 6). Both were approximately 0.3m in diameter with mid orange grey clay silt fills. Post hole [110] was not excavated but post hole [108] was 0.1m deep with steep-sides and a slightly concave base; it contained a single silty clay fill from which no finds were recovered.

Two large parallel [113,117] ditches crossed the centre of the trench. The ditches lay c.2.5m apart; both were approximately 2m wide and 1m deep with steep sides breaking sharply to a flat base. Ditch [113] contained two silty clay fills and ditch [117] contained three silty clay fills. One fragment of animal bone and one struck flint was recovered from the upper fill of ditch [113] and two fragments of 1<sup>st</sup> century AD pottery from the upper fill of ditch [117]. A shallow ditch [124] ran along the west of ditch [117], a single sherd of 1<sup>st</sup> century pottery was recovered from its fill (116), but its relationship with ditch [117] was not clear.

A smaller ditch [115] with a shallow concave profile lay c.0.7m to the west of ditch [113]. It contained a single fill of light greyish yellow clay from which no finds were recovered.

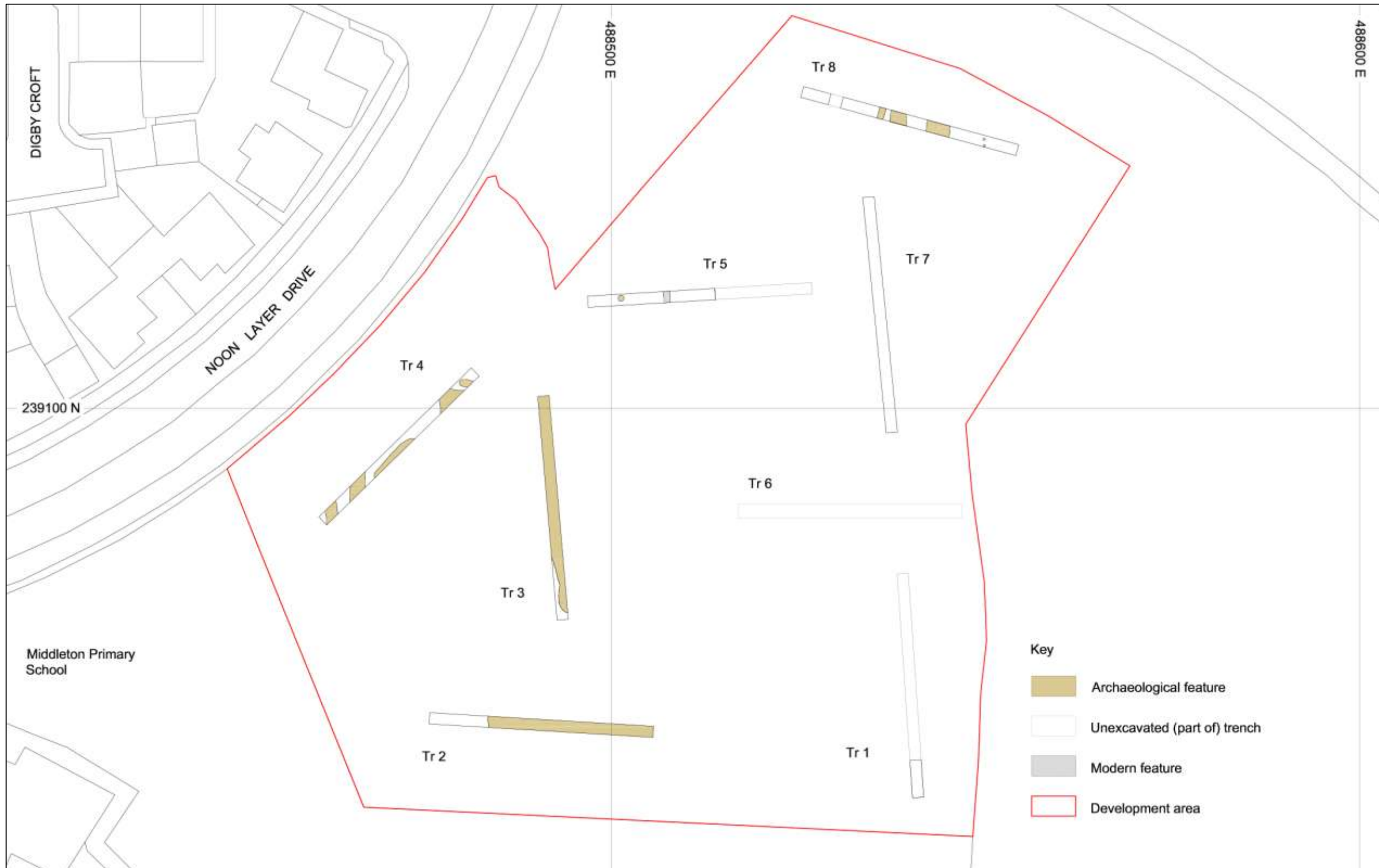


Figure 3: All features plan (scale 1:500)

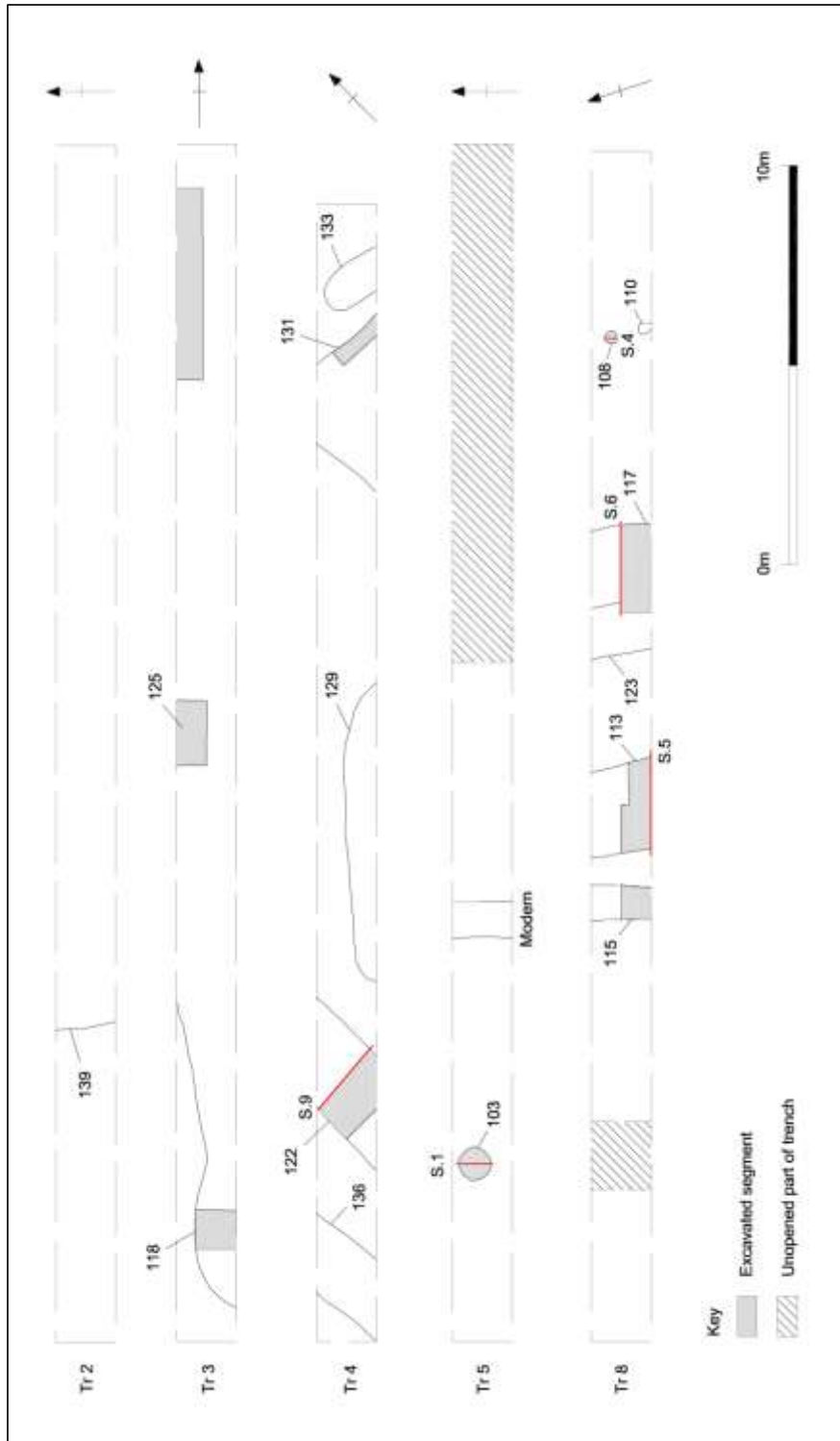


Figure 4: Trench plans (scale 1:150)

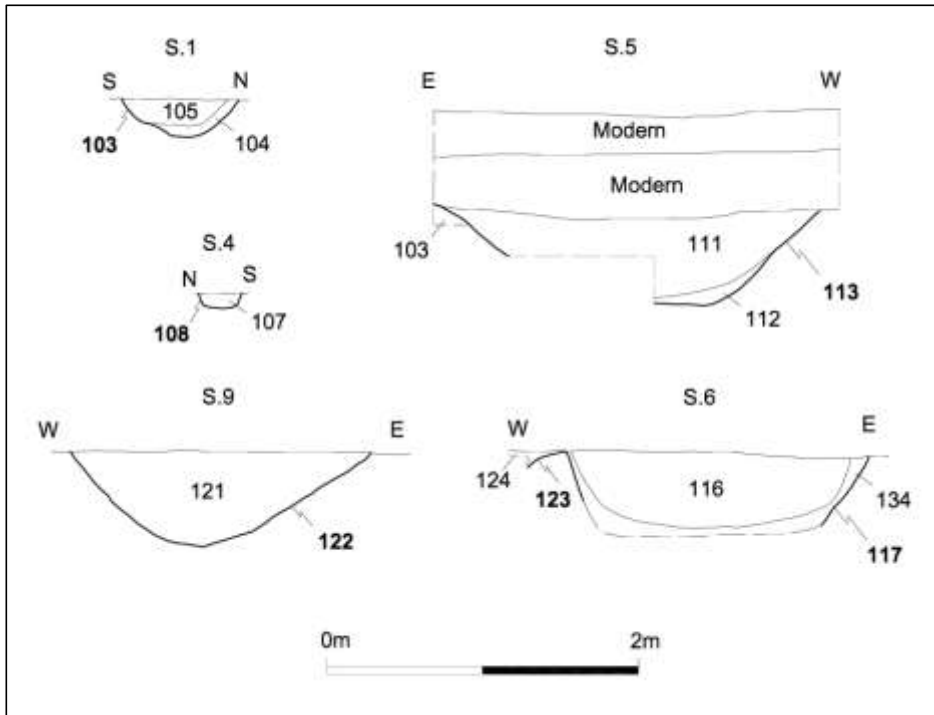


Figure 5: Selected sections (scale 1:40)



Plate 1: Trench 3, probable quarry pits (125), facing south



**Plate 2:** Trench 4, ditch 122, facing north



**Plate 3:** Trench 5, pit 103, facing east





**Plate 4:** Trench 8, ditch 113, facing south-south-west



**Plate 5:** Trench 8, ditches 123 (l) and 117 (r), facing north





**Plate 6:** Trench 8, posthole 108, facing east-south-east

## 5. Conclusions

- 5.1 The southeast of the site had been impacted by modern extractive activity associated with Hartigans quarry. A deep deposit of modern made ground identifies either a remnant of a quarry bund or the upper part of the infill of the quarry pit.
- 5.2 The evaluation showed that archaeological features are preserved at the north, west and centre of the site. The best preserved could be poorly dated examples located at the north, which lie below *c.* 1m of topsoil and subsoil. Ditches and pits at the west lay below shallower (0.46m) topsoil and plough soil and could have suffered some truncation by medieval and later ploughing.
- 5.3 Ditches and pits at the west are securely dated by a relatively large assemblage of 1<sup>st</sup> century AD pottery to the Late Pre Roman Iron Age (LPRIA) or the early Roman period. The absence of definite Roman forms suggests that the activity may pre-date the conquest.
- 5.4 The centre and southwest of the site were subject to extractive activity perhaps contemporary with the LPRIA/Roman ditches and pits discovered at the west. Assemblages of 1<sup>st</sup> century AD pottery were recovered from exploratory sondages excavated into the upper fills of the very large pits. The exploratory excavations quickly filled with water which suggests that waterlogged organic deposits may survive here at greater depth.
- 5.5 A few sherds of 1<sup>st</sup> century pottery were recovered from archaeological features discovered at the north of the site. However, it is uncertain whether the ditches and post holes located here are contemporary with the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD activity discovered to the south and west or if the artefacts are residual material incorporated into medieval features associated with the scheduled fish ponds and moated site located slightly to the north.
- 5.6 Relatively little animal bone or other organic material was recovered during the evaluation. The absence of this material could suggest that the ditches, pits and post holes are located at some distance from associated settlement activity. An alternative explanation may be that bone was poorly preserved due to acidic local soils.
- 5.7 The presence of an LPRIA/Roman site has long been suspected at Middleton as a consequence of occasional recovery of small assemblages of residual Roman pottery from the churchyard. The ditches and pits discovered at the site are the first definitive evidence for intensive activity of this period.

### *Confidence Rating*

The features were, for the most part, clearly visible against the undisturbed natural clays and the evaluation was carried out in good conditions. Hand-excavation was occasionally hampered by a high water table, but sufficient excavation was carried out to be certain that the features at the west and centre of the site are of the LPRIA or early Roman period. The paucity of finds means that features at the north are less securely dated and may belong either to the LPRIA/Roman or medieval periods.

## 6. Acknowledgements

The evaluation was commissioned by Milton Keynes Council. The project was monitored by Nick Crank, Senior Archaeologist of Milton Keynes Council on behalf of the local planning authority. Thanks are also due to the machine driver Nigel Herbert.

The project was managed for ASC by Alastair Hancock BSC PgDip MI/A. Fieldwork was led by Mo Muldowney BA AI/A and carried out by Ralph Brown BSC, Martin Cuthbert BA AI/A and Carina Summerfield-Hill BA MSC AI/A. The report was prepared by Mo Muldowney and Alastair Hancock. The report was edited by Alastair Hancock.

## 7. Archive

7.1 The project archive will comprise:

1. Brief
2. Project Design
3. Initial Report
4. Clients site plans
5. Site records
6. Finds records
7. Finds
8. Site record drawings
9. List of photographs
10. B/W prints & negatives
11. Original specialist reports and supporting information
12. CDROM with copies of all digital files.

7.2 The archive will be deposited with Buckinghamshire County Museum.

## 8. References

### *Standards & Specifications*

- Crank, N 2013 *Land NE of Middleton Primary School, Middleton, Milton Keynes: Brief for Archaeological Evaluation*. Milton Keynes Council. Ref: PS/537/2/A/C2217
- EH 1991 *The Management of Archaeological Projects, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition*. English Heritage (London)
- Hancock, A 2013 *Land to the North-East of Middleton Primary School Middleton Milton Keynes Project Design for Archaeological Evaluation on behalf of Milton Keynes Council ASC Report 1620/MKM/01*
- IFA 2010 Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct*
- IFA (various dates) Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard & Guidance documents (Desk-Based Assessments 2011, Watching Briefs 2008, Evaluations 2009, Excavations 2008, Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings 2008, Finds 2009)*

### *Secondary Sources*

- Atkins, R. and Rees, G. 2008 *An Iron Age and Roman Settlement at Broughton Manor Farm, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire*. Post-Excavation Assessment and Updated Project Design Volume 1. CAMARC Report Number 968
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- Summerfield-Hill C 2009 *Watching Brief, All Saints Church, Milton Keynes Village*. Unpublished ASC Rep: 1129/MAS/1
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## Appendix 1: Trench Summary Tables

Trench 1							
Max Dimensions (m)		Length	5m	Width	1.5m	Depth	1.6m
Context	Type	Description and Interpretation			Width (max: mm)	Thickness (max: mm)	Depth (BGL: mm)
100	Layer	Dark brown silty clay topsoil			-	300	0
-	Layer	Modern made ground deposits			-	1300	300

Trench 2							
Max Dimensions (m)		Length	30m	Width	1.5m	Depth	0.5m
Context	Type	Description and Interpretation			Width (max: mm)	Thickness (max: mm)	Depth (BGL: mm)
100	Layer	Dark brown silty clay topsoil			-	250	0
101	Layer	Mid orange brown silty clay plough soil			-	230	250
137	Fill	Mid brown silty clay. Upper fill of pit(s)			-	-	480
138	Fill	Mid orange brown silty clay. Lower fill of pit(s)			-	-	480
139	Cut	Linear cut with near vertical sides and rounded base. Ditch			+ 1500	-	480
102	Layer	Light yellow and yellowish brown clay with chalk and silty clays. Natural			-	-	480

Trench 3							
Max Dimensions (m)		Length	30m	Width	1.5m	Depth	0.5m
Context	Type	Description and Interpretation			Width (max: mm)	Thickness (max: mm)	Depth (BGL: mm)
100	Layer	Dark brown silty clay topsoil			-	250	0
101	Layer	Mid orange brown silty clay plough soil			-	230	250
118	Cut	Steep-sided cut. Base not seen. Pit			-	-	480
119	Fill	Light yellowish brown silty clay. Lower fill of pit			-	-	480
120	Fill	Mid brownish grey clay. Upper fill of pit			+ 1500	-	480
125	Cut	Irregular in plan with moderately sloping, slightly convex sides. Pit(s)			-	+400	480
126	Fill	Light mottled yellowish grey silty clay. Lower fill of pit(s)			-	+260	480
127	Fill	Mid grey brown silty clay. Upper fill of pit(s)			-	+200	490
102	Layer	Light yellow and yellowish brown clay with chalk and silty clays. Natural			-	-	480

Comment [AH1]: TWO LOWER FILLS?

<b>Trench 4</b>							
<b>Max Dimensions (m)</b>		<b>Length</b>	30m	<b>Width</b>	1.5m	<b>Depth</b>	480
<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description and Interpretation</b>			<b>Width (max: mm)</b>	<b>Thickness (max: mm)</b>	<b>Depth (BGL: mm)</b>
100	Layer	Dark brown silty clay topsoil			-	290	0
101	Layer	Mid orange brown silty clay ploughsoil			-	170	460
121	Fill	Mid orange brown clay. Single fill of ditch			-	600	460
122	Cut	Wide, V-shaped ditch			1950	600	460
128	Fill	Mid orange brown clay. Single fill of pit(s)			-	-	460
129	Cut	Unexcavated pit(s)			+800	-	460
130	Fill	Light grey brown clay. Single fill of ditch			-	+300	460
131	Cut	Steep-sided cut. Ditch			1700	+300	460
132	Fill	Mid orange brown clay. Single fill of ditch terminus			1000	-	460
133	Cut	Unexcavated ditch terminus			1000	-	460
135	Fill	Mid orange brown clay. Single fill of ditch			1500	-	460
136	Cut	Unexcavated ditch			1500	-	460
102	Layer	Light yellow and yellowish brown clay with chalk and silty clays. Natural			-	-	460

<b>Trench 5</b>							
<b>Max Dimensions (m)</b>		<b>Length</b>	5m	<b>Width</b>	1.5m	<b>Depth</b>	1.5m
<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description and Interpretation</b>			<b>Width (max: mm)</b>	<b>Thickness (max: mm)</b>	<b>Depth (BGL: mm)</b>
-	Layer	Modern made-ground, quarry haul road and bund			-	1800	-
100	Layer	Dark brown silty clay topsoil			-	300	0 & 1200
101	Layer	Mid orange brown silty clay plough soil			-	250	300 & 1800
103	Cut	Circular, U-shaped pit			800	260	300
104	Fill	Light orange grey clay. Lower fill of pit			800	80	550
105	Fill	Light greyish brown clay. Upper fill of pit			800	140	620
102	Layer	Light yellow and yellowish brown clay with chalk and silty clays. Natural			-	-	550 & 2025

<b>Trench 7</b>							
<b>Max Dimensions (m)</b>		<b>Length</b>	30m	<b>Width</b>	1.5m	<b>Depth</b>	1.24m
<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description and Interpretation</b>			<b>Width (max: mm)</b>	<b>Thickness (max: mm)</b>	<b>Depth (BGL: mm)</b>
-	Layer	Modern made-ground			-	1240	-
100	Layer	Dark brown silty clay topsoil			-	130	0
101	Layer	Mid orange brown silty clay subsoil			-	250	130
102	Layer	Light yellow and yellowish brown clay with chalk and silty clays. Natural			-	-	380

<b>Trench 8</b>							
<b>Max Dimensions (m)</b>		<b>Length</b>	30m	<b>Width</b>	1.5m	<b>Depth</b>	0.7m
<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description and Interpretation</b>			<b>Width (max: mm)</b>	<b>Thickness (max: mm)</b>	<b>Depth (BGL: mm)</b>
100	Layer	Dark brown silty clay topsoil			-	300	0
101	Layer	Mid orange brown silty clay subsoil			-	700	300
107	Fill	Mid orange grey clay silt. Single fill of posthole			300	10	1000
108	Cut	Sub-circular posthole			300	10	1000
109	Fill	Mid orange grey clay silt. Single fill of posthole			300	-	1000
110	Cut	Unexcavated sub-circular posthole			300	-	1000
111	Fill	Mid yellowish brown silty clay. Upper fill of ditch			-	600	1000
112	Fill	Light brownish yellow clay. Lower fill of ditch			-	120	1000
113	Cut	Steep-sided, flat-based cut. Ditch			2400	700	1000
114	Fill	Light greyish yellow clay. Single fill of ditch			500	50	1000
115	Cut	Very shallow, possible ditch			500	50	1000
116	Fill	Dark orange grey silty clay. Upper fill of ditch/pit			-	480	1000
134	Fill	Mid greyish orange silty clay. Mid fill of ditch/pit			-	+160	1000
140	Fill	Dark orange grey silty clay. Mid? fill of ditch/pit			-	-	1000
117	Cut	Near vertical sided pit or ditch. Not fully excavated			1940	+800	1000
123	Fill	Light yellowish grey silty clay. Upper fill of ditch			1200	+300	1000
124	Cut	Partially excavated ditch			1200	+300	1000
102	Layer	Light yellow and yellowish brown clay with chalk and silty clays. Natural			-	-	1000

## Appendix 2: List of Photographs

SITE NAME: Land NE of Middleton Primary School			SITE NO/CODE: 1620 MKM
Shot	B&W	Digital	Subject
1	✓	✓	Trench 2, facing east
2	✓	✓	Trench 2, topsoil and subsoil
3	✓	✓	Trench 5, pit 103, facing west
4		✓	Trench 5, pit 103, facing west
5	✓	✓	Trench 5, facing east
6		✓	Trench 2, topsoil and subsoil
7		✓	Trench 8, facing west
8	✓	✓	Trench 8, posthole 108, facing east
9	✓	✓	Trench 8, ditch 113, facing north
10		✓	Trench 8, ditch 113, facing north
11	✓	✓	Trench 8, posthole 110, facing south
12		✓	Trench 8, postholes 108 and 110, facing east
13	✓	✓	Trench 3, pit(s) 118, facing north-east
14		✓	Trench 7, facing south
15		✓	Trench 7, topsoil and subsoil
16		✓	Trench 5, haul road at east end, facing west
17		✓	Trench 1, facing north
18		✓	Trench 1, topsoil and subsoil
19	✓	✓	Trench 4, ditch 122, facing north
20	✓	✓	Trench 3, pit(s) 125, facing south
21	✓	✓	Trench 3, facing south
22		✓	Trench 4, topsoil and subsoil
23	✓	✓	Trench 8, ditch 123 and ditch 117, facing north
24	✓	✓	Trench 8, ditch 117, facing north
25	✓	✓	Trench 8, ditch 117, facing north
26	✓	✓	Trench 8, ditch 117, facing north
27	✓	✓	Trench 4, ditches 122 and 136, facing north-east
28		✓	Trench 4, facing north-east
29	✓	✓	Trench 4, ditch? 131, facing south-west
30	✓	✓	Trench 8, posthole 108 fully excavated, facing east





### Appendix 3: Finds Concordance

Context No:	Spit / Trench	Pottery		Bone		Flint		Stone		Fired Clay		Daub		Other		Comments
		No:	(g)	No:	(g)	No:	(g)	No:	(g)	No:	(g)	No:	(g)	No:	(g)	
105	Tr.5	1	1	6	65	1	66	1	101			3	9	1	1	small burnt flint frag & ?burnt stone
111	Tr.8			1	2	1	2									
116	Tr.8	3	28	1	6											pottery refits
119	Tr.3	1	14					1	21			1	2			?burnt stone
120	Tr.3	3	26	2	51									1	5	SF.1:Cu alloy annular fitting or ring
121	Tr.5 Tr.4							5	1639					1	1083	Burnt stone: 2 x pieces refit & large ?stone
121	0-10cm	39	343	1	6	1	7					10	180	1	13	Daub refits, 1x shell
121	10-20cm	22	282	3	44									1	50	CBM
121	20-30cm	36	412	4	29									1	6	CBM
121	30- + cm	22	425	4	32			1	23	4	27					?burnt stone
123	Tr.8	1	1	2	9			1	289							stone ? Utilised
126	Tr.3	3	31	1	143					1	23					
127	Tr.3	2	18	2	18											
128	Tr.4	1	13													
130	Tr.4	2	11	4	16	1	4									
<b>Total</b>		<b>136</b>	<b>1605</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>421</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2073</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1158</b>	

Comment [AH2]: 121 IS T4?

Comment [AH3]: 124 IS CUT?

## Appendix 4: Pottery

**By Jonathan Hunn PhD FSA MIfA**

During an evaluation undertaken at Middleton Primary School in June 2013 (Table 1) a total of 136 sherds (1,577g) of pottery was recovered from 11 contexts, the majority of which were ditch fills.

The largest part (95%) of the assemblage was composed of a grog tempered (GT) wheel-thrown fabric, a small amount of shell tempered ware (5%) was also present. The vessel forms are mainly plain everted rimmed jars although some had been decorated with combed wavy lines and one fragment had faint incised lattice work.

The single biggest assemblage, 1437g or 91%, was derived from the single fill (121) of ditch [122] (Trench 4). Some of this material was abraded and may have become incorporated into the fill after lying on the surface for some time, but some had clean breaks and was probably recovered from its primary place of deposition.

The pottery is, with one exception, local ware of the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD. It is a transitional assemblage in use both before and after the conquest although the absence of pure Roman forms may be significant.

A single abraded greyish sandy sherd from the upper fill (126) of large quarry pit [125] (Trench 3) could be late 1<sup>st</sup> early 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD, but may be earlier.

Context no.	Trench	Number	Weight (g)	Type	Fabric	%	Rim dia	Date	Description/Comments
105	5	1	1	body sherd	coarse biscuit	0	0	IA?	Undiagnostic: too small
116	8	3	28	body sherd	grog temp	0	0	1stC	v. dark grey base frags
119	3	1	14	body sherd	grog temp	0	0	1stC	
120	3	3	26	body sherd	grog temp	0	0	1stC	
121	4: 0-10cm	5	15	body sherd	shell temp				
121	4: 0-10cm	34	328	body sherd	grog temp				pale brown exterior, dark grey interior
121	4: 10-20cm	1	25	rim	grog temp				
121	4: 10-20cm	16	262	body sherd	grog temp	0.00%	0	1st C	predominantly grog tempered but browner in appearance
121	4: 10-20cm	5	20	body sherd	shell tempered	0	0	1st C	reddish brown, shell tempered ware
121	4: 20-30cm	31	252	body sherd	grog temp	0.00%	0	1st C	predominantly grog, but browner; one piece is pierced
121	4: 20-30cm	3	85	rim	grog temp	30%	16 cm dia	1st C	plain everted rim
121	4: 20-30cm	1	5	rim	grog temp	7.50%	14 cm	1st C	v. small plain everted rim frag.
121	4: 20-30cm	1	20	body sherd	shell temp	0	0	1st C	
121	4: 30cm- on	1	110	base	grog temp	47.50%	12cm	1st C	
121	4: 30cm- on	2	45	jar rim	grog temp	20%	14cm	1st C	pale greyish cream exterior
121	4: 30cm- on	2	5	body sherd	shell temp				
121	4: 30cm- on	17	265	body sherd	grog temp			1st	reddish brown ext, dark grey int; wavy comb lines
123	8	1	1	body sherd	grog temp				
126	3	2	10	body sherd	grog temp				
126	3	1	21	body sherd	sandy			Late 1stC?	grey core with pale creamy grey exterior, base frag
127	3	2	18	body sherd	grog temp				
130	4	2	11	body sherd	shell temp				
128	4	1	10	jar	sandy		0	1st C	reddish brown ext; dark grey int. with brown inclusions.
<b>Total</b>		136	1577						

**Table 1:** Pottery

**Comment [AH4]:** 124 IS CUT?

## Appendix 5: ASC OASIS Form

PROJECT DETAILS			
Project Name:	Land to the NE of Middleton Primary School	OASIS reference:	archaeol2_153234
Short Description:	<i>In June 2013 an evaluation was carried out on land to the north-east of Middleton Primary School, Middleton, Milton Keynes, ahead of the proposed construction of a drop-off parking area, sports pitch and associated landscaping. Poorly dated ditches, and post holes were identified at the north of the site and Late Pre Roman Iron Age (LPRIA) or early Romano-British ditches and pits at the west. A large pit or intercutting pits at the centre and southwest of the site identifies quarrying of LPRIA or early Roman date. The southeast of the site had been significantly disturbed by recent extractive activity associated with Hartigans quarry. The LPRIA or early Roman remains are locally significant as they are the first identified in Middleton.</i>		
Project Type:	Evaluation		
Previous work: (eg. SMR refs)	None	Site status: (eg. none, SAM, listed)	None
Current land use:	Former agricultural land and part of former quarry works	Future work: (yes/no/unknown)	Yes
Monument type:	Ditch, pit	Monument period:	Roman
Significant finds: (artefact type & period)	Pottery, animal bone, stone, flint - Roman		
PROJECT LOCATION			
County:	Buckinghamshire	OS reference: (8 figs min)	SP 8851 3910
Site address: (+ postcode if known)	Land adjacent to Middleton Primary School, Noon Layer Drive, Middleton, Milton Keynes MK10 6EN		
Study area: (sq. m. / ha)	1 ha	Height OD: (metres)	65m
PROJECT CREATORS			
Organisation:	Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd		
Project brief originator:	Nick Crank	Project design originator:	Alastair Hancock
Project Manager:	Alastair Hancock	Director/Supervisor:	Mo Muldowney
Sponsor / funding body:	Milton Keynes Council		
PROJECT DATE			
Start date:	13 June 2013	End date:	16 June 2013
PROJECT ARCHIVES			
	Location (Accession no.)	Content (eg. pottery, animal bone, files/sheets)	
Physical:	Buckinghamshire County Museum	Pottery, animal bone, flint, stone, report, site records	
Paper:		Report, maps, plans, record sheets	
Digital:		CD with all digital files	
BIBLIOGRAPHY (Journal/monograph, published or forthcoming, or unpublished client report)			
Title:	Land to the North East of Middleton Primary School, Middleton, Milton Keynes		
Serial title & volume:	ASC Ltd Report ref. 1620/MKM/02		
Author(s):	Mo Muldowney BA PIfA		
Page nos	27	Date:	25 <sup>th</sup> June 2013