

Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION:
RADCLIFFE SCHOOL
WOLVERTON
MILTON KEYNES**

For NJL Consulting on behalf of Milton Keynes Council & Radcliffe School



Nigel Wilson HND AIFA

June 2007

ASC: 906/WRS/2

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Site Data

<i>ASC site code:</i>	WRS	<i>ASC project</i>	906
<i>MK Event No:</i>	1117		
<i>County:</i>	Milton Keynes		
<i>Village/Town:</i>	Wolverton		
<i>Civil Parish:</i>	Wolverton		
<i>NGR (to 8 figs):</i>	SP 8073 4080 (centre)		
<i>Extent of site:</i>	c.13.5 hectares		
<i>Present land use:</i>	School playing fields and disused allotments		
<i>Planning proposal:</i>	Housing development		
<i>Local Planning Authority:</i>	Milton Keynes Council		
<i>Planning application ref/date:</i>	Tba		
<i>Client:</i>	Milton Keynes Council & Radcliffe School (Joint Venture) c/o NJL Consulting, Adamson House, Towers Business Park, Wilmslow Road, Didsbury, Manchester, M20 2YY		
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Internal Quality Check

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<i>Revisions:</i>		<i>Date:</i>	
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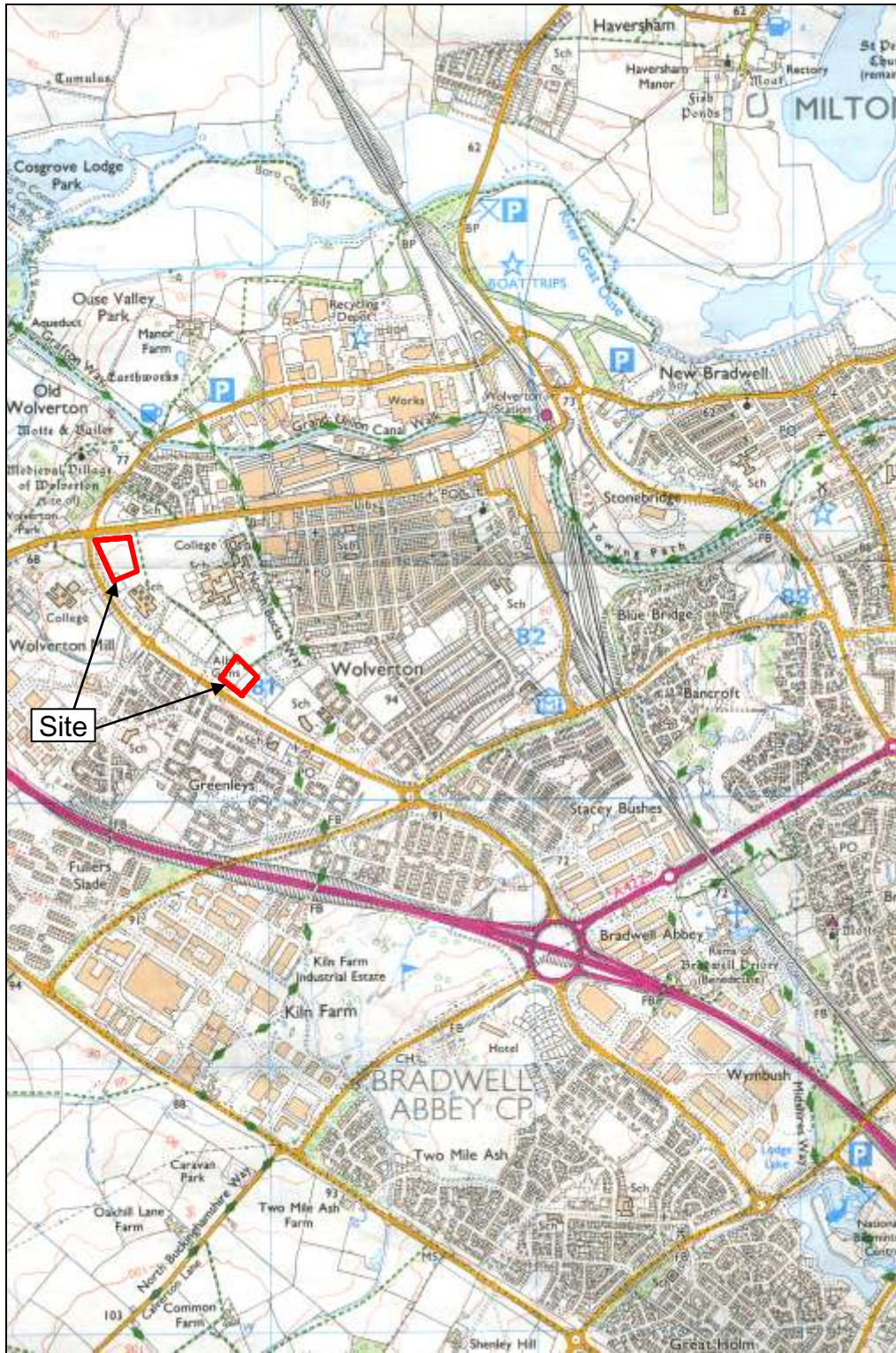


Figure 1: General location (scale 1:25,000)

Summary

During May 2007, an archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Radcliffe School, Wolverton, in advance of development. Earlier geophysics work on the site had identified a number of magnetic anomalies interpreted as ditches and pits. Based on the results of the geophysics, two areas were trenched. Nineteen trenches were opened to the north of the school on the playing field and four in a field to the south of the school.

Within the northern area a number of linear features interpreted as Roman field boundary ditches. Two pairs of parallel ditches orientated SE-NW were interpreted as trackside ditches. A number of small Roman pits were also identified in this area. The only non Roman feature identified was a small pit from which a number of sherds of early Saxon pottery were recovered.

In the southern area there was generally less archaeology. However a crouched burial was uncovered in one of the trenches. Though no material to date the burial was found, this type of burial is generally associated with the prehistoric period and the Bronze Age in particular. It is possible that the burial was under a barrow mound, though no evidence for such a mound or surrounding ditch was seen during the evaluation.

1 Introduction

1.1 Following an earlier geophysical survey (Hancock 2007a) *Archaeological Services and Consultancy Ltd* (ASC) carried out an evaluation at Radcliffe School, Wolverton, Milton Keynes (NGR SP 8073 4080: Fig. 1) in May 2007. The project was commissioned by NJL Consulting acting on behalf of Milton Keynes Council and Radcliffe School. and was carried out according to a methodology agreed by the Milton Keynes Council archaeological advisor (AA), *Milton Keynes Council*, detailed in a project design prepared by ASC (Hancock 2007b).

1.2 *Planning Background*

This evaluation was required under the terms of *Planning Policy Guidance Note 16* (PPG16), in response to proposals to develop the site for residential, commercial and recreational use.

1.3 *Location*

The application area is located to the west of Wolverton town centre, in the administrative district of Milton Keynes (centred on NGR 8073 4080: Fig. 1). It comprises a parcel of land encompassing c.26ha, bounded to the north by Stratford Road, to the south-west by Great Monks Street, to the south by allotments and a cemetery, and to the east by existing housing and commercial developments of Wolverton.

Two discrete parts of the application area are suitable for evaluation trenching (Figs 1 and 2). One lies at the northwest of the playing fields of Radcliffe School and the other comprises a field immediately west of Woburn Avenue Recreation Ground, marked as Allotment Gardens on recent OS mapping.

1.4 *Description*

The proposed development (Fig 2) forms part of the Wolverton West End Development Framework, which was adopted by Milton Keynes Council as Supplementary Planning Guidance in September 2004, and was reiterated in Milton Keynes Local Plan 2001-2015 (MKC 2005).

1.5 *Geology & Topography*

The soils of the area belong to the *Badsey 1 Association*, which are characterised as “*well drained calcareous and non-calcareous fine loamy soils over limestone gravel. Some deep fine loamy soils and fine loamy soils over gravel, and similar but shallower soils affected by groundwater*” (Soil Survey, 1983, 511h). The underlying geology is characterised as *river terrace gravel*. The site lies on the south side of the Great Ouse valley, c.1.5km south of the river, at an elevation of between c.80-90m AOD, on ground steadily rising from north-west to south-east.

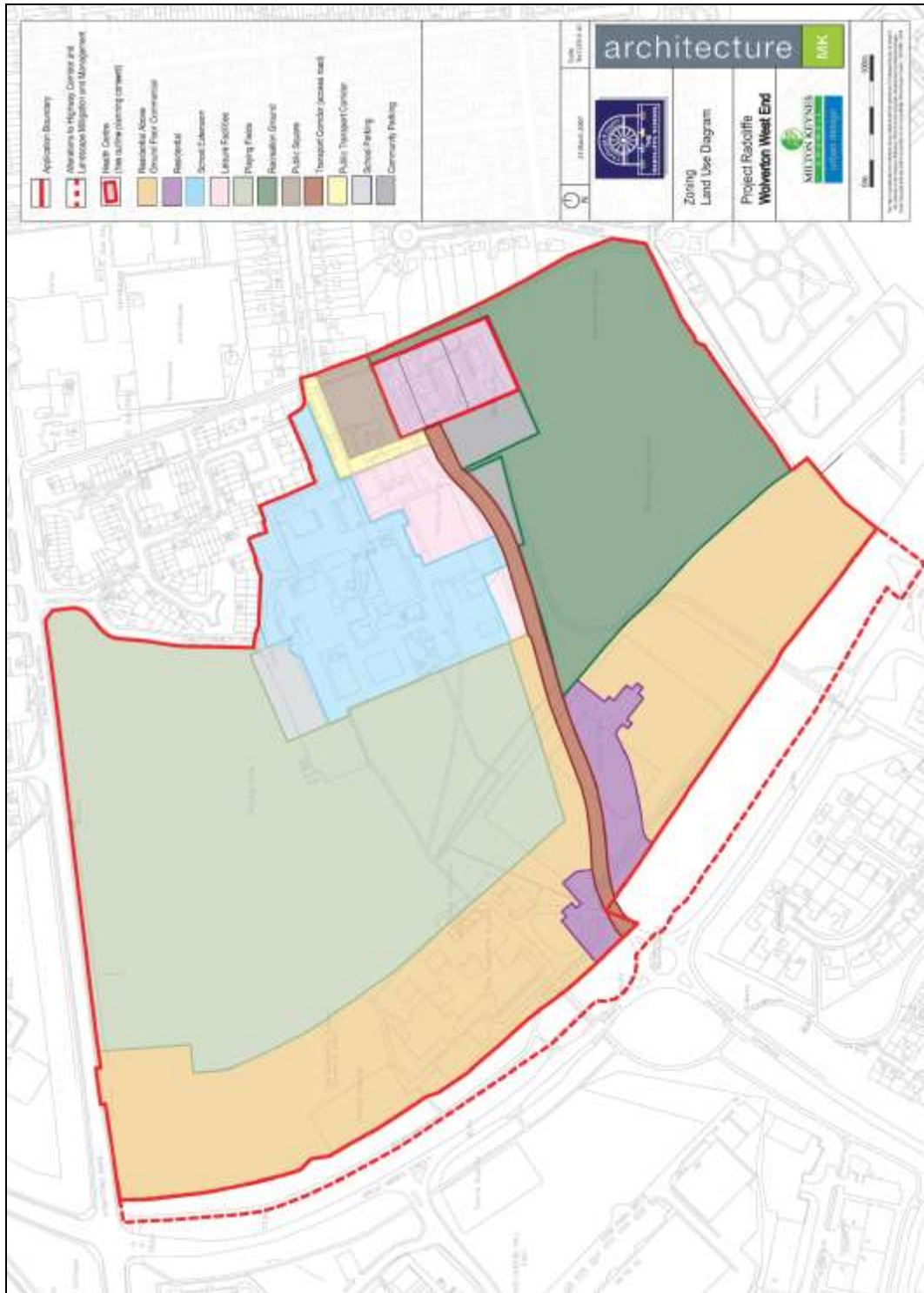


Figure 2: Site plan (scale 1:5000)

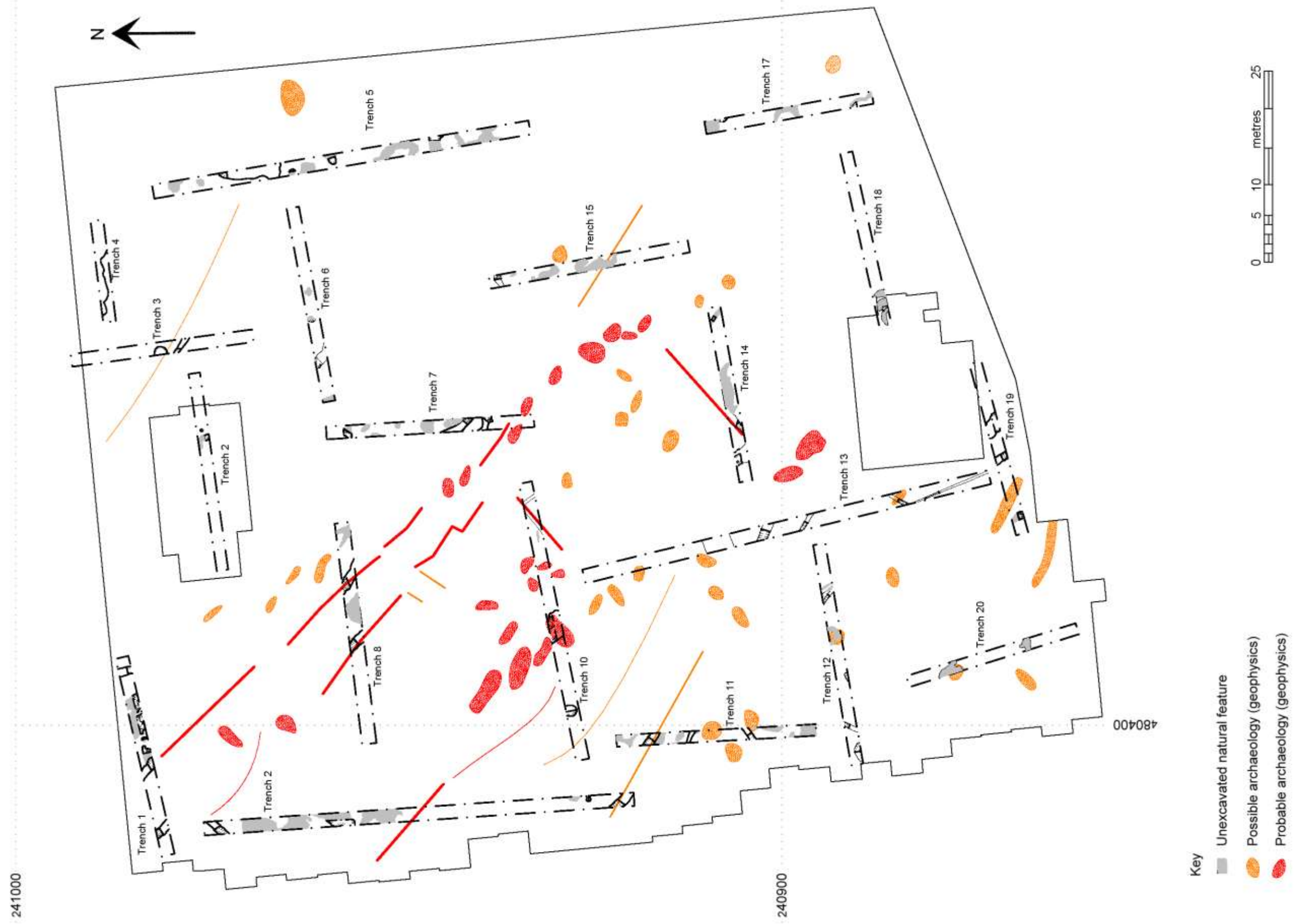


Figure 3: Trench layout, Area 1 (scale 1:500)

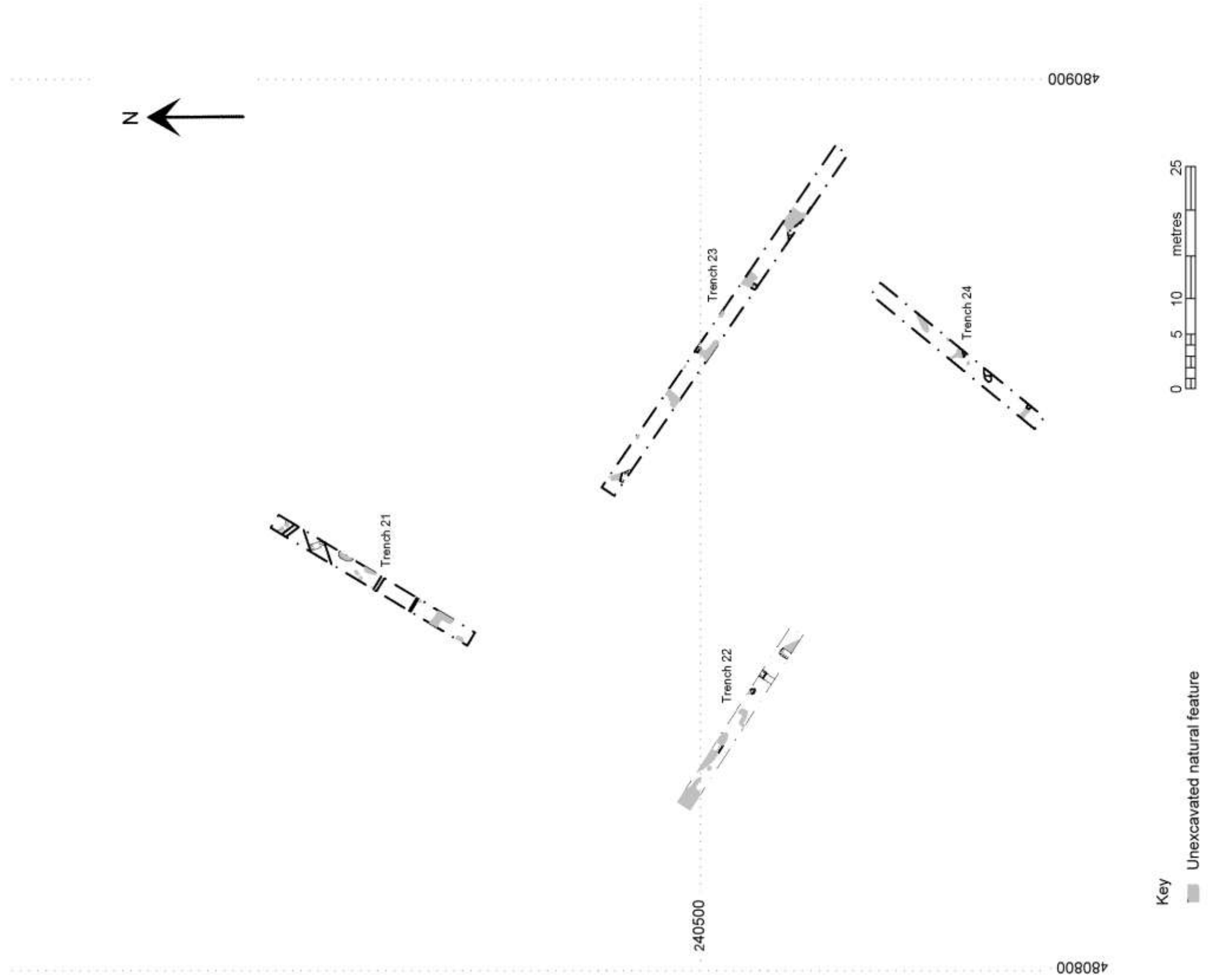


Figure 4: Trench layout, Area 2 (scale 1:500)

2 Aims & Methods

2.1 Aims

The aims of the evaluation were:

- To investigate the areas of new build located on the western and southern edges of the application area
- To target and delimit areas of activity identified by the geophysical survey

2.2 Standards

The work conformed to the project design, to the relevant sections of the Institute of Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct* (IFA 2000) and *Standard & Guidance Notes* (IFA 2001), and to the relevant sections of ASC's own *Operations Manual*.

2.3 Methods

The work was carried out according the agreed specification which required:

- Evaluation trenching of 4% (c.476 sq m) of c.29820 sq m
- Removal of topsoil and overburden down to the natural subsoil or archaeological deposits, whichever is encountered first, by suitable excavating plant fitted with a toothless bucket, working under close archaeological supervision.
- Sampling and recording of any archaeological features present in the attempt to determine their character, function and date.

2.4 Constraints

Trench 16 was not excavated due to space constraints. Its proposed length was added to other trenches.

3 Archaeological & Historical Background

3.1 Introduction

The Wolverton area is one of considerable archaeological and historical importance, and a variety of archaeological sites are situated in the area. The archaeology and history of the parish are summarised in *The Changing Landscape of Milton Keynes* (Croft & Mynard 1993, 179-193).

3.2 Prehistoric (before 600BC)

A scatter of Mesolithic flints is recorded c.2km east of the site and Neolithic to early Bronze Age settlement is known at Stacey Bushes, c.1.5km southeast of the site (Green & Sofranoff 1985). Excavations at the Wolverton Mill Training College, which is located immediately west of the proposed development revealed features suggesting the presence of Bronze Age settlement (Preston forthcoming).

Ring ditches denoting the location of ploughed out burial mounds were excavated at Moon Street School 1km west of the site and at Warren Farm, 0.5km to the west and also at the Training College, immediately west of the proposed development (Green 1974).

A late Bronze Age - Iron Age farmstead was excavated at Blue Bridge 1.5km west of the assessment site (Williams & Zeepvat 1994). The results illustrated that a cremation cemetery was established on the southern side of this site during the late pre-Roman Iron Age.

3.3 Romano-British (AD43-c.450)

During the Romano-British period the Milton Keynes area fell within the *civitas* (tribal area) of the *Catuvellauni*. The nearest towns to the assessment site were *Magiovinium* (Dropshort Farm, Fenny Stratford), 10km to the southeast, and *Lactodorum* (Towcester), 13km to the northwest. These were linked by the major Roman road, latterly known as *Watling Street*, which lies 1.2km southwest of the site.

An extensive villa was located Bancroft (Williams & Zeepvat 1994), c.1km east of the application area. This was linked with an impressive 2nd-century temple-mausoleum (*ibid*), located on the adjoining Blue Bridge site. Evidence of a possible Roman building has been recovered from service trenches at Manor Farm Cottages, 0.5km north of the site.

Romano-British sites of lesser status are recorded at Kiln Farm, 1km southwest of the site, and near Stonebridge Farm, c.1.25km to the northeast. A small amount of Roman material, possibly originating from manure scatters, has been found in recent excavations immediately west of the proposed development (Thorne 2005).

3.4 Saxon (c.450-1066)

Several burials of suggested Saxon date were found just beyond the northwest corner of the proposed development in 1956 (Green 1957). A recent evaluation, undertaken by ASC in advance of housing development near the northwest corner of the proposed development, did not reveal any archaeological features (Fell 2000). A watching brief on services in the same area was also negative (Crank 2005).

In 1969, aerial photography revealed the existence of a rectangular enclosure in the area now occupied by the Wolverton Mill Training College. Excavations in 1971 revealed the east corner of the enclosure (Preston forthcoming) and further excavations in 1992 and 1994 (*ibid*), confirmed a middle Saxon date.

More recent excavations (Thorne 2005) discovered two early to middle Saxon grübenhauser, and late Saxon timber buildings with associated pits, a well, cess pits and a malting/drying oven. Late Saxon finds, including coins and metalwork, have also been found near the parish church, 0.3km north of the site. The evidence suggests (Croft & Mynard 1993, 181) that mid to late Saxon settlement in the parish may have been centred on and north of the Training College grounds.

3.5 Medieval (1066-1500)

Wolverton is mentioned in the Domesday Survey (1086), where it appears as *Wlverintone*. This place-name may be of 8th or 9th-century origin, and translates as ‘Wulfhere’s Tun’, or ‘Wulfhere’s estate’ (Croft & Mynard 1993, 191). At the time of the Domesday Survey, Wolverton was held by Mainou the Breton.

The medieval village of Wolverton is a scheduled ancient monument, it is perhaps the best-preserved medieval village in Milton Keynes and is centred on the parish church and adjacent 11th / 12th century motte-and-bailey castle. The site of the medieval manor house is thought to lie south of the motte. At the east end of the village is Manor Farm, believed from documentary evidence to be the site of a monastic grange, though a recent watching brief by ASC (Wilson & Abrams 2003) failed to reveal any evidence of medieval activity.

A survey of the available evidence for ridge-and-furrow ploughing has shown that the development area formed part of the medieval open field system of Wolverton.

3.6 Post-Medieval (1500-1900)

During the post-medieval period the village of Wolverton declined, partly as a result of the expansion of Stony Stratford and partly as a result of piecemeal land enclosure by the Longville family, who held the manor. By the mid 17th century the Longvilles had taken the site of the village for parkland.

The earliest known map of Wolverton dates from 1742. The original is lost, but a version of it was published by Hyde (1943, 13). The proposed development site remained in agricultural use and was divided into two fields, *Barr Piece* (57) and *Harrow Field* (61).

3.7 Modern (1900-present)

Wolverton continued to expand during the first half of the 20th century. By the Edwardian period, housing on the south side of Stratford Road had reached the east boundary of the development site. Wolverton appears to have changed little in the second half of the 20th century until incorporated into the growing city of Milton Keynes.

4 Results

General

Twenty three trenches were excavated, 19 in the northern area (Area 1) designated 1-20 (Fig 3) and four in the southern area (Area 2) designated 21-24 (Fig 4). The trenches were laid out partially to investigate anomalies revealed during the geophysical survey and partially to check areas which had shown negative during the geophysical survey. Each trench was excavated to the natural deposits or the first significant archaeological horizon using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket.

No archaeology was visible on the surface prior to the start of the evaluation.

In Area 1 the topsoil ranged in depth from c. 0.25-0.35m whilst in Area 2 it tended to be deeper with a maximum depth of 0.9m in Trench 21. Below the topsoil in some of the trenches an orangey-red silty clay subsoil was observed. The natural varied across the site but generally the more northerly and westerly, trenches came down onto broken limestone (brash) with pockets of very fine red silty clay, probably representing small solution hollows in the limestone, whilst those to the east and south came down onto more gravelly deposits (head).

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

Trench 1 (Fig. 5 Plates 1-2)

Location: Area 1

Description: Seven disturbed areas were investigated, four of which were dismissed as natural or root disturbance. The remaining three features cuts 104, 106 and 108 appear to be ditches. A fourth feature at the southern end of the trench was investigated but not allocated a number as it was clearly natural in origin.

Trench 2 (Fig. 5 Plates 3-4)

Location: Area 1

Description: Three features were excavated in this trench. Cuts 204 and 208 were distinct ditches whilst cut 206 was very uneven and probably formed by root/ geological action.

Trench 3 (Fig. 5 Plates 5-6)

Location: Area 1

Description: Two features were investigated in this trench. Cut 303 seems to have been a small NW-SE orientated ditch, whilst Cut 305 is interpreted as a possible ditch terminus, however the irregular nature of the sides and clean mid orange brown fill tend to suggest that this is a tree throw rather than a linear feature.

Trench 4 (Fig. 5)

Location: Area 1

Description: No archaeology was revealed in this trench due to an extensive modern disturbance covering most of the trench.

Trench 5 (Fig. 5 Plate 7)

Location: Area 1

Description: Four features were excavated in this trench. Irregular cuts 502, 504 and 508 were probably natural tree throw holes, whilst shallow cut 506 is possibly the western side of a large pit.

Trench 6 (Fig. 5 Plate 8)

Location: Area 1

Description: Two features were excavated in this trench. Though cut 604 appeared regular and linear on the surface subsequent excavation found that the sides and base were highly irregular. It is possible that this feature was originally cut as a ditch. Subsequent to it going out of use, trees may have grown in the softer fill causing the irregular appearance. The other feature investigated, sub-circular cut 606 is interpreted as a small tree throw hole.

Trench 7 (Fig. 5 Plates 9-10)

Location: Area 1

Description: This trench was located to target a possible SE-NW ditch identified on the geophysics plot. A corresponding ditch was revealed, cut 703. Eight sherds of Roman pottery were recovered from the excavated section of this ditch. Two other potential features cuts 705 and 707 were excavated in this trench both of which proved to be natural in origin.

Trench 8 (Fig. 5 Plate 11)

Location: Area 1

Description: Parallel SE-NW ditches 802 and 804 possibly represent a pair of ditches running alongside a track. Both ditches produced a considerable amount of Roman pottery. No other features were identified in this trench.

Trench 9 (Fig. 5)

Location: Area 1

Description: Two potential features were excavated in this trench. It was however concluded that both disturbed areas were formed naturally, and were therefore not allocated context numbers.

Trench 10 (Fig. 5 Plate 12-13)

Location: Area 1

Description: Two features were excavated in this trench. Despite having irregular sides it seems likely that oval shaped cut 1004 was a pit, as the fill contains a number of Roman pottery sherds. Linear cut 1006 was uneven on its eastern side, but the western side and base were sharp and Roman finds were recovered from the fill. From this evidence it seems likely that feature 1006 was a ditch. Two further small ditches 1007 and 1008 orientated SW-NE and SE-NW respectively were identified. These ditches met to form a right angled junction. Though not excavated further Roman pottery was recovered from the surface of Ditch 1007.

Trench 11 (Fig. 5 Plates 14-15)

Location: Area 1

Description: Two ditches were excavated in this trench. Ditch 1103 was orientated SE-NW and run parallel to an unexcavated ditch 1107. The other, ditch 1105, was orientated SW-NE and had a much darker fill than most of the other features on the site.

Trench 12 (Fig. 5 Plate 16-18)

Location: Area 1

Description: Four features were excavated in this trench. Cut 1203 was a small sub-circular pit with moderately steep sides. Though no finds were retrieved from the fill it seems likely that it is Roman in date. Ditch 1205 was orientated SW-NE. Roman pottery recovered from the fill indicates that the ditch was filled during the 2nd century AD. Shallow, sub-circular pit 1207 had slightly irregular sides suggestive of a tree throw

pit. However enough Roman pottery were recovered from the fill to indicate that it was probably originally a deliberately cut feature, possibly with a tree growing in the nutrient-rich fill later. A pair of parallel ditches 1209 and 1211 were orientated SE-NW. Though only 1209 was excavated both ditches were clearly very shallow. No finds or other dating material was recovered from either ditch.

Trench 13 (Fig. 5 Plates 19-21)

Location: Area 1

Description: Five features were identified in this trench, four of which were excavated. Parallel ditches 1304 and 1306 were orientated SE-NW and separated by c.3.5m. Gully 1308 was orientated SW-NE and met SE-NW gully 1310 forming a roughly right angled junction at the SW end of 1308. Both of these gullies were very shallow. Unexcavated ditch 1311 was orientated E-W. Finds collected from the surface of Ditch 1311 included nine fragments of animal bone.

Trench 14 (Fig. 5 Plates 22-23)

Location: Area 1

Description: Three features were excavated in this trench. Broad linear cut 1402 was orientated N-S. Despite having irregular sides it seems likely that this feature was originally a deliberately cut ditch. No finds were recovered from the fill of 1402 to date the infilling of the ditch. Ditch 1404 was orientated SW-NE and had gently sloping sides to its flat base. Finds recovered from the fill indicate that the ditch was filled during the late 1st to later 2nd century AD. Despite seeming to be a regular linear feature on the surface cut 1406 had very irregular sides and base more indicative of tree root action than a deliberate ditch cut.

Trench 15 (Fig. 5 Plate 24)

Location: Area 1

Description: A single feature 1502 was excavated in this trench. The irregular shape of the cut and the clean nature of the fill suggest that it was a pocket of the natural silty clay, rather than a cut feature.

Trench /17 (Fig. 5 Plates 25)

Location: Area 1

Description: Two irregular silty areas which were slightly darker than the general fills of the natural solution hollows were investigated in this trench. Upon excavation it was clear that they were both natural, and consequently were not allocated numbers.

Trench 18 (Fig. 5)

Location: Area 1

Description: No archaeological features were identified in this trench.

Trench 19 (Fig. 5 Plate 19)

Location: Area 1

Description: Three features were excavated in this trench. Linear cut 1904 had very irregular sides which had clearly been modified by tree roots action, though it is likely that 1904 had originally been cut as a ditch. Ditch 1908 was orientated SSE-NNW and contained three fills (1905-1907). Twenty two sherds of Roman pottery were recovered from fill 1906. The final feature excavated in this trench 1909 was clearly another feature formed by tree roots, possibly in the fill of another small ditch.

Trench 20 (Fig. 5)

Location: Area 1

Description: No archaeological features were identified in this trench.

Trench 21 (Fig. 6 Plate 27)

Location: Area 2

Description: Six features were excavated in this trench. The fill of a small sub-circular feature (2106) contained a few flecks of charcoal and may be the base of a small post hole. Linear feature 2108 was orientated E-W and may well have been a ditch, though no pottery or other finds were recovered from the fill. Excavated cuts 2104, 2110 and 2112 were all irregular sub-circular features which appeared to have been formed naturally. Two additional unexcavated SE –NW parallel linear were also recorded.

Trench 22 (Fig. 6 Plate 28)

Location: Area 2

Description: Four features (2204, 2206, 2208 and 2210) were excavated in this trench, all of which appeared to be naturally formed. Though it is possible that 2208 was a SW-NE orientated ditch.

Trench 23 (Fig. 6)

Location: Area2

Description: Four features (2304, 2306, 2308 and 2310) were excavated in this trench all of which seem to have been formed naturally.

Trench 24 (Fig. 6 Plate 29)

Location: Area 2

Description: Three features were excavated in this trench. Sub-circular pit 2406 contained a crouched burial. Unfortunately the feet were removed before the long bones were recognised. Once identified excavation stopped and the burial remains in-situ. No grave goods associated with the burial were identified during the evaluation. The other two features, 2404 and 2408, were both formed naturally.



Plate 1: Ditch terminus 104



Plate 2: Tree throw 108



Plate 3: Ditch 204



Plate 4: Tree throw 206



Plate 5: Ditch 303



Plate 6: Ditch terminus 305



Plate 7: Root hole 502



Plate 8: Tree throw 604



Plate 9: Ditch 703



Plate 10: Tree throw 705



Plate 11: Ditch 804



Plate 12: Pit 1004



Plate 13: Pit 1006



Plate 14: Ditch 1103



Plate 15: Ditch 1105



Plate 16: Pit 1203



Plate 17: Ditch 1205



Plate 18: Pit 1207



Plate 19: Ditch 1304



Plate 20: Ditch 1306



Plate 21: Ditch 1308



Plate 22: Ditch / Root action 1402



Plate 23: Ditch 1404



Plate 24: Tree throw 1502



Plate 25: Natural silty clay pocket 1704



Plate 26: Ditch 1908



Plate 27: Possible Post-hole 2106



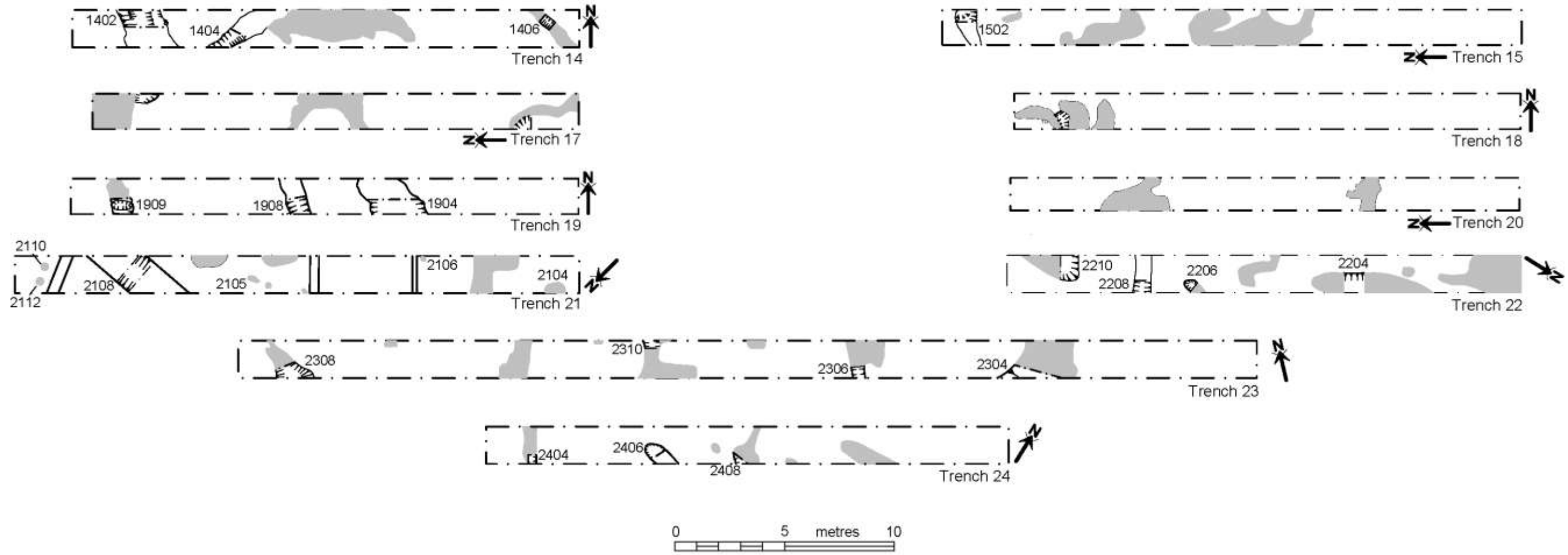
Plate 28: Natural solution hollow 2206



Plate 29: Burial 2406



Figure 5: Trench plans (scale 1:500)



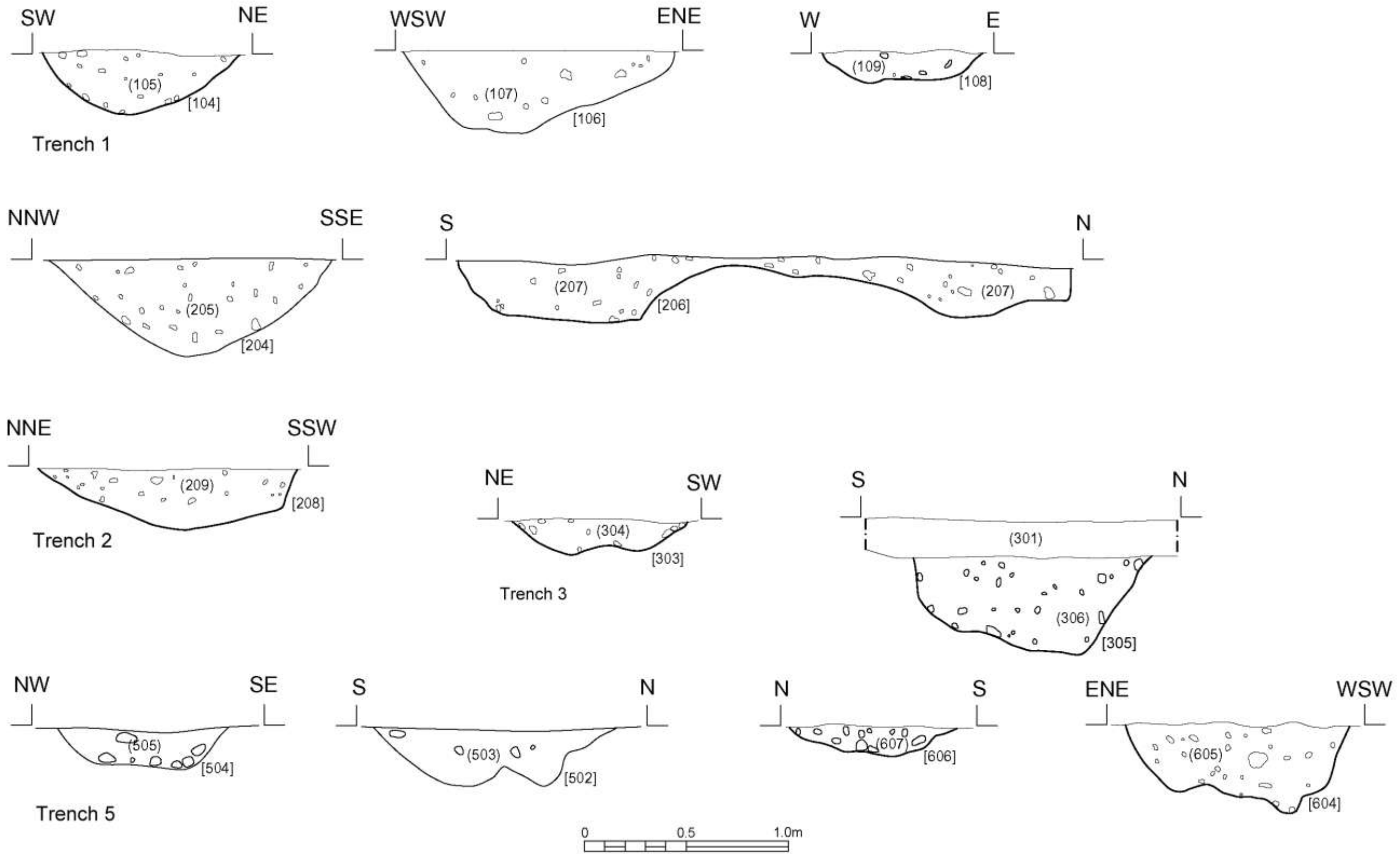
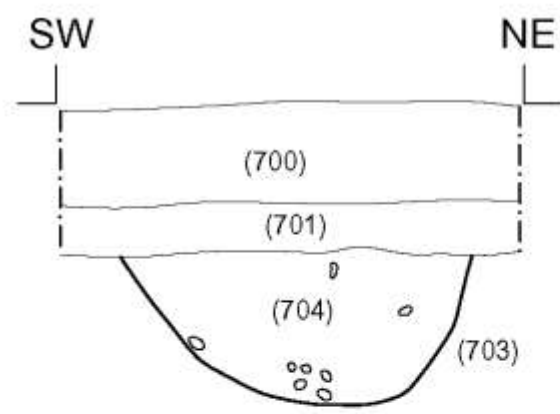
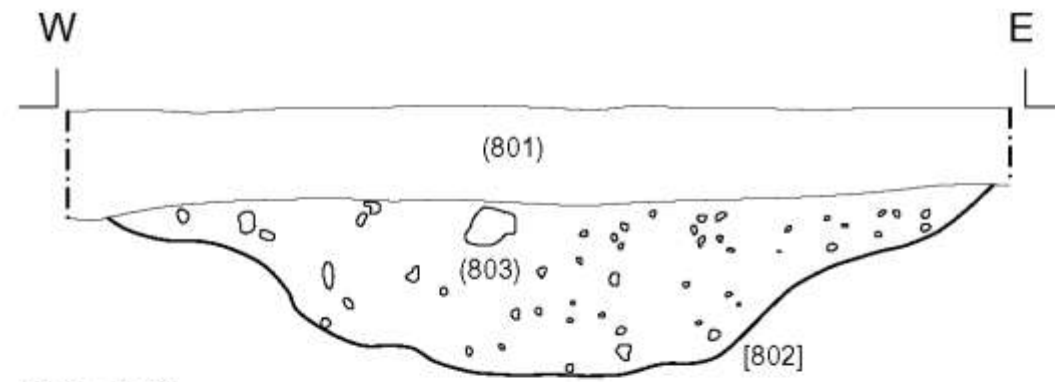
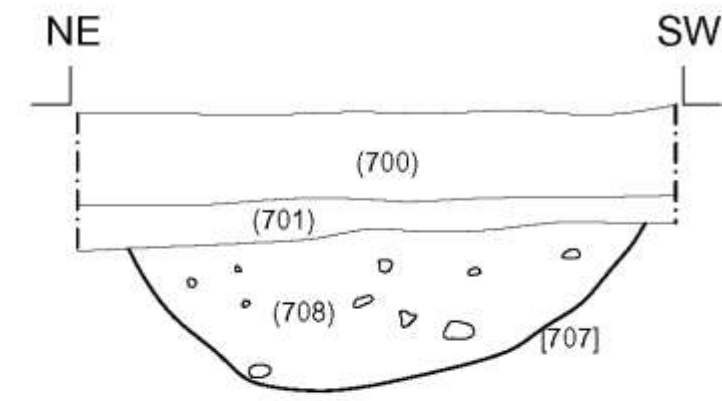
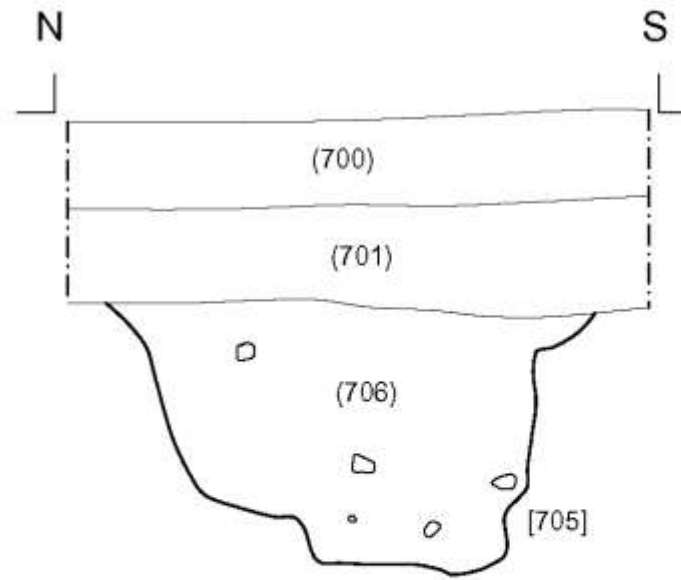


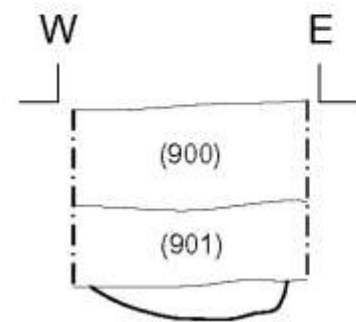
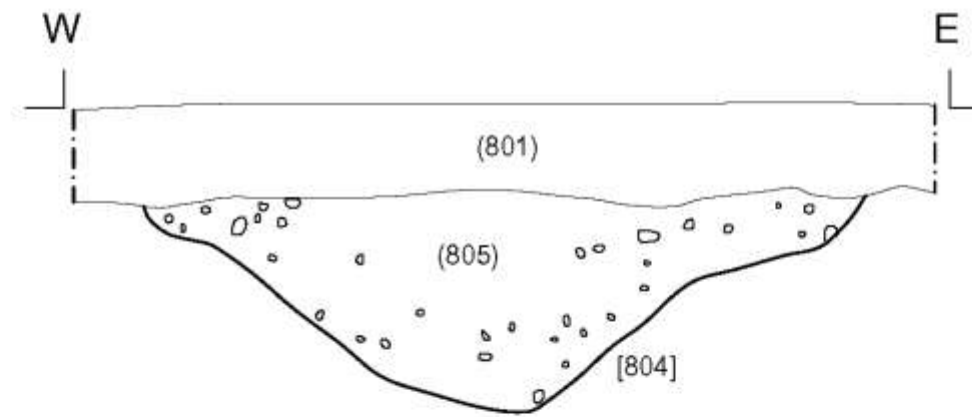
Figure 6: Section drawings (scale 1:20)



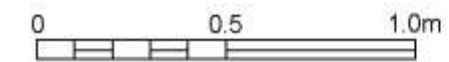
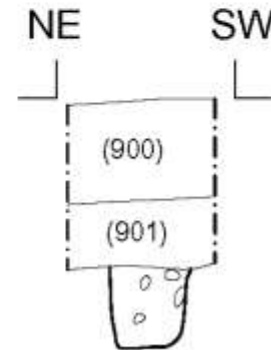
Trench 7

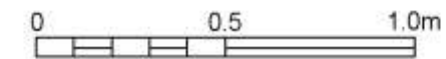
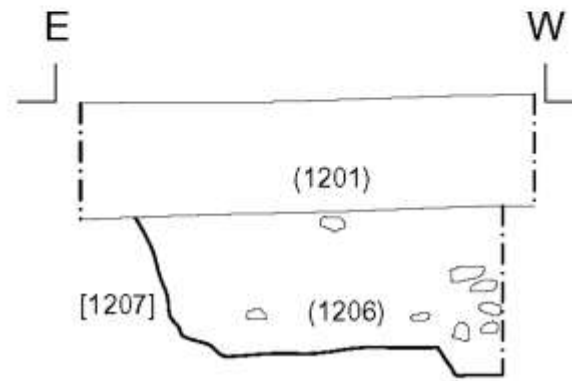
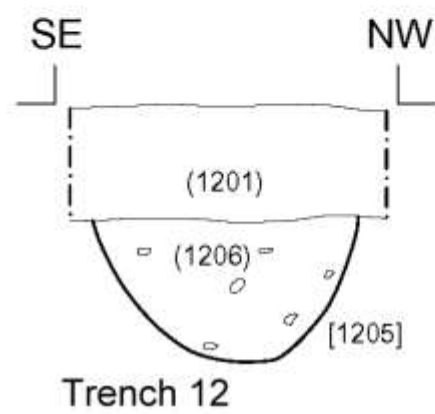
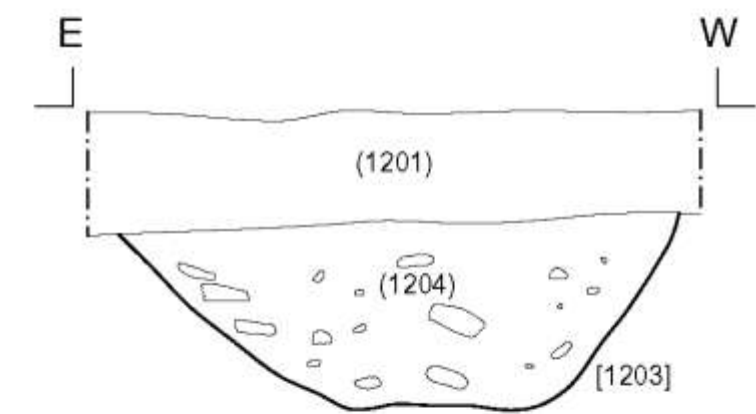
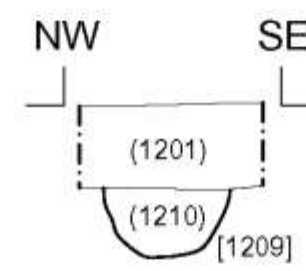
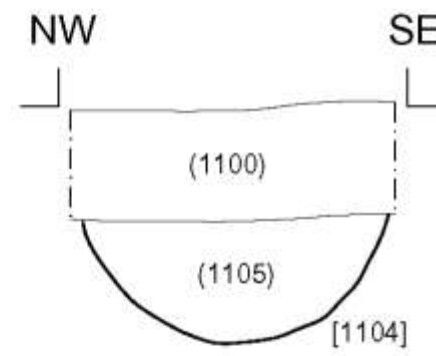
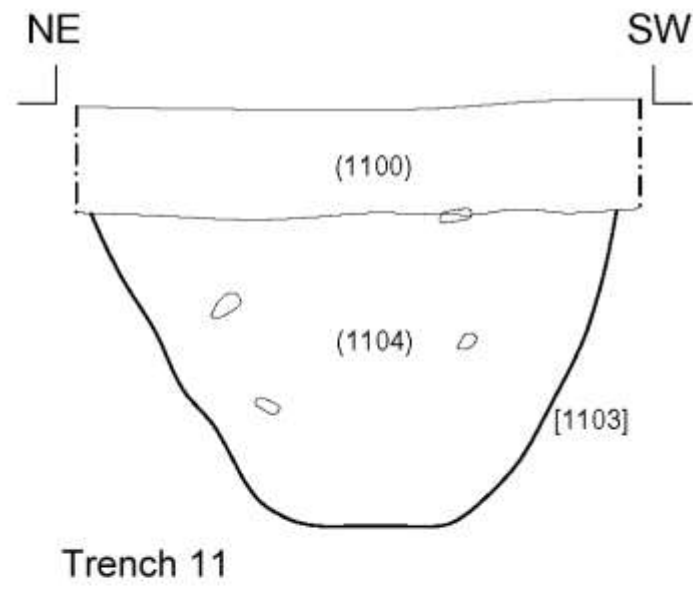
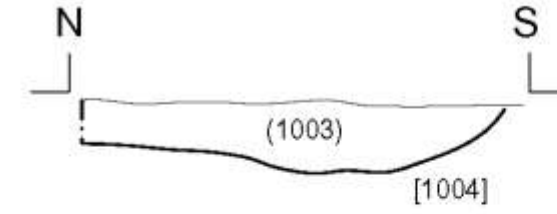
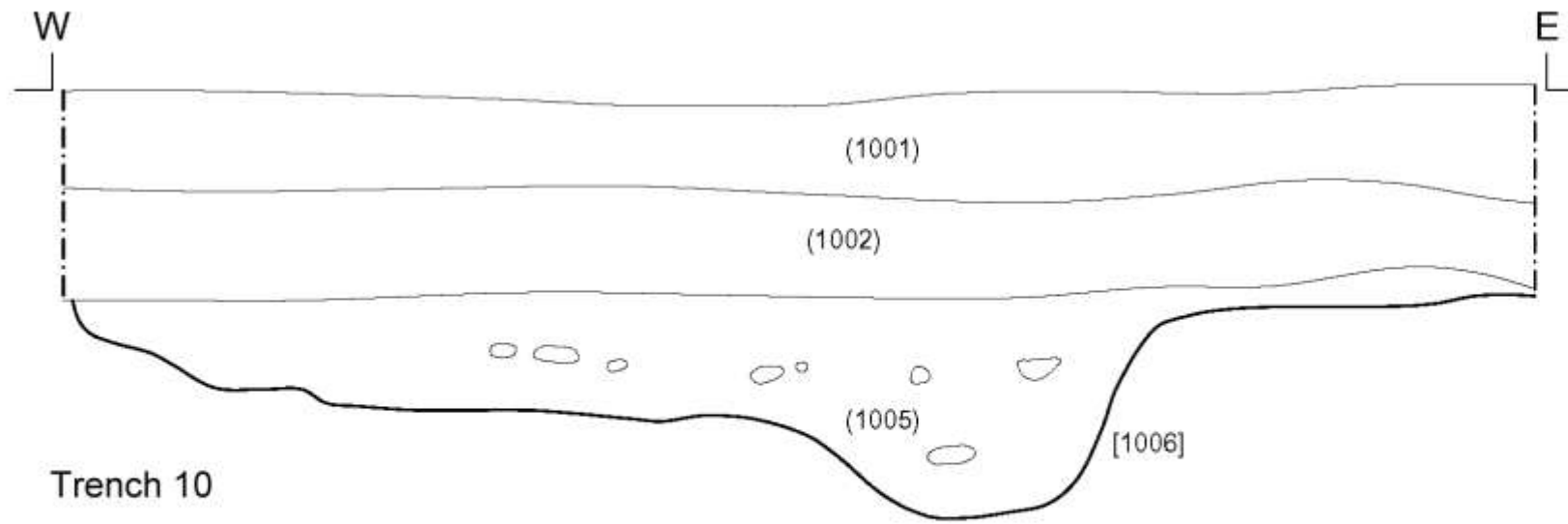


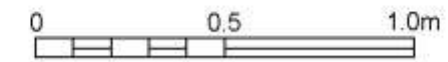
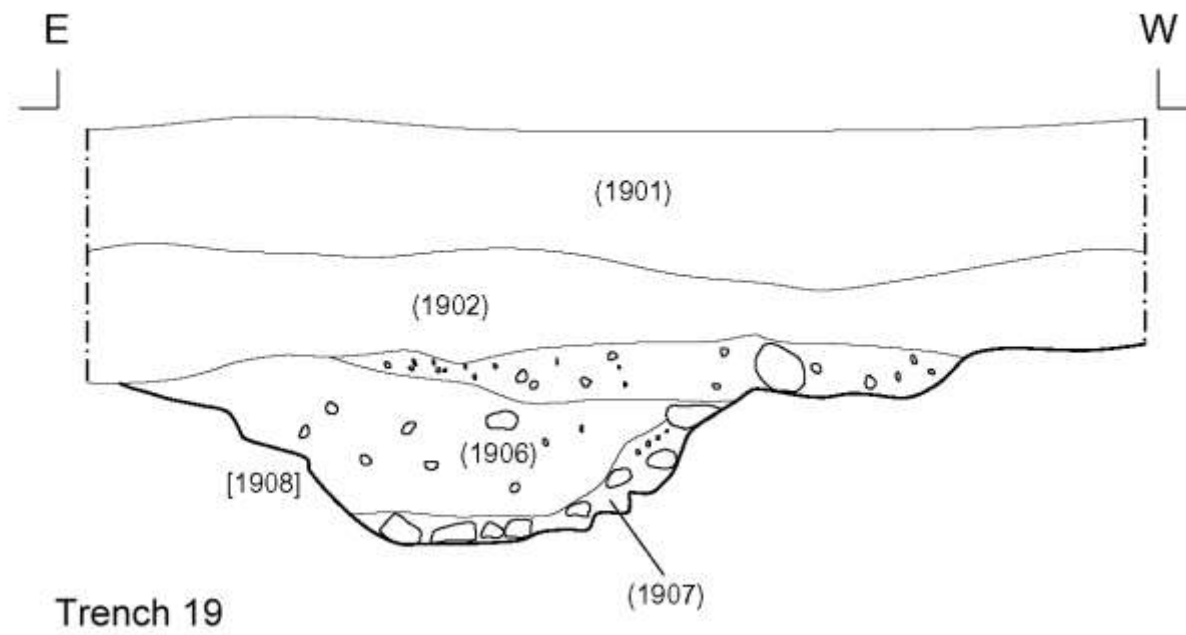
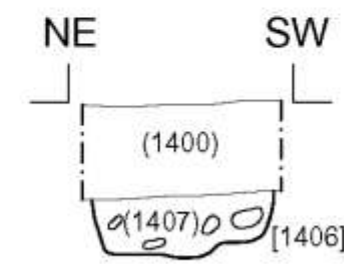
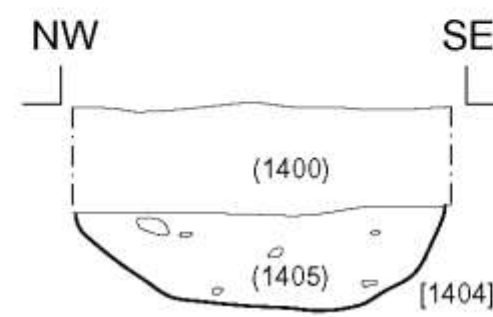
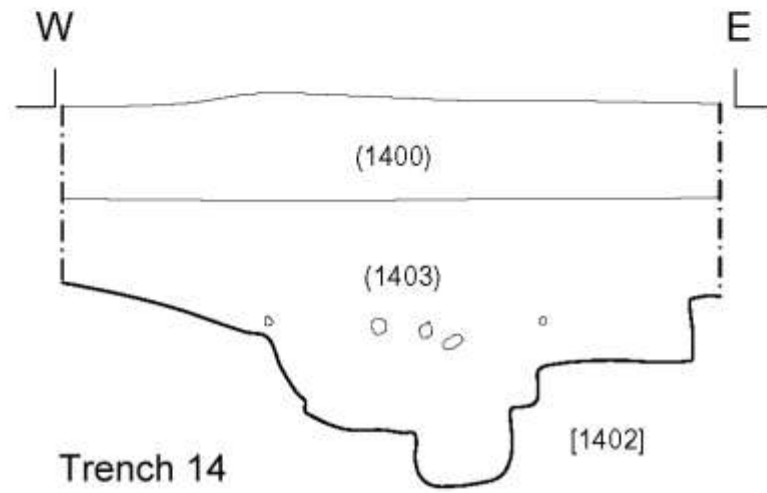
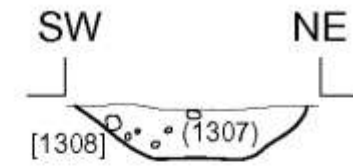
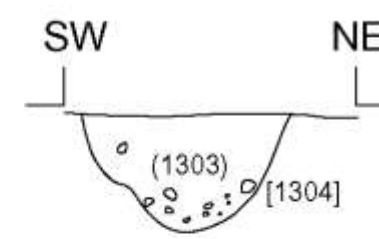
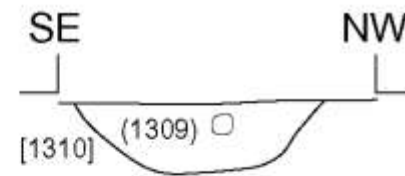
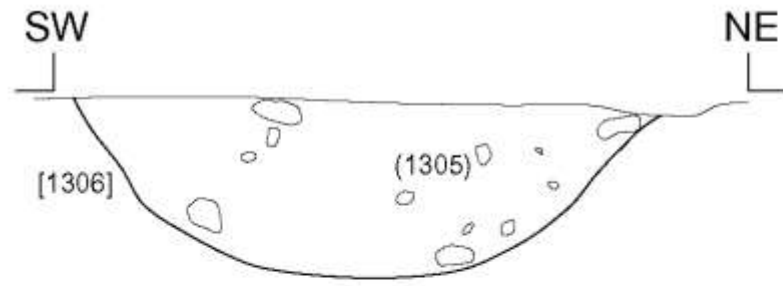
Trench 8



Trench 9







5. Conclusions

- 5.1 The Radcliffe School site lies in an area of considerable known archaeology. As a result of the geophysical survey producing anomalies consistent with that expected for archaeology, a second phase of work was required by the Milton Keynes Archaeology Officer, namely evaluation by trial trench. Being a school playing field it is likely that the northern evaluation area will have been truncated and landscaped to obtain a level surface, whilst the southern area seems to have retained much of its original character or even been dumped upon, accounting for the extreme depths of overburden seen in several of the trenches.
- 5.2 Previous work undertaken in the area during the 1970's and 80's has clearly demonstrated that a significant amount of Prehistoric, Roman and Saxon occupation and ritual activity was taking place within 1km of the Radcliffe School site. Most of this archaeology lies to the south and west of the school. Excavations immediately to the west of Radcliffe School at Wolverton Mill Training College identified probable Bronze Age and early to late Saxon occupation.
- 5.3 From the available evidence it seems likely that the Radcliffe School site was under agricultural cultivation during the Medieval and Post Medieval periods probably until the school was built in the 20th century, so if occupation other than agricultural ditches were to be found on the site it would most likely be Saxon or earlier.
- 5.4 The archaeology revealed in Area 1 was very much in line with that predicted by the geophysical survey, namely a number of ditches and possible pits. Due to the disturbed nature of the underlying limestone many of the possible pits shown on the geophysical survey seem to be natural solution hollows filled with a fine, red silty clay. Several of the ditches have been dated by pottery recovered from their fills to the late 1st and mid/late 2nd century AD. The layout of these ditches suggests that they are field boundary ditches with the possible exception of two sets of parallel ditches, seen in Trenches 11 and 13, and Trenches 1, 7 and 8. These ditches are interpreted as possible drainage ditches running alongside trackways. Towards the southern and eastern boundaries of Area 1 the quantity of archaeology declines possibly indicating the limit to the surviving archaeology.
- 5.5 The only feature dated to any period other than the 1st - 2nd centuries AD is Pit 1207 from which four sherds of early Saxon pot were recovered. Whilst a single feature does not necessarily indicate that there is a Saxon site at Radcliffe it is possible that further features from this period may be found when a larger area is opened.
- 5.6 Towards the southern and eastern boundaries of Area 1 the quantity of archaeology declines possibly indicating the limit to the surviving archaeology.
- 5.7 Whilst Area 2 generally seems to have a lower density of archaeology than Area 1, the crouched burial in Pit 2406 is of prehistoric date and potential represents a very significant find. These burials are often associated with Bronze Age burial mounds (barrows) such as those at Moon Street School and Warren Farm. It is very common that agriculture and erosion have subsequently levelled barrows, leaving only their

surrounding ditch and primary burial which would have been cut into the existing land surface. Though no curving ditch was identified, it is possible that stripping a larger area may bring to light such a ditch. Within Trench 21 a number of possible ditches were identified including two parallel unexcavated features which may define another trackway like those seen in Area 1.

- 5.8 Overall the evaluation has revealed archaeology ranging in date from the Bronze Age to the early Saxon period, concentrating mainly on the Roman period in Area 1, and a possible prehistoric Bronze Age site in Area 2. Combined with the previous excavations in the surrounding area it would seem that this area to the immediate west of Wolverton has a long and rich history.
- 5.9 Future work in Area 1 is likely to produce additional evidence of a Roman field system and associated trackways, whilst additional work in the relatively undisturbed southern area may well produce evidence for a Bronze Age burial mound and additional linear features of undefined date.

Confidence Rating

Whilst a generally high confidence rating can be applied to all the features containing finds, the disturbed nature of the natural leads to a certain degree of uncertainty. Only when larger areas are stripped and the full extent of the silty clay pockets seen will it be possible to confirm if they are all naturally formed. It is therefore possible but unlikely that the results of the evaluation have underestimated the quantity of archaeology present.

6. Acknowledgements

The writer is grateful to Rob White of NJL Consulting acting on the auspice of Milton Keynes Council and Radcliffe School for commissioning ASC to undertake the evaluation. We would also like to thank Nick Crank the Milton Keynes AA for his help in facilitating the project and monitoring the fieldwork. A very special thank you must go to Paul Humphries the Radcliffe School site manager for his assistance during and after the evaluation. The project was managed for ASC by Bob Zeepvat and the field work was carried out by Alastair Hancock and Nigel Wilson assisted by other members of staff. The JCB was supplied by Hewden Hire.

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. Sample records
9. Site record drawings
10. List of photographs
11. B/W prints & negatives
12. Original specialist reports and supporting information
13. CDROM with copies of all digital files.

7.2 The archive will be deposited with Buckinghamshire County Museum (Accession No. 2007.72).

8. References


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Appendix 1: Trench Summary Tables


Trench 1						
	Max Dimensions (m)					
	Length	26.5	Width	1.60	Depth	0.6
	Levels					
	Trench top east			77.27m OD		
	Trench top west			77.12m OD		
	NGR Co-ordinates					
	E	SP 80408 40986		W	SP 80383 40980	
	Orientation			E-W		
	Reason for Trench			Targeted pattern		
	Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Max Width (m)	Max Thckn (mm)	Depth BGL (mm)
101	Deposit	Topsoil	26.5x1.6	300	0-300	
102	Deposit	Light orange brown subsoil	26.5x1.6	0.2	300-500	
103	Deposit	Natural limestone brash	26.5x1.6	-	>500	
104	Cut	Ditch terminus?	1.0	300	500-800	
105	Deposit	Fill of possible ditch terminus. Mid orange brown silty clay				
106	Cut	Ditch	1.35	400	500-900	
107	Deposit	Fill of Ditch 106. Mid yellowish brown silty clay				
108	Cut	Tree throw hole	0.8	140	500-640	
109	Deposit	Fill of tree throw				


Trench 2						
	Max Dimensions (m)					
	Length	57.0	Width	1.60	Depth	0.6
	Levels					
	Trench top north			77.92m OD		
	Trench top south			77.27m OD		
	NGR Co-ordinates					
	N	SP 80387 40976		S	SP 80391 40918	
	Orientation			N-S		
	Reason for Trench			Targeted pattern		
	Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Max Width (m)	Max Thckn (mm)	Depth BGL(mm)
201	Deposit	Topsoil	57.0x1.6	300	0-300	
202	Deposit	Orange brown subsoil	57.0x1.6	120	300-420	
203	Deposit	Natural limestone brash	57.0x1.6	-	>420	
204	Cut	Ditch	1.4	470	420-890	
205	Deposit	Fill of ditch 204				
206	Cut	Tree throw	3.4	270	420-690	
207	Deposit	Fill of Tree throw 206. Mid orange brown silty clay				
208	Cut	Ditch	1.3	330	420-750	
209	Deposit	Fill of Ditch 208. Light yellowish brown silty clay				


Trench 3						
	Max Dimensions (m)					
	Length	23.8	Width	1.6	Depth	0.35
	Levels					
	Trench top north		78.03m OD			
	Trench top south		77.57m OD			
	NGR Co-ordinates					
	N	SP 80470 40982	S	SP 80452 40969		
	Orientation		N-S			
	Reason for Trench		Targeted pattern			
	Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Max Width (m)	Max Thckn (mm)	Depth BGL(mm)
301	Deposit	Topsoil	23.8x1.6	350	0-350	
302	Deposit	Natural limestone brash, few pockets of fine orange silty clay	23.8x1.63	-	>350	
303	Cut	Ditch	0.9	160	350-510	
304	Deposit	Fill of Ditch 303. Pale yellowish brown silty clay				
305	Cut	Ditch	0.9	300	350-650	
306	Deposit	Fill of Ditch 305. Mid orange brown silty clay				


Trench 4						
	Max Dimensions (m)					
	Length	13.4	Width	1.6	Depth	0.35
	Levels					
	Trench top east		77.63m OD			
	Trench top west		77.64m OD			
	NGR Co-ordinates					
	E	SP 80466 40989	W	SP 80453 40988		
	Orientation		E-W			
	Reason for Trench		Targeted pattern			
	Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Max Width (m)	Max Thckn (mm)	Depth BGL(mm)
400	Deposit	Topsoil	13.4x1.6	250	0-250	
401	Deposit	Limestone	-	-	>250	
402	Cut	Modern extends over most of the trench. Very dark fill	12x1.6	-	>250	


Trench 5						
	Max Dimensions (m)					
	Length	49.8	Width	1.6	Depth	0.35
	Levels					
	Trench top north			78.75m OD		
	Trench top south			77.91m OD		
	NGR Co-ordinates					
	N	SP 80470 40982		S	SP 80478 40933	
	Orientation			N-S		
	Reason for Trench			Targeted pattern		
	Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Max Width (m)	Max Thckn (mm)	Depth BGL(mm)
500	Deposit	Topsoil	49.8x1.6	350	0-350	
501	Deposit	Limestone brash with pockets of orange silty clay	49.8x1.6	-	>350	
502	Cut	Tree throw	1.2	300	350-650	
503	Deposit	Fill of Tree throw 502. Mid orange brown silty clay				
504	Cut	Tree throw	0.85	200	350-550	
505	Deposit	Fill of Tree throw 504. Mid orange brown silty clay				
506	Cut	Pit	0.75	400	350-750	
507	Deposit	Fill of Pit 506. Pale yellowish brown silty clay				


Trench 6						
	Max Dimensions (m)					
	Length	25.7	Width	1.6	Depth	0.45
	Levels					
	Trench top east			78.25m OD		
	Trench top west			78.04m OD		
	NGR Co-ordinates					
	E	SP 80468 404964		W	SP 80442 40959	
	Orientation			E-W		
	Reason for Trench			Targeted pattern		
	Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Max Width (m)	Max Thckn (mm)	Depth BGL (mm)
600	Deposit	Topsoil	25.7x1.6	300	0-300	
601	Deposit	Limestone brash with some pockets of orange silty clay	25.7x1.6	-	>300	
604	Cut	Tree throw	1.1	460	300-760	
605	Deposit	Fill of Tree throw 604. Dark orange brown silty clay				
606	Cut	Tree throw	0.8	140	300-440	
607	Deposit	Fill of Tree throw 606. Dark orange brown silty clay				


Trench 7						
	Max Dimensions (m)					
	Length	28.8	Width	1.6	Depth	0.6
	Levels					
	Trench top north			78.41m OD		
	Trench top south			79.00m OD		
	NGR Co-ordinates					
	N	SP 80438 40959		S	SP 80440 40931	
	Orientation			N-S		
	Reason for Trench			Targeted pattern		
	Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Max Width (m)	Max Thckn (mm)	Depth BGL(mm)
700	Deposit	Topsoil	28.8x1.6	300	0-300	
701	Deposit	Reddish brown silty clay subsoil	28.8x1.6	100	300-400	
702	Deposit	Limestone brash with pockets of orange silty clay	28.8x1.6	-	>400	
703	Cut	Ditch	0.9	350	400-750	
704	Deposit	Fill of Ditch 703. Yellowish brown sandy clay silt				
705	Natural feature		1.3	450	400-850	
706	Deposit	Fill of hollow 705. Reddish brown fine silty clay				
707	Natural feature		1.3	300	400-700	
708	Deposit	Fill of hollow 707. Reddish brown fine silty clay				


Trench 8						
	Max Dimensions (m)					
	Length	28.7	Width	1.6	Depth	0.45
	Levels					
	Trench top east			77.72m OD		
	Trench top west			77.30m OD		
	NGR Co-ordinates					
	E	SP 80427 40958		W	SP 80398 40954	
	Orientation			E-W		
	Reason for Trench			Targeted pattern		
	Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Max Width (m)	Max Thckn (mm)	Depth BGL(mm)
800	Deposit	Topsoil	28.7x1.6	250	0-250	
801	Deposit	Limestone brash with pockets of orange silty clay	28.7x1.6	-	>250	
802	Cut	Ditch	1.5	400	250-650	
803	Deposit	Fill of Ditch 802. Yellowish brown silty clay				
804	Cut	Ditch	1.2	450	250-700	
805	Deposit	Fill of Ditch 804. Yellowish brown silty clay				


Trench 9						
	Max Dimensions (m)					
	Length	25.8	Width	1.6	Depth	0.35E - 0.60W
	Levels					
	Trench top east			77.87m OD		
	Trench top west			77.51m OD		
	NGR Co-ordinates					
	E	SP 80446 40977		W	SP 80421 40973	
	Orientation			E-W		
Reason for Trench			Targeted pattern			
Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Max Width (m)	Max Thckn (mm)	Depth BGL(mm)	
900	Deposit	Topsoil	25.8x1.6	250	0-250	
901	Deposit	Reddish brown silty clay	25.8x1.6	100	250-350	
902	Deposit	Limestone brash	25.8x1.6	-	>350	


Trench 10						
	Max Dimensions (m)					
	Length	37.5	Width	1.6	Depth	0.5
	Levels					
	Trench top east			78.23m OD		
	Trench top west			77.72m OD		
	NGR Co-ordinates					
	E	SP 80432 40934		W	SP 80395 40926	
	Orientation			E-W		
Reason for Trench			Targeted pattern			
Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Max Width (m)	Max Thckn (mm)	Depth BGL(mm)	
1000	Deposit	Topsoil	37.5x1.6	300	0-300	
1001	Deposit	Orange silty clay subsoil	37.5x1.6	200	>300	
1002	Deposit	Limestone brash (increasing)	37.5x1.6	-	>300	
1003	Deposit	Fill of Pit 1004. Mid orange brown silty clay				
1004	Cut	Pit	1.2	200	300-500	
1005	Deposit	Fill of Pit 1006. Mid orange brown silty clay.				
1006	Cut	Pit	4.0	600	300-900	
1007	Deposit	Fill of unexcavated ditch. Mid grey brown silty clay	0.5			
1008	Deposit	Fill of unexcavated ditch. Mid orange brown	0.5			


Trench 11						
	Max Dimensions (m)					
	Length	25.6	Width	1.6	Depth	0.45
	Levels					
	Trench top north			78.08m OD		
	Trench top south			77.85m OD		
	NGR Co-ordinates					
	N	SP 80398 40922		S	SP 80399 40896	
	Orientation			N-S		
	Reason for Trench			Targeted pattern		
	Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Max Width (m)	Max Thckn (mm)	Depth BGL (mm)
1100	Deposit	Topsoil	25.6x1.6	250	0-250	
1101	Deposit	Reddish brown silty clay subsoil	25.6x1.6	200	250-450	
1102	Deposit	Limestone brash with pockets of orange silty clay	25.6x1.6	-	>450	
1103	Cut	Ditch	1.1	600	450-1010	
1104	Deposit	Fill of Ditch 1103. Yellowish brown silty clay				
1105	Cut	Ditch	0.65	200	450-650	
1106	Deposit	Fill of Ditch 1105. Dark yellowish brown silty clay				


Trench 12						
	Max Dimensions (m)					
	Length	29.4	Width	1.6	Depth	0.4
	Levels					
	Trench top east			78.61m OD		
	Trench top west			78.10m OD		
	NGR Co-ordinates					
	E	SP 80424 40895		W	SP 80395 40891	
	Orientation			E-W		
	Reason for Trench			Targeted pattern		
	Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Max Width (m)	Max Thckn (mm)	Depth BGL (mm)
1201	Deposit	Topsoil	29.4x1.6	300	0-300	
1202	Deposit	Limestone brash with very occasional pockets of orange silty clay	29.4x1.6	-	>300	
1203	Cut	Pit	1.25	300	300-600	
1204	Deposit	Fill of Pit 1203. Yellowish brown silty clay				
1205	Cut	Ditch	0.65	350	300-650	
1206	Deposit	Fill of Ditch 1205. Orange brown silty clay				
1207	Cut	Pit	2.50	350	300-650	
1208	Deposit	Fill of Pit 1207. Yellowish brown silty clay				
1209	Cut	Gully	0.35	200	300-500	
1210	Deposit	Fill of Gully 1209. Yellowish brown silty clay				


Trench 13						
	Max Dimensions (m)					
	Length	54.6	Width	1.6	Depth	0.35
	Levels					
	Trench top north			78.99m OD		
	Trench top south			78.12m OD		
	NGR Co-ordinates					
	N	SP 80420 40926		S	SP 80432 40873	
	Orientation			N-S		
	Reason for Trench			Targeted pattern		
	Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Max Width (m)	Max Thckn (mm)	Depth BGL (mm)
1301	Deposit	Topsoil	54.6x1.6	300	0-300	
1302	Deposit	Limestone brash, some pockets of orange silty clay	54.6x1.6	-	>300	
1303	Deposit	Fill of Ditch 1304. Mid grey brown silty clay				
1304	Cut	Ditch	0.35	450	300-750	
1305	Deposit	Fill of Ditch 1306. Mid grey brown silty clay				
1306	Cut	Ditch	1.50	500	300-800	
1307	Deposit	Fill of Ditch 1308. Mid orange brown silty clay				
1308	Cut	Ditch	0.65	180	300-480	
1309	Deposit	Fill of Ditch 1310. Mid grey brown silty clay				
1310	Cut	Ditch	0.7	200	300-500	
1311	Cut	Unexcavated ditch, surface finds of bone	3.5	-		


Trench 14						
	Max Dimensions (m)					
	Length	23.2	Width	1.6	Depth	0.45
	Levels					
	Trench top east			78.78m OD		
	Trench top west			78.64m OD		
	NGR Co-ordinates					
	E	SP 80455 40909		W	SP 80432 40905	
	Orientation			E-W		
	Reason for Trench			Targeted pattern		
	Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Max Width (m)	Max Thckn (mm)	Depth BGL (mm)
1400	Deposit	Topsoil	23.2x1.6	300	0-300	
1401	Deposit	Limestone brash, with pockets of orange silty clay	23.2x1.6	-	>300	
1402	Cut	Ditch	2.35	650	300-950	
1403	Deposit	Fill of Ditch 1402. Mid reddish brown silty clay				
1404	Cut	Ditch	0.85	150	300-450	
1405	Deposit	Fill of Ditch 1404. Mid grey brown silty clay				
1406	Natural	Tree throw	0.42	110	300-410	
1407	Deposit	Fill of Tree throw 1406. Mid orange brown silty clay				


Trench 15						
	Max Dimensions (m)					
	Length	24.6	Width	1.6	Depth	0.3
	Levels					
	Trench top north			78.86m OD		
	Trench top south			78.64m OD		
	NGR Co-ordinates					
	N	SP 80458 40938		S	SP 80462 40914	
	Orientation			N-S		
	Reason for Trench			Targeted pattern		
	Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Max Width (m)	Max Thckn (mm)	Depth BGL (mm)
1500	Deposit	Topsoil	24.6x1.6	250	0-250	
1501	Deposit	Limestone brash with pockets of orange silty clay	24.6x1.6	-	>250	
1502	Natural	Solution hollow	0.7	400	250-650	
1503	Deposit	Fill of Solution hollow 1502. Strong yellowish brown silty clay				


Trench 17						
	Max Dimensions (m)					
	Length	22.2	Width	1.6	Depth	0.3
	Levels					
	Trench top north			79.41m OD		
	Trench top south			79.23m OD		
	NGR Co-ordinates					
	N	SP 80478 40910		S	SP 80482 40888	
	Orientation			N-S		
	Reason for Trench			Targeted pattern		
Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Max Width (m)	Max Thckn (mm)	Depth BGL (mm)	
1700	Deposit	Topsoil	22.2x1.6	300	0-300	
1701	Deposit	Pale yellowish brown silty clay (head deposit)	22.2x1.6	-	>300	
1702	Natural	Solution hollow	1.4	500	300-800	
1703	Deposit	Fill of Solution hollow 1702. Reddish brown silty clay				
1704	Natural	Solution hollow	1.2	400	300-700	
1705	Deposit	Fill of Solution hollow 1704. Reddish brown silty clay				


Trench 18						
	Max Dimensions (m)					
	Length	23.0	Width	1.6	Depth	0.65
	Levels					
	Trench top east			79.23m OD		
	Trench top west			79.27m OD		
	NGR Co-ordinates					
	E	SP 80474 40892		W	SP 80452 40887	
	Orientation			E-W		
	Reason for Trench			Targeted pattern		
	Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Max Width (m)	Max Thckn (mm)	Depth BGL (mm)
1800	Deposit	Topsoil	23.0x1.6	350	0-350	
1801	Deposit	Yellowish brown silty clay (head deposit)	23.0x1.6	300	350-650	
1802		Very broken limestone brash at the west end of the trench	23.0x1.6	-	>650	
1803	Cut	Solution hollow/ root action	0.4	300	350-650	
1804	Deposit	Fillof Solution hollow 1803. Strong reddish brown silty clay				


Trench 19						
	Max Dimensions (m)					
	Length	22.3	Width	1.6	Depth	0.4
	Levels					
	Trench top east			79.19m OD		
	Trench top west			78.89m OD		
	NGR Co-ordinates					
	E	SP 80446 40874		W	SP 80425 40869	
	Orientation			E-W		
	Reason for Trench			Targeted pattern		
	Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Max Width (m)	Max Thckn (mm)	Depth BGL (mm)
1900	Deposit	Topsoil	22.3x1.6	300	0-300	
1901	Deposit	Reddish brown silty clay subsoil	22.3x1.6	50	300-350	
1902	Deposit	Limestone brash	22.3x1.6	-	>350	
1903	Deposit	Fill of Tree throw 1904. Mid orange brown silty clay				
1904	Natural	Tree throw	2.4	250	350-600	
1905	Deposit	Upper fill of Ditch 1907. mid orange brown sandy clay silt				
1906	Deposit	Lower fill of Ditch 1907. Dark greyish brown silty clay				
1907	Deposit	Primary fill of Ditch 1908				
1908	Cut	Ditch	2.4	500	350-850	

Trench 20						
	Max Dimensions (m)					
	Length	23.4	Width	1.6	Depth	0.4
	Levels					
	Trench top north			78.89m OD		
	Trench top south			78.38m OD		
	NGR Co-ordinates					
	N	SP 80406 40884		S	SP 80413 40861	
	Orientation			N-S		
	Reason for Trench			Targeted pattern		
	Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Max Width (m)	Max Thckn (mm)	Depth BGL (mm)
2000	Deposit	Topsoil	23.4x1.6	300	0-300	
2001	Deposit	Limestone brash with occasional pockets of orange silty clay	23.4x1.6	-	>300	

Trench 21						
	Max Dimensions (m)					
	Length	25.7	Width	1.6	Depth	0.6NE- 1.1SW
	Levels					
	Trench top north east			88.99m OD		
	Trench top south west			89.12m OD		
	NGR Co-ordinates					
	NE	SP 80851 40548		SW	SP 80837 40527	
	Orientation			NE-SW		
	Reason for Trench			Targeted pattern		
	Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Max Width (m)	Max Thckn (mm)	Depth BGL(mm)
2101	Deposit	Topsoil	25.7x1.6	500	0-500	
2102	Deposit	Subsoil	25.7x1.6	200	500-700	
2103	Deposit	Fill of Natural feature 2104				
2104	Natural	Solution or root hole	0.4			
2105	Deposit	Fill of Posthole 2106				
2106	Cut	Posthole	0.3			
2107	Deposit	Fill of Ditch 2108. Mid reddish brown sandy silt				
2108	Cut	Ditch	3.0			
2109	Deposit	Fill of natural feature 2110. Dark reddish brown silty sand				
2110	Natural	Root or solution hollow	0.5			
2111	Deposit	Fill of natural feature 2112. Dark reddish brown silty sand				
2112	Natural	Root or solution hollow	0.5			

Trench 22						
	Max Dimensions (m)					
	Length	23.4	Width	1.6	Depth	1.1NW- 0.3SE
	Levels					
	Trench top north west			89.06m OD		
	Trench top south			88.12m OD		
	NGR Co-ordinates					
	NW	SP 80818/40502		SE	SP 80838/40489	
	Orientation			NW-SE		
	Reason for Trench			Targeted pattern		
	Context	Type	Description and Interpretation		Max Width (m)	Max Thckn (mm)
2201	Deposit	Topsoil		23.4x1.6	300	0-300
2202	Deposit	Natural		23.4x1.6	750	300-1050
2203	Deposit	Fill of Natural feature 2204. mid yellowish brown sandy silt				
2204	Natural	Root or Solution hollow		3.9		
2205	Deposit	Fill of Natural feature 2206. mid reddish brown Clayey silt				
2206	Natural	Root or Solution hollow		0.5		
2207	Deposit	Fill of Natural feature 2208. mid reddish brown Clayey silt				
2208	Natural?	Shallow linear feature unclear if natural or cut		0.6		
2209	Deposit	Fill of Natural feature 2208. Clean mid reddish brown Clayey silt				
2210	Natural?	Sub oval cut probably natural		2.8		

Trench 23						
	Max Dimensions (m)					
	Length	46.4	Width	1.6	Depth	0.4
	Levels					
	Trench top north west			88.36m OD		
	Trench top south east			87.61m OD		
	NGR Co-ordinates					
	NW	SP 80854/40511		SE	SP 80892/40484	
	Orientation			NW-SE		
	Reason for Trench			Targeted pattern		
	Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Max Width (m)	Max Thckn (mm)	Depth BGL(mm)
2301	Deposit	Topsoil	46.4x1.6	300	0-300	
2302	Deposit	Natural	46.4x1.6	>300	>300	
2303	Deposit	Fill of Natural feature 2304, very clean				
2304	Natural	Root hole or Solution hollow	2.0			
2305	Deposit	Fill of Tree throw 2306. Mid reddish brown clayey silt				
2306	Natural	Tree throw	2.0			
2307	Deposit	Fill of Natural feature 2308. Mid reddish brown clayey silt				
2308	Natural	Root hole or Solution hollow	2.0			

Trench 24						
	Max Dimensions (m)					
	Length	25.0	Width	1.6	Depth	0.3
	Levels					
	Trench top north east			87.44m OD		
	Trench top south west			87.25m OD		
	NGR Co-ordinates					
	NE	SP 80876/40481		SW	SP 80861/40462	
	Orientation			NE-SW		
	Reason for Trench			Targeted pattern		
	Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Max Width (m)	Max Thckn (mm)	Depth BGL(mm)
2401	Deposit	Topsoil	25.0x1.6	400	0-400	
2402	Deposit	Yellowish brown sands and gravels, natural	25.0x1.6	-	>400	
2403	Deposit	Fill of Natural feature 2404. Mid reddish brown sandy silt				
2404	Natural	Root hole or Solution hollow	0.6			
2405	Deposit	Fill of Grave 2406. Mid brown clayey silt				
2406	Cut	Grave containing a crouched burial	1.0			
2407	Deposit	Fill of Natural feature 2408. Mid reddish brown clayey silt.				
2408	Natural	Root hole or Solution hollow	1.0			

Appendix 2: Finds Concordance

Context	Pottery		Bone		C.B.M.		Other	Description
	Count	Weight	Count	Weight	Count	Weight		
105					Daub	536g		
704	8	94g	4	85g				
803	13	75g	7	35g				
805	16	254g	1	14g	Daub	328g		
1003	36	392g						
1005	1	21g	6	335g	Daub	138g		
1106	2	49g	1	10g				
1205	2	19g	25	211g				
1207	4	35g	3	157g				
1305					Tile	149g		
1309	1	20g						
1311			9	108g				
1405	7	47g	1	9g	Daub	36g		
1906	22	446g						
24							Human Bone	Feet only
Unstrat								
Tr 10	2	52g						
Tr 24	1	10g						

Appendix 3: List of Photographs

Shot	B&W	Digital	View	Subject
1	√	√	W	Trench 1
2	√	√	SSE	Ditch 104
3	√	√	NNW	Ditch 106
4	√	√	N	Tree throw 108
5	√	√	S	Section Trench 1
6	√	√	S	Trench 2
7	√	√	W	Section 2
8	√	√	WNW	Ditch 204
9	√	√	S	Tree throw 206
10	√	√	NE	Ditch 208
11	√	√	W	Trench 9
12	√	√	N	Section Trench 9
13	√	√	W	Trench 8
14	√	√	NW	Ditch 802
15	√	√	NW	Ditch 804
16	√	√	S	Trench 3
17	√	√	W	Section Trench 3
18	√	√	SE	Ditch 303
19	√	√	W	Ditch terminus 305
20	√	√	W	Trench 4
21	√	√	S	Feature 1904
22	√	√	S	Ditch 1908
23	√	√	W	Trench 6
24	√	√	S	Section Trench 6
25	√	√	E	Tree throw 606
26	√	√	SE	Tree throw 604
27	√	√	S	Trench 7
28	√	√	SE	Ditch 703
29	√	√	SE	Natural feature 705
30	√	√	SE	Natural feature 707
31	√	√	W	Trench 18
32	√	√	S	Ditch 1308
33	√	√	S	Ditch 1306
34	√	√	S	Trench 15
35	√	√	E	Cut 1502
36	√	√	S	Trench 17
37	√	√	S	Trench 13
38	√	√	N	Trench 5
39	√	√	WNW	Tree throw 502
40	√	√	NE	Tree throw 504
41	√	√	S	Pit 506
42	√	√	W	Ditch 1310
43	√	√	E	Trench 14
44	√	√	N	Ditch 1402
45	√	√	NE	Ditch 1404
46	√	√	WNW	Ditch 1406
47	√	√		Pit 1004
48	√	√		Pit 1006

49	√	√	W	Trench 12
50	√	√	S	Pit 1203
51	√	√	S	Ditch 1205
52	√	√	S	Pit 1207
53	√	√	SE	Ditch 1209
54	√	√	S	Trench 11
55	√	√	NW	Ditch 1103
56	√	√	SW	Ditch 1105
57	√	√	S	Trench 20
58	√	√	W	Trench 19
59	√	√	S	Trench 17
60	√	√	E	Natural feature 1702
61	√	√	W	Natural feature 1704
62	√	√	W	Natural feature 1802
63	√	√	W	Trench 10
64	√	√		Cut 2104
65	√	√		Cut 2106
66	√	√		Cut 2108
67	√	√		Cuts 2110 & 2112
68	√	√		Cut 2204
69	√	√		Cut 2206
70	√	√		Cut 2208
71	√	√		Cut 2210
72	√	√		Cut 2304
73	√	√		Cut 2306
74	√	√		Cut 2308
75	√	√		Cut 2404
76	√	√		Grave cut 2406
77	√	√		Grave cut 2406

Appendix 4: The Roman Pottery

By A. R. Fawcett

This report primarily provides dating evidence for each context that contained pottery from the evaluation work at Radcliffe School, Milton Keynes. Dating is based (where applicable) upon both the identification of fabric and form. Thereafter the report contains a brief summary of the results of analysis.

The assemblage from each context was given a brief examination and subjected to basic quantification (a sherd count and weight per context). No attempt at detailed fabric description or comparison with material of a similar nature has been undertaken. A date range is provided for each fill and where appropriate comments are made as to the condition of the pottery. Other data, such as obvious fabrics and form types, are also included for each context (the keys for these are listed below).

Discussion

A total of 169 sherds with weight of 1873g were recovered from the evaluation. The condition of the pottery is good with most only displaying slight signs of abrasion. Equally the diagnostic element of the assemblage is also decent with a number of easily identified forms being present. These include channel rim jars, a reed rim bowl and a Drg27 cup.

With the exception of one context, this collection of pottery sits firmly between the late 1st and mid/late 2nd century AD; this is clearly demonstrated through the form assemblage alone.

The single context that does not represent this period is 1207; this contains four sherds of organic tempered pottery. Although not diagnostic, a combination of fabric analysis and examination of the decoration (impressed designs) indicates an early Saxon date for this fill.

At this stage it is not possible to give any interpretation as to what the ceramics represent in terms of function, status or economy. Nevertheless, the condition and the narrow date range imply that further excavation may reveal additional quality assemblages.

Fabric Key

LGF SA La Graufesenque samian ware
LEZ SA 2 = Lezoux samian ware category 2
UNS OX Unsourced oxidised ware
BSW Black surfaced/Romanising grey ware
GRS Unsourced sandy grey wares
VER WH Verulamium white ware
UNS WH Unsourced white ware
UNS SH Unsourced shell tempered wares
SOB GT Southern British grog tempered ware
UNS SO Unsourced organic tempered ware

Trench 10 U/S Early to later 2nd century AD

LEZ SA 2	2	48g	ND, sli
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Trench 24 U/S Roman

UNS OX	1	7g	ND, abr
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205 Late 1st to mid/late 2nd century AD UNS SH, BSW	46	400g	G channel rim sli
703 Late 1st to mid/late 2nd century AD VER WH, BSW	8	91g	G, C reed rim sli
803 Roman (looks 2nd century AD) BSW, GRS	13	72g	G sli
805 Late 1st to mid/late 2nd century AD BSW, GRS	22	255g	G channel rim sli
1003 Late 1st to mid/late 2nd century AD UNS SH, BSW, LEZ SA 2 39	393g		G channel rim sli
1106 Mid/late 1st to mid/late 2nd century AD VER WH, UNS SA	2	49g	Mortaria base sherds, ?bowl sli
1205 LIA to c AD70 SOB GT	2	16g	ND, sli
1207 Early Saxon UNS SO	4	33g	ND, sli (decoration, clear organics present)
1309 Mid/late 1st to mid/late 2nd century AD UNS SH	1	19g	G channel rim sli
1405 Late 1st to later 2nd century AD BSW, UNS WH, GRS	7	44g	G lid seated sli
1906 Mid 1st to early 2nd century AD LGF SA, BSW, GRS, UNS WH	22	446g	Drg27(stamped), Drg18 or 18/31, C sli

Appendix 5: ASC OASIS Form

PROJECT DETAILS			
Project Name:	Radcliffe School, Wolverton, Milton Keynes		
Short Description:	<p><i>During May 2007, an archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Radcliffe School, Wolverton, in advance of development. Earlier geophysics work on the site had identified a number of magnetic anomalies interpreted as ditches and pits. Based on the results of the geophysics, two areas were trenched. Nineteen trenches were opened to the north of the school on the playing field and four in a field to the south of the school.</i></p> <p><i>Within the northern area a number of linear features interpreted as Roman field boundary ditches. Two pairs of parallel ditches orientated SE-NW were interpreted as trackside ditches. A number of small Roman pits were also identified in this area. The only non Roman feature identified was a small pit from which a number of sherds of early Saxon pottery were recovered.</i></p> <p><i>In the southern area there was generally less archaeology. However a crouched burial was uncovered in one of the trenches. Though no material to date the burial was found, this type of burial is generally associated with the prehistoric period and the Bronze Age in particular. It is possible that the burial was under a barrow mound, though no evidence for such a mound or surrounding ditch was seen during the evaluation.</i></p>		
Project Type: (indicate all that apply)	Trial Trenching		
Site status: (eg. none, SAM, Listed)	none	Previous work: (eg. SMR refs)	Geophysical Survey
Current land use:	School play field (area 1) Overgrown allotment (area 2)	Future work: (yes / no / unknown)	Yes
Monument type:	Ditches And pits	Monument period:	Roman,
Significant finds: (artefact type & period)	Pottery, Roman		
PROJECT LOCATION			
County:	Milton Keynes	OS reference: (8 figs min)	
Site address: (with postcode if known)	Radcliffe School Wolverton		
Study area: (sq. m. or ha)	13.5ha	Height OD: (metres)	88m
PROJECT CREATORS			
Organisation:	Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd		
Project brief originator:	n/a	Project design originator:	ASC Ltd
Project Manager:	Bob Zeepvat	Director/Supervisor:	Nigel Wilson
Sponsor / funding body:	Milton Keynes Council & Radcliffe School		
PROJECT DATE			
Start date:	May 2007	End date:	May 2007

PROJECT ARCHIVES			
	Location (2007.72)	Content (eg. pottery, animal bone, files/sheets)	
Physical:	Buckinghamshire County Museum	Pottery	
Paper:	Buckinghamshire County Museum	Site records	
Digital:	Buckinghamshire County Museum	Digital images, report	
BIBLIOGRAPHY (Journal/monograph, published or forthcoming, or unpublished client report)			
Title:	Archaeological Evaluation: Radcliffe School, Wolverton, Milton Keynes		
Serial title & volume:	Unpublished client report (ASC:906/WRS/2)		
Author(s):	Nigel Wilson		
Page nos	n/a	Date:	4 th June 2007