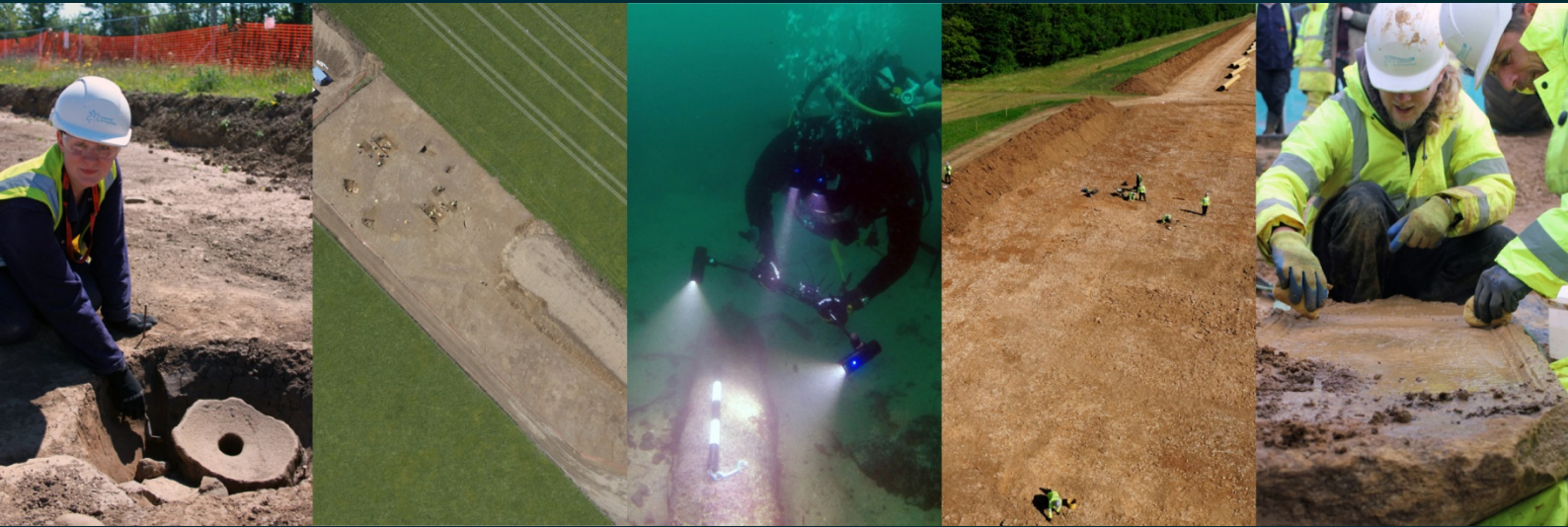


**Land at Lurke Street and St Cuthbert's Street  
Bedford  
Bedfordshire**  
*Archaeological Evaluation*



*for*  
Archaeology Collective  
*on behalf of*  
Benross Construction Ltd.

CA Project: 660912  
CA Report: 17293

June 2017



# Land at Lurke Street and St Cuthbert's Street Bedford Bedfordshire

## Archaeological Evaluation

CA Project: 660912  
CA Report: 17293



Document Control Grid						
Revision	Date	Author	Checked by	Status	Reasons for revision	Approved by
A	23/05/17	RSB	SLC	Internal review	QA	SRJ
B	13/06/2017			External review	Consultant review	SRJ/JA
C	21/06/2017			External review	Borough Archaeologist Review	SRJ/JA
D				Issue		SRJ/JA

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## CONTENTS

SUMMARY .....	3
1. INTRODUCTION.....	5
2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND.....	6
3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES.....	11
4. METHODOLOGY .....	12
5. RESULTS (FIGS 2–14) .....	14
6. THE FINDS .....	17
7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE .....	18
8. DISCUSSION.....	20
9. PROJECT TEAM .....	23
10. REFERENCES.....	24
APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS .....	26
APPENDIX B: THE FINDS.....	29
APPENDIX C: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE.....	30
APPENDIX D: LEVELS OF PRINCIPAL DEPOSITS AND STRUCTURES .....	32
APPENDIX E: OASIS REPORT FORM.....	33

## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

- Fig. 1 Site location plan (1:25,000)
- Fig. 2 Plot A trench location plan, showing archaeological features and location of geotechnical investigations (1:200 & 1:100)
- Fig. 3 Trench 1: section and photographs (1:20)
- Fig. 4 Trench 2: section and photograph (1:20)
- Fig. 5 Trench 2, brickwork, looking north-east (photograph)
- Fig. 6 Trench 3, looking south (photograph)
- Fig. 7 Trench 3, looking south-east (photograph)
- Fig. 8 Trench 3, looking north (photograph)
- Fig. 9 Plot B trench location plan, showing archaeological features and geotechnical investigations (1:200)
- Fig. 10 Plot B pre-excavation, looking south-west (photograph)
- Fig. 11 Trench 4a, looking north (photograph)

Fig. 12 Trench 4b, looking west (photograph)

Fig.13 Trench 5a, looking west (photograph)

Fig.14 Trench 5b: section and photograph (1:20)

Fig. 15 Model of archaeological sensitivity (1:500)



## SUMMARY

<b>Project Name:</b>	Land at Lurke Street and St Cuthbert's Street
<b>Location:</b>	Bedford, Bedfordshire
<b>NGR:</b>	505171 250008 (Plot A) and 505268 250019 (Plot B)
<b>Type:</b>	Evaluation
<b>Date:</b>	15th to 19th May 2017
<b>Planning Reference:</b>	Bedford Borough Council 15/02315/MAF
<b>Location of Archive:</b>	To be deposited with Higgins Art Gallery and Museum, Bedford
<b>Accession Number:</b>	BEDFM 2017.36
<b>Site Code:</b>	LLSC 17

Archaeology Collective, on behalf of the client, Benross Construction Ltd, commissioned Cotswold Archaeology to carry out an archaeological evaluation in May 2017 of land at Lurke Street and St Cuthbert's Street, Bedford, Bedfordshire. The evaluation was undertaken to provide initial archaeological information in relation to an archaeological planning condition attached to the planning consent for the demolition of boundary walls and the construction of a 5-storey and a 3-storey building at the site. The fieldwork comprised the excavation of seven trenches.

The work was managed by Archaeology Collective on behalf of the client.

Archaeological interest in the site is derived from its location within the historic core of Bedford and its proximity to the postulated alignment of the northern section of the Saxon Burgh defences.

The evaluation has revealed a sequence of deposits and structures dating from the Iron Age, medieval, post-medieval and modern uses of the site. An isolated Iron Age pit was identified within the western part of the site. The evaluation also revealed the well preserved remains of a large medieval ditch which follows the postulated alignment of the northern defensive ditch of the Saxon Burgh, as well as localised post-medieval quarrying.



The archaeological works have also successfully characterised the development of the site from the mid-19th to early 20th centuries, and have identified evidence of the structures depicted on 19th-century cartographic sources.



## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In May 2017, Cotswold Archaeology (CA), the archaeological contractors, carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at Lurke Street and St Cuthbert's Street, Bedford, Bedfordshire (centred on NGR: 505171 250008 (Plot A) and 505268 250019 (Plot B); Fig. 1). The evaluation was commissioned and managed by Archaeology Collective (AC), the archaeological consultants, on behalf of Benross Construction Ltd.
- 1.2 The evaluation was undertaken in order to provide initial archaeological information in relation to an archaeological planning condition attached to planning permission granted by Bedford Borough Council (BBC; the Local Planning Authority) for the demolition of boundary walls and the construction of a 5-storey and a 3-storey building at the site (ref. 15/02315/MAF; Condition 17). The scope of the evaluation, which comprised the excavation of seven trenches, was defined during discussions between Archaeology Collective and Geoff Saunders, Archaeological Officer, Bedford Borough Council (AOBBC), the archaeological advisor to BBC. This discussion was informed by an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment prepared by the Archaeology Collective (AC 2015). Throughout the project CA and AC worked closely together in order to share research information.
- 1.3 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a *Brief for archaeological evaluation*, prepared by Geoff Saunders (BBC 2017), and with a subsequent detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by Archaeology Collective (AC 2017) and approved by Geoff Saunders. The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014), the *Management of Archaeological Projects 2* (English Heritage 1991) and the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (HE 2015). It was monitored by Geoff Saunders, including site visits on 15, 16 and 18 May.

### **The site**

- 1.4 The proposed development comprises two plots of land (Plot A and Plot B). Plot A comprises an area of hardstanding and is currently utilised as a car park. It measures approximately 0.12ha in size and is bounded to the north by properties fronting on to St Peter's Street, to the east by properties fronting on to Lurke Street,

to the south by Lurke Street and to the west by further properties fronting on to Lurke Street.

- 1.5 Plot B is also currently in use as a car park and measures c. 0.05ha in extent. It is bounded to the north by properties and their associated curtilage fronting on to St Cuthbert's Street, to the east by St Cuthbert's Street, to the south by properties and associated areas of hardstanding fronting on to St Cuthbert's Street and Lurke Street and to the west by properties fronting on to Lurke Street.
- 1.6 The site lies at approximately 32.5m above Ordnance Datum (aOD). The underlying solid geology of the site is mapped as Great Oolite Group mudstone and limestone of the Jurassic period, overlain by superficial Quaternary deposits of Felmersham Member sands and gravels (BGS 2017).

## 2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The archaeological and historical background of the site has been detailed within an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment (AC 2015). The following section provides a summary of this information.

### **Early prehistoric – Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, and Neolithic (pre-2400 BC)**

- 2.2 Numerous Palaeolithic stone tools and flakes are recorded at Deep Spinney, Biddenham, c. 3km to the west of Bedford. Recent work suggests that these have been redeposited by water rather than representing in situ human activity. A single Palaeolithic hand axe (MBD551) has been recovered in De Pary Avenue.
- 2.3 Flint artefacts of probable Mesolithic date have been recovered during field walking on the low hill at Norse Road, Bedford. Mesolithic flints were also found during excavations at the Bunyan Centre.

### **Late prehistoric – Bronze Age and Iron Age (2400 BC-AD 43)**

- 2.4 A complex ritual landscape has been identified on the eastern side of Bedford, stretching from Cople and Willington in the south across the river to Goldington and Howbury in the north. A henge monument was excavated at the Goldington Tesco site. Further sites are recorded along the course of the Bedford Southern Bypass.





Two Bronze Age ring ditches were excavated at the Bunyan Centre to the south of Bedford.

- 2.5 The hillfort at Mowsbury Hill probably dates from the early Iron Age. Rural settlements and field systems were investigated at Riverside Meadows, Willington, Cople, Octagon Farm, Eastcotts and Mill Farm on the course of the Bedford Southern Bypass. A late Iron Age settlement is known to have existed at Newnham on the site of the later Roman villa. A series of enclosures were constructed on the low hilltop at Norse Road. Most of these sites continued in use into the Roman period.

### **Roman (AD 43-AD410)**

- 2.6 The Viatores group identified a complex network of Roman roads in Bedfordshire, mainly from the evidence of maps. Four of the suggested roads pass within the vicinity of Bedford, though none through the historic core.
- 2.7 A total of five Roman find spots are recorded within the surrounding 500m of the site, including Roman finds recorded at Castle Lane, a Roman cremation urn found on the corner of St Paul's Square and the High Street (MBD284) and a coin of Hadrian (17-138 AD) found in Pemberley Avenue (MBD1907).

### **Early medieval (AD 410-1066)**

- 2.8 The place name Bedford or *Bedenforda* is probably derived from 'Beda's Ford'; Beda being a personal name of Anglo-Saxon times. The first definite reference to Bedford occurs in the treaty drawn up by Alfred and Guthrum in 878, which places Bedford on the frontier between Wessex and Danelaw.
- 2.9 Settlement was probably established in Bedford by the 6th to 8th century. Saxon settlement in the form of two timber halls was excavated in the area behind the Swan Hotel. Further structural and occupation evidence was found at Bennett's Work's.
- 2.10 The present St Paul's Church (MBD8857) may be situated on or near the early medieval minster church, although no architectural evidence from Saxon times survives in the structure of the church itself. The presence of a Saxon cemetery in St Paul's Square (MBD16813) and an 8th century cross shaft fragment in St Peter's Church (MBD852) support the theory that the church has Saxon origins.

- 2.11 Excavations at 4 Midland Road revealed Saxo-Norman features including pits, post-holes, slots and occupation layers. At Nos 6-8 Midland Road extensive evidence of 9th to 12th-century occupation was uncovered including beam slots and postholes (MBD11228). South of Castle Lane evidence of two middle-Saxon timber framed structures was identified (MBD14377) and on the site of the former County Library Building robbed foundations were recorded, possibly associated with a wall tower or water gate (MBD14385). At the Empire Cinema on Midland Road middle-Saxon pottery and occupational features were recorded (MBD14395). At 20 Silver Street limestone wall footings overlay earlier Saxon features (MBD15218).
- 2.12 At 5-9 St Peter's Street, St Neot's ware jugs were found during the demolition of buildings (MBD15504). In addition several isolated Anglo-Saxon find spots (MBD300, 4461, 4464, 10804, 10811, 14048-9, 51, 55, 14050, 70) are recorded within the immediate vicinity of the site.
- 2.13 A graveyard of probable middle Saxon date was partially uncovered during a watching brief at 14-15a St Paul's Square (MBD16813). Individual graves were aligned east/west and arranged in closely set parallel rows running north/south. There were no grave goods, and only a single sherd of pottery dating to the 6th to 7th centuries was found in the backfill of one of the graves, though it is possible that this was residual. The graves were cut by pits containing domestic refuse dating to the 10th to 12th centuries, showing that the cemetery had gone out of use by this time.
- 2.14 Saxon features, including two hall-like structures were excavated north of the former Golden Eagle Public House, close to Bedford Castle (MBD14375).

### **Medieval (1066-1539)**

- 2.15 Excavations within Bedford suggests that apart from the church of St Paul's and the castle, there were five main elements to the medieval town: sub-rectangular defences; four main streets set at right angles with the west, north and east streets passing through presumed gates in the centres of the defences; the bridge; two market areas immediately outside the North and East gates, each associated with a church, and main/extra-mural roads.

- 2.16 Bedford Castle (MBD298) was probably founded around 1130, with the defences dismantled and the motte slighted on the orders of Henry III following a siege in 1224-1225.
- 2.17 Further medieval settlement remains are recorded to the north of the former Golden Eagle Public House, on Mill Street, at the former Litson's Timber Yard (MBD14379), south of Midland Road (MBD14388) and at the Rose Yard (MBD14373).
- 2.18 A possible medieval inhumation was recorded during a watching brief at 14 St Cuthbert's Street (MBD15776). Further medieval remains have been found at Bedford High Street (MBD14819), Church Square (MBD14820), 8-10 Mill Street (MBD16053), 20 Silver Street (MBD16058), 14-18 Lime Street (MBD16061) and 1, 1a and 1b St Paul's Square (MBD21780).
- 2.19 The parish church of St Peter's is mainly 14th and 15th century in date, with later restorations. On the corner of Silver Street and High Street are the scheduled remains of the medieval George Inn (MBD991, 1004674), probably owned by Newnham Priory.
- 2.20 The chapel of St Mary in the Herne (MBD17305), constructed before 1200AD, stood on what is now the Town hall car park. The church of All Hallows (All Saints) appears on the Newnham Priory Rental of 1507.

#### **Post-medieval & modern (1540-present)**

- 2.21 The John Speed Map of 1610 seems to depict a shrunken settlement. There was gradual recovery in the 16th to 18th centuries, with a massive expansion in the 19th century.
- 2.22 St Cuthbert's Church is a 19th-century church built on the site of an Anglo-Saxon church, recorded as being pulled down to re-fortify Bedford Castle (MBD860). The existing Bedford Bridge is a 19th-century scheduled monument, built between 1810 and 1811, which most likely replaced a medieval bridge which is referenced from the late 12th century (1005399).
- 2.23 From at least 1881 a brewery and Gaston House were present on the site, Plots A and B respectively. The row of buildings fronting onto St. Peters Street were a

mixture of residential and commercial premises based on listings in the Kelly Directory of 1890.

- 2.24 Gaston House (now Old Gaston House) is a 19th-century building which was once the home of the architect Albert Prosser, who drew plans for Aspley Guise, Bedford, Biddenham, Bromham and Ravensden. The 1884 Ordnance Survey Map shows that it sat on a substantial plot which had formal gardens.
- 2.25 The 1884 Ordnance Survey Map also shows the brewery as two buildings with land to the north, east and west. The 1890 Kelly Directory lists “Fuller Frederick Charles (established 1819) at Bedford brewery” and “Newland and Nash Limited, brewers, malters, wine & spirit merchants”, on Lurke Street. It is not clear if the brewery marked on the 1881 and 1884 map is a shared space in use by both of these businesses.
- 2.26 By 1901 it appears that the brewery has expanded to the west, with three buildings grouped together being present on the map. The formal gardens attached to Gaston House appear to have disappeared and a number of smaller buildings are now clustered around the house to the north and the west. Both brewers are listed in the 1914 Kelly Directory.
- 2.27 By 1924 a further more substantial group of buildings have been built to the west of Gaston House. The brewery appears extant with only minor changes to its layout. A new building has appeared between the brewery and Gaston House.
- 2.28 The 1938 Ordnance Survey Map appears to show that the brewery, buildings along St Peter's Street and Gaston House are one oddly shaped unit. With reference to the earlier 1926 map it is possible to see how a single block may have been created by drawing around existing buildings, the line that is central to the block was at one time probably outhouses for the dwellings on St. Peter's Street. The 1948 OS map appears to show little change in this layout.
- 2.29 Post 1946 the site has undergone substantial change. An aerial photograph taken in 1951 shows The Oast House, extant and nestled in the middle of a series of other buildings. It is clear that Gaston House had a further wing to its west side which is no longer extant.

- 2.30 The 1960 Ordnance Survey Map records further buildings. The 1967 Ordnance Survey Map records these as a Cold Store. To the north of Gaston House, a bakery is recorded, with several possible small outbuildings. By 1987 the cold store has been demolished.
- 2.31 A geotechnical survey was undertaken by Soiltechnics in July 2015. Each exploratory excavation encountered a similar soil profile, considered to be made ground overlying Stoke Goldington Member, which in turn overlies Kellaways Clay Member and Great Oolite Group at depth. A known basement is recorded on site (Fig. 2). During excavation of trial pits TP03 and TP04 a concrete floor slab was found at a depth of 2.2m and 2.4m and was assumed to represent the cap of the infilled cellar.

### 3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 The objectives of the evaluation, as detailed in the WSI (AC 2017), were to provide information about the archaeological resource within the site, including its presence/absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality. In accordance with *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014) the evaluation was designed to be minimally intrusive and minimally destructive to archaeological remains. This information will enable BBC to identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset, consider the impact of the proposed development upon it, and to avoid or minimise conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the development proposal, in line with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).
- 3.2 The specific aims, as outlined within the WSI, were:
- To mechanically excavate three trenches, each 5m by 5m in plan on plot A, and two trenches, each 5m by 5m in plan on plot B; to expose the surface of any underlying archaeological horizon or the natural ground;
  - To clean the base and representative sections of the trenches and record them in both plan and representative section;
  - To partially excavate any identified archaeological features so as to ascertain their extent, form, function and, where possible, date;
  - To inform the need (or otherwise) for any future archaeological works on the site by means of an illustrated report;

- To determine the presence or absence of any Prehistoric, Roman, Saxon or medieval remains, their state of preservation, extent, dating and function;
- If relevant deposits are found, to use the results to contribute to the study of the origins and development of urbanism in the post-Roman period (Oake *et al.* 2007; Edgeworth 2001);
- To determine if there is any evidence for the northern boundary, a ditch and palisaded bank defences, of the Saxon burh/town (Edgeworth 2001) To determine if the site can contribute to the study of Scandinavian settlement in Bedford? It's position on the Danelaw boundary, as a frontier town, between Saxon and Viking kingdoms, also gives it considerable potential for the study of Scandinavian settlement in the tenth and eleventh centuries AD (Oake *et al.* 2017);
- To determine if the site can contribute to the understanding of the medieval history and archaeology of Bedford "that is still not well understood" (Oake *et al.* 2007);
- To determine the extent and date of post-medieval remains on site.

#### 4. METHODOLOGY

4.1 The fieldwork comprised the excavation of seven trenches in the locations shown on the attached plans (Figs 2 and 9). Trenches were set out on OS National Grid (NGR) co-ordinates using Leica GPS, and scanned for live services by trained Cotswold Archaeology staff using CAT and Genny equipment in accordance with the Cotswold Archaeology *Safe System of Work for avoiding underground services*.

4.2 All trenches were excavated by mechanical excavator, with initial tarmac layers removed using a toothed bucket. All further excavation was carried out using a toothless grading bucket. All machine excavation was undertaken under constant archaeological supervision to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or the natural substrate, whichever was encountered first. Where archaeological deposits were encountered they were excavated by hand in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 1: Fieldwork Recording Manual*.

##### *Constraints*

4.3 As detailed below, in order to avoid modern services and possible asbestos contamination the locations, layout, depths or extent of some of the trenches were

amended from their original specifications as shown in the WSI (AC 2017). The alterations to the trenches were carried out following discussions between CA, AC and Geoff Saunders (AOBCC).

- 4.4 Due to the presence of an electrical cable and possible asbestos contamination within Trench 3, full excavation could not be undertaken across the entire footprint of the trench. A sondage along the eastern edge of the original footprint of the trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 2.2m below present ground level (bpgl) without encountering the natural substrate. A 2.5m by 3.5m extension, was also excavated to the north-west of the trench. This was excavated to a maximum depth of 2m bpgl without encountering the natural substrate.
- 4.5 Excavation was ceased within Trench 4A at a depth of 0.6m bpgl after suspected asbestos contamination was identified. As a result Trench 4B was excavated c. 5m to the east. This trench measured 5m long by 2.8m wide at ground level, reduced to 0.6m wide at the base due to the presence of a further electrical cable. Trench 5 was moved approximately 6m west from its original location. It was excavated as Trench 5A to a maximum depth of 0.85m bpgl before ceasing due to the presence of a modern service. A further trench (Trench 5b), measuring 4.3m by 3.8m, was then excavated in the original location indicated for Trench 5 within the WSI (AC 2017).
- 4.6 Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 2: The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites*. A single deposit was sampled and processed. All artefacts recovered were processed in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 3: Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation*.
- 4.7 The archive and artefacts from the evaluation are currently held by CA at their offices in Milton Keynes. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner the artefacts will be deposited with the Higgins Art Gallery and Museum, Bedford under accession number BEDFM 2017.36, along with the site archive. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix E, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.



## 5. RESULTS (FIGS 2–14)

5.1 This section provides an overview of the evaluation results; detailed summaries of the recorded contexts, finds and environmental samples (palaeoenvironmental evidence) are to be found in Appendices A, B and C respectively. Details of the relative heights of the principal deposits and features appear in Appendix D.

### ***Trench 1 (Figs 2 & 3)***

5.2 The natural geological substrate (103), comprising orange grey, gravelly sand, was encountered at a depth of 0.95m bpgl. Located within the north-eastern corner of the trench, pit 104 was partially revealed cutting the natural substrate at a depth of 0.95m bpgl (Fig. 3; section AA). Although not fully exposed, it appeared to be sub-circular in plan, measuring at least 2.7m long, 2.5m wide and 1.23m deep. The pit had moderately sloping sides, although the base was not recorded as it lay outside the excavated slot. Its lower fill (105) comprised mid-brown silty sand, overlain by mottled mid-brown orange/brown-grey silty sand (106), derived from secondary silting. This was in turn overlain by further secondary silting comprising mid-brown grey silty sand (107), which was in turn sealed by a mid-grey brown silty sand (108), interpreted as a deliberate dump of refuse material within the pit.

5.3 A total of three sherds of well-preserved Iron Age pottery were recovered from fill 108. A small assemblage of animal bone was also collected from deposits 106 and 108, which includes cattle, sheep/goat and pig, some of which provides evidence for primary and secondary butchery activity.

5.4 Sealing the fills of pit 104 and directly overlying the natural was light grey brown silty sand (102), measuring 0.5m thick. This was in turn overlain by bedding layer 101, which measured 0.33m thick and was sealed by tarmac 0.12m thick.

### ***Trench 2 (Figs 2 & 4-6)***

5.5 The natural geological substrate (218), comprising orange and blue silty sand, was encountered at a depth of 2.64m bpgl. This was cut by east/west orientated ditch 217, which was recorded extending across the entirety of Trench 2 (Fig. 4; section BB). It measured in excess of 2.86m wide; although the full extent could not be determined as it extended beyond the trench in all directions. It was approximately 2.18m deep and was first encountered at a depth of c. 1.6m bpgl, although due to its depth accurate measurements were not possible. It was initially filled with secondary



- silting comprising soft mottled mid brown grey and mid yellow brown sandy silt (216), which was overlain by soft mid brown yellow sandy silt (215). Eighteen sherds of 12th to 13th-century shell tempered pottery were recovered from fill 216. Evidence of dispersed waste from settlement activity was found from charred remains recovered from a sample of 216, along with mollusc shells indicating a vegetated swampy ditch.
- 5.6 Ditch 213 cut the fill of ditch 217, of which it most likely formed a recut, along its length. Only the southern edge of this ditch was seen within Trench 2. It had moderately sloping sides and a flat base. It was filled by a single silting episode with mid brown grey sandy silt, from which a single sherd of 12th to 13th-century pottery was recovered.
- 5.7 Ditches 213 and 217 were sealed by a 0.85m thick layer of soft mid green brown clay silt (211) interpreted as a possible build-up of garden soils. Additionally, the greenish tinge may be suggestive of cess.
- 5.8 Foundation cut 210 was excavated into layer 211 and contained a slab of 0.5m thick concrete (209) that covered all but a 0.8m strip of the trench. Built on top of this was the remains a late 19th to early 20th-century building, comprising north/south orientated red-brick walls 203 and 206 and red-brick floor surfaces 205, 204 and 212. Walls 203 and 206 were identified for a length of up to 4.5m extending beyond the southern and northern limits of the trench. They were constructed of red-bricks (L. 240mm, B. 130mm, D. 70mm), in an English bond, with a white/light grey hard mortar. The floor surfaces were constructed of similar sized bricks.
- 5.9 Large modern pit 207 was identified truncating wall 206, floor surface 205 and concrete foundation 209 in the north-eastern part of the trench. It contained a single fill (208). Overlying this and sealing walls and floor surfaces 203, 204, 205, 206 and 212 was dark grey brown sandy silt demolition layer 202, which contained modern brick and rubble. The continuation of this deposit was observed within Trenches 3, 4a, 4b, 5a and 5b as deposits 304, 303, 302, 402a, 402b, 502a and 502b. Deposit 102 within Trench 1 may also represent a less rubble-filled area of this deposit. Deposit 202 was overlain by silty sand bedding deposit 201, which was sealed by tarmac (200).

**Trench 3 (Figs 2 & 6-8)**

- 5.10 Deposit 304, comprising loose dark brown grey sandy silt with brick, concrete rubble and metal inclusions, was identified within two sondages excavated at the base of the trench. It was identified at a depth of 0.64m bpgl and excavated by machine to a depth of 2.2m without the base of the deposit being reached. The concrete inclusions in the deposit indicated a later 19th century or 20th-century date for the deposit. It was overlain by further layers of demolition rubble (303 and 302 respectively), which most likely represent the same event. This was in turn overlain by silty sand bedding deposit 301, which measured 0.22m thick, which was in turn sealed by tarmac (300), measuring 0.1m thick.

**Trench 4a (Figs 9 & 11)**

- 5.11 The earliest deposit encountered was post-medieval/modern grey brown sandy silt demolition layer 402b, which contained frequent brick and stone inclusions. It was encountered at 0.34m bpgl and observed to a depth of 0.64m bpgl. It was overlain by silty sand bedding deposit 401a, which measured 0.29m thick, which was in turn sealed by tarmac (400a).

**Trench 4b (Figs 9 & 12)**

- 5.12 The natural geological substrate (405b), comprising gravelly sand with patches of clay, was exposed at a depth of 1.57m bpgl. This was overlain by a 0.25m thick layer of soft mid grey brown sandy silt (404b). No finds were recovered from this deposit, which, possibly represents an alluvial deposit. It was in turn overlain by soft mixed dark grey brown and mid brown orange sandy silt (403b) measuring 0.65m thick. No artefactual material was recovered from this deposit, which was overlain by light grey brown grey silty sand 402b with frequent brick and rubble inclusions, similar in nature to deposit 303, identified within Trench 3 and was thought to be of late nineteenth or twentieth century date. This was in turn sealed by layers 401b and 400b forming modern bedding and surface layers of the current carpark. No archaeological finds or features were revealed within this trench.

**Trench 5a (Figs 9 & 13)**

- 5.13 The earliest identified deposit was made ground layer 502a, which formed the continuation of the demolition deposit 402b, identified within Trench 4b. It was first encountered at a depth of 0.35m bpgl and excavated to a depth of 0.85m bpgl. Excavation ceased at this level due to the presence of an electrical cable and a waste water pipe (504 and 505). Located in north-western corner of the trench, at a

depth of 0.5m bpgl and cutting deposit 502a, was a red-brick rubble foundation 503a. This entered the trench from the west and ran for a distance of approximately 3m before turning to the north and exiting the trench via the northern baulk. It was composed of crushed red-brick and mortar and measured 0.65m wide and over 0.24m thick. This was in turn overlain by bedding layer 501, which measured 0.38m thick and was sealed by tarmac (500a) 0.12m thick.

### **Trench 5b (Figs 9 & 14)**

- 5.14 The natural substrate (504b), comprising gravelly sand, was encountered at a depth of 1.3m bpgl. This was overlain by alluvium (503b), measuring 0.4m thick, comprising mid yellow brown sandy silt with small stone inclusions. No dating evidence was recovered from this deposit, which was in turn covered by a dark grey brown sandy silt with brick rubble inclusions (502b), measuring 0.5m thick.
- 5.15 Cutting deposits 502b and 503b was pit 506b (Fig. 14; section CC). It was encountered at a depth of 0.4m bpgl, sub-circular in plan, with irregular sides and a concave base. It measured in excess of 2.5m east/west, more than 1.25m north/south with a depth of 1.2m. A 16th to mid-17th century copper alloy buckle was recovered from its single sandy silt fill (505).
- 5.16 Partially overlying pit 506b was east/west orientated red-brick wall 501b. This wall was recorded for a length of 3.6m, extending beyond the eastern and western extents of the trench. It was 0.22m wide and survived to a maximum height of four courses (0.25m). It was constructed of red-bricks in an English bond with cement mortar. The brick foundations 501b to a post-medieval building could be seen running on an east/west axis through the section extending to a depth of 0.4m bpgl. Sealing all the deposits within the trench was topsoil 500b, measuring 0.1m thick.

## **6. THE FINDS**

- 6.1 Artefactual material was recovered from four deposits. The recovered material dates to the late prehistoric, medieval and post-medieval periods. Quantities of the artefact types are given in Appendix B. The pottery has been recorded according to sherd count/weight per fabric. Recording also included form/rim morphology and a note of any evidence for use in the form of carbonised/other residues. Pottery codes, in Appendix B and in parenthesis in the text, correspond to the Bedford pottery type

series codes summarised by Wells and Slowikowski (1996) and Parminter and Slowikowski (2004).

*Pottery: Late prehistoric (2400 BC-AD 43)*

- 6.2 Pit fill 108 produced three sherds (34g) which presented in a fabric tempered with coarse shell (F07). Included is a rimsherd, most likely from a globular vessel with a simple, upright rim. Condition is relatively good and carbonised (burnt food) residues were noted on two sherds. The form and fabric suggest dating in the Iron Age, but further comparison will be undertaken following the next phase of fieldwork.

*Medieval (1066-1539)*

- 6.3 Pottery of this date totalled 19 sherds (64g) in a fine shell-tempered fabric (B07), from ditch fills 214 and 216. A rimsherd from fill 214 was from a vessel with a slightly thickened, everted rim. Shell-tempered coarsewares, which developed from Saxo-Norman St Neots type wares, are known to have been manufactured in Bedfordshire and Buckinghamshire during the 12th to 13th centuries (Wells and Slowikowski 1996, 85).

*Other finds*

- 6.4 A copper alloy double loop oval buckle (Ra. 1) was retrieved from pit fill 505. It featured slightly angled frames and moulded knobs at either end of the strap bar. Similar buckle forms were in use from the 16th to mid-17th centuries (Whitehead 1996, 54–6).

## 7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

### *Animal Bone*

- 7.1 Animal bone amounting to 62 fragments (537g) was recovered via hand excavation and bulk soil sampling from deposits 106 and 108, fills of Iron Age pit 104 and from deposit 216, the fill of medieval ditch 217. The material displayed a varying degree of preservation and was highly fragmented with frequent historical and modern damage. However, it has been possible to identify the remains of cattle (*Bos taurus*), sheep/goat (*Ovis aries/Capra hircus*) and pig (*Sus scrofa sp.*), all of which were commonly exploited as domestic farm animals in both the Iron Age and medieval periods (Baker and Worley, 2014).

**Iron Age (700BC-AD 43)**

- 7.2 A total of 24 fragments (534g) were recovered from deposits 106 and 108. The remains of cattle, sheep/goat and pig were recovered with each species being identified from bones that were both meat-rich, such as the pelvis and meat-poor such as the lower limbs and feet. A pig femur and pelvis, together with a partial, sheep-size lower leg bone were recovered from deposit 108, displaying cut marks indicative of primary and secondary butchery, i.e. the preparation of a carcass after slaughter followed by its separation into individual cuts of meat.

**Medieval (1066-1539)**

- 7.3 Thirty eight fragments (3g) were recovered via bulk soil sample 2, from deposit 216, none of which were identifiable to element or species.

**Palaeoenvironmental Evidence**

- 7.4 A single environmental sample (20 litres of soil) was processed from medieval ditch 217 in Plot A to evaluate the preservation of palaeoenvironmental remains and with the intention of recovering environmental evidence of industrial or domestic activity on the site. The samples were processed by standard flotation procedures (CA Technical Manual No. 2).
- 7.5 Preliminary identifications of plant macrofossils are noted in Table 3 in Appendix C, following nomenclature of Stace (1997). The presence of mollusc shells has also been recorded in Table 4 in Appendix C, Nomenclature is according to Anderson (2005) and habitat preferences according to Kerney (1999) and Davies (2008).
- 7.6 The flot was moderately small with low levels of rooty material and modern seeds.
- 7.7 A small number of fragments of indeterminate grains and charcoal greater than 2mm were recovered from fill 216 of medieval ditch 217. This charred assemblage is likely to be representative of dispersed waste from domestic settlement activities. There is no indication of any specific settlement activity taking place in the immediate vicinity of this ditch from the environmental remains.
- 7.8 The large mollusc assemblage recorded from this sample was dominated by shells of the aquatic species. The land snail assemblage included shells of the open

country species *Vallonia pulchella/excentrica*, the intermediate species *Trochulus hispidus*, *Cochlicopa* sp. and *Cepaea* sp. and the shade-loving species *Carychium* sp. and *Oxychilus cellarius*. The aquatic species included shells of the ditch species *Planorbis planorbis* and *Planorbis carinatus*, the intermediate species *Radix balthica*, *Gyraulus crista*, *Gyraulus albus* and *Pisidium* sp. and the amphibious species *Anisus leucostoma* and *Galba truncatula*. There were also a number of ostracod testa present in the sample.

- 7.9 The mollusc assemblage appears to be indicative of a well-vegetated swampy aquatic environment within the ditch with some long damp grass along the edge of it.

## 8. DISCUSSION

- 8.1 The evaluation has revealed a sequence of deposits and structures dating from the Iron Age, medieval, post-medieval and modern uses of the site. A single Iron Age pit was identified within the western part of the site within Trench 1. To the immediate north of this the evaluation revealed the well preserved remains of a large medieval ditch and re-cut within Trench 2. Localised post-medieval quarrying is evidenced within the eastern part of the site. The archaeological works have further been successful in characterising the development of the site from the mid-19th to early 20th centuries, and have identified evidence of the structures depicted on 19th-century cartographic sources.

### ***Iron Age (700BC-AD 43)***

- 8.2 A pit containing Iron Age pottery was found in the southern half of Plot A. This was revealed at a depth of 0.95m bpgl. Precise dating for this feature beyond general attribution to the Iron Age was not possible.
- 8.3 No other features of Iron Age date were identified during the evaluation, which has identified no clear areas of Iron Age settlement within the site. However, the unabraded nature of the pottery and the recovered animal bones displaying cut marks indicative of primary and secondary butchery indicate that Iron Age settlement is likely to be located close by.

**Early medieval to medieval (AD 410-1539)**

- 8.4 Deep, wide, east/west orientated ditch 217 and probable ditch re-cut 213 were partially exposed within Trench 2. The size of this ditch, with a depth of 2.18m, and its position and orientation along Lurke Street suggest that this may represent the northern defensive ditch of the Saxon Burgh.
- 8.5 The observation of this feature correlates with the evidence from Haslam (1983) which identifies the northern boundary of the Saxon Burgh passing through the centre of the site on an east/west alignment. The evidence supports the identification of this deep feature as the postulated line of the northern enclosure ditch of the Saxon Burgh.
- 8.6 The pottery recovered from the ditch indicates that the activity was concentrated within the 12th to 13th centuries; however the position of the recovered pottery, located at around the halfway point of an already substantially silted ditch does not preclude its origins in the early medieval period.
- 8.7 The recovered assemblage comprises local coarsewares, suggestive of households of fairly modest status. Medieval domestic rubbish pits are recorded nearby at 2 St Cuthbert's Street, with 10th to 11th-century pits recorded at 8-10 St Cuthbert's Street. These sites further indicate established medieval domestic activity by this period.
- 8.8 No evidence for the continuation of the defensive ditch or bank was identified within plot B, however, Haslam's proposed route suggests that the defences turn to the south before they reach Plot B.
- 8.9 Overlying ditch 217 was green brown soil 211. Similar deposits are recorded elsewhere within Bedford and are typical of the build-up of earth during the medieval period in urban settings, possibly representing the enrichment of the garden soils. Additionally, this may indicate that the area also functioned as a latrine or cess pit.

**Post-medieval/modern (1540-present)**

- 8.10 The wide and deep pit identified within Trench 5b probably represents a quarry pit for gravel or sand extraction, presumably for use in the small scale building/repair within the site or its wider environs. Although this feature is indicative of quarrying,



due to its limited exposure the exact form and nature could not be determined and it remains possible that it may relate to other activities.

- 8.11 The earliest maps of Bedford (1610, 1815 and 1834) show the site as open ground. However, from at least 1881, the Ordnance survey mapping depicts a brewery present on Plot A and Gaston House within Plot B. This would suggest that the structural remains identified within Trenches 2, 5a and 5b were constructed between 1834 and 1881. This is further confirmed by the evidence from the bricks used in their construction, which are dated to the 19th century.
- 8.12 Both sites were heavily redeveloped from the late 19th century up to at least the middle of the 20th century. Within Plot A and Plot B deep deposits of modern made ground directly overlay the partial remains of 19th-century buildings and the natural substrate. This indicates that the site has undergone extensive ground disturbance. It is probable that this disturbance occurred during the construction and demolition of the 19th and 20th-century buildings at the site. It is likely that this ground disturbance has removed any shallow below-ground archaeological remains which may once have been present at the site.

#### *Model of Archaeological Sensitivity'*

- 8.13 Figure 15 illustrates the areas of archaeological sensitivity as identified through the present evaluation and with reference to previous geotechnical investigations. A table showing the relative heights of the principal deposits and features encountered during the evaluation along with height data from the geotechnical surveys appears in Appendix D.
- 8.14 The amount of intrusion from cellars and later development as well as areas of possible contamination has impacted to a degree on the comprehensibility of the deposits encountered. However, a generally clear and consistent stratigraphic sequence allows reference to previous interventions to create a framework for understanding the archaeological remains within the trenches.
- 8.15 Iron Age pit 104 was revealed in the southern half of Plot A at a depth of 0.95m bpgl. Directly overlaying this and the natural substrate was a deposit of post-medieval made ground, which indicates that although there is unlikely to be any upstanding archaeological remains within this area due to truncation to the natural substrate, there is the potential for cut features to survive within its vicinity.



- 8.16 The evidence from Trench 2, DTS 1 and Borehole 3 all correlate well, with similar depths of deposits encountered, suggesting that deposits associated with ditch 217 and possibly re-cut 213 extend beyond the eastern and western extents of Trench 2, interpreted as made ground by the borehole survey. Both these ditches were first encountered at a depth of c. 1.6m bpgl
- 8.17 Trench 3 was situated entirely within the backfilled basement of the former brewery, demonstrating that it extends further into the western area off the site than has previously been identified. This basement had truncated the ground to over 2.2m bpgl and was subsequently backfilled with brick and rubble deposits, most likely derived from the demolition of the overlying brewery structures. This confirms the findings of the geological testing in this area which revealed the natural gravels at 2.2m bpgl.
- 8.18 Within Plot A the results of the evaluation largely confirm the results of the geotechnical boreholes excavated within the site (Soiltechnics).
- 8.19 The geotechnical results from Plot B encountered the natural substrate at between 1.4m and 2.9m bpgl, with greater truncation apparent closer to the street frontage. This is largely confirmed by the evaluation which encountered the natural substrate at between 1.3m and 1.5m bpgl within Trenches 4b and 5b respectively. Within Trench 5b, post-medieval pit 506b was encountered at a depth of 0.4m bpgl. This cut deposit 502b, which contained post-medieval demolition rubble.

## 9. PROJECT TEAM

- 9.1 Fieldwork was undertaken by Ralph Brown, assisted by Matt Ferron and Suzanne Tarvainen. The report was written by Ralph Brown. The finds, animal bone and palaeoenvironmental evidence reports were written by Jacky Sommerville, Andy Clarke and Sarah Wyles respectively. The illustrations were prepared by Charlotte Patman. The archive has been compiled by Emily Evans, and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Stuart Joyce and for AC by Joe Abrams.

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## APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No	Context	Type	Fill of	Context Interpretation	Context Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Thickness (m)
1	100	Layer		Surface	Tarmac	>5	>5	0.12
1	101	Layer		Levelling Layer	Loose light brown yellow silty sand with 20% gravel inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>5	>5	0.45
1	102	Layer		Made Ground	Soft dark grey brown sandy silt 10% brick rubble 5% sub angular stone 0.02-0.07m	>5	>5	0.5
1	103	Layer		Natural	Loose mid yellow orange sand and gravels 50% small sub angular stones overlying soft mid yellow orange and mid grey blue silty sand	>3.5	>3.5	
1	104	Cut		Pit	Sub circular with moderate concave edges	>2.7	>2.5	1.23
1	105	Fill	104	Secondary silting	Loose mid brown grey silty sand with 5% small sub angular stone inclusions	>1.23	>0.58	0.2
1	106	Fill	104	Primary slumping	Loose mixed mid brown orange and brown grey silty sand with 40% small stone inclusions	>1.35	>1.21	0.4
1	107	Fill	104	Secondary silting	Loose mid brown grey silty sand with 10% small sub angular stone inclusions	>1.75	>1.34	0.67
1	108	Fill	104	Deliberate dumping	Loose mid grey brown silty sand with 10% small sub angular stone inclusions	>0.8	>0.81	0.29
2	200	Layer		Surface	Tarmac	>5	>5	0.12
2	201	Layer		Levelling Layer	Loose light brown yellow silty sand with 20% gravel inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>5	>5	0.29
2	202	Layer		Made Ground	Soft dark grey brown sandy silt 10% brick rubble 5% sub angular stone 0.02-0.07m	>5	>5	0.63
2	203	Structure		Wall	240x130x70mm red bricks with light grey mortar in a regular English bonding on two sides with a brick rubble and mortar in fill in the centre, n-s orientation with outside facing west	>5	1.1	0.3
2	204	Structure		Floor	240x130x70mm red bricks with a stretcher bond and no mortar	>5	0.79	0.07
2	205	Structure		Floor	240x130x70mm red bricks with a stretcher bond and no mortar	>3.5	0.57	
2	206	Structure		Wall	240x130x70mm red bricks with light grey mortar in a regular English bonding on two sides with a brick rubble and mortar in fill in the centre, n-s orientation with outside facing east	>5	1.1	0.3
2	207	Cut		Pit	Modern square shaped pit not excavated	1.5	1.4	
2	208	Fill	207	Deliberate backfill	Soft dark grey brown sandy silt 10% brick rubble 5% sub angular stone 0.02-0.07m	1.5	1.4	
2	209	Structure		Foundations	Solid light grey concrete with frequent stone inclusion	>5	>4.2	0.5
2	210	Cut		Construction cut	Not visible concrete poured straight in vertical sides flat base	>5	>4.2	0.5

2	211	Layer	210	Garden soil build up?	Soft mid green brown clay silt 1% sub rounded stones 0.01-0.05	>5	>5	0.85
2	212	Structure		Structure	240x130x70mm red bricks with light grey mortar and concrete patching	>5	0.5	
2	213	Cut		Ditch	East to west linear with moderate straight sides and flat base	>2.4	>2.58	1m
2	214	Fill	213	Secondary silting	Soft mid brown grey sandy silt with 6% sub rounded stone inclusions 0.01-0.05	>2.4	>2.58	1m
2	215	Fill	217	Secondary silting	Soft mid brown yellow sandy silt with 1% sub angular stone inclusions 0.01-0.03	>2.4	>1.06	0.45
2	216	Fill	217	Secondary silting	Soft mottled mid brown grey and mid yellow brown sandy silt 2% sub angular stone inclusions 0.01-0.03	>2.4	>2.86	1.2
2	217	Cut		Ditch	Top not visible but has an east to west orientation with moderate straight side and concave base	>2.4	>2.86	2.18
2	218	Layer		Natural	soft mid yellow orange and mid grey blue silty sand	>0.6	>2.6	
3	300	Layer		Surface	Tarmac	>6	>7.5	0.12
3	301	Layer		Levelling Layer	Loose light brown yellow silty sand with 20% gravel inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>6	>7.5	0.22
3	302	Layer		Made Ground	Soft dark grey brown sandy silt 10% brick rubble 5% sub angular stone 0.02-0.07m	>6	>7.5	0.12
3	303	Layer		Made Ground	Loose light grey brown silty sand with 30% brick and concrete rubble inclusions	>6	>6	0.22
3	304	Layer		Destruction backfill	Loose dark brown grey sandy silt with 50% brick and concrete rubble and metal	>6	>7.5	>1.56
4a	400a	Layer		Surface	Tarmac	>5	>5	0.12
4a	401a	Layer		Levelling Layer	Loose light brown yellow silty sand with 20% gravel inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>5	>5	0.29
4a	402a	Layer		Made Ground	Soft dark grey brown sandy silt 10% brick rubble 5% sub angular stone 0.02-0.07m and frequent modern rubbish	>5	>2.5	>0.34
4b	400b	Layer		Surface	Tarmac	>5	>2.8	0.12
4b	401b	Layer		Levelling Layer	Loose light brown yellow silty sand with 20% gravel inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>5	>2.8	0.3
4b	402b	Layer		Made Ground	Soft dark grey brown sandy silt 10% brick rubble 5% sub angular stone 0.02-0.07m	>5	>0.6	0.25
4b	403b	Layer		Made Ground	Soft mixed dark grey brown and mid brown orange sandy silt with occasional sub angular stones	>5	>0.6	0.65
4b	404b	Layer		Alluvium?	Soft mid grey brown sandy silt with occasional small stones	>5	>0.6	0.25
4b	405b	Layer		Natural	Loose mid yellow orange sand and gravels 50% small sub angular stones with patches of soft mid yellow orange and mid grey blue silty sand	>5	>0.6	
5a	500a	Layer		Surface	Tarmac	>5	>5	0.12
5a	501a	Layer		Levelling Layer	Loose light brown yellow silty sand with 20% gravel inclusions 0.01-0.04m	>5	>5	0.5
5a	502a	Layer		Made Ground	Soft dark grey brown sandy silt 10% brick rubble 5% sub	>5	>5	>0.35

					angular stone 0.02-0.07m			
5a	503a	Structure		Wall foundation	Solid brick rubble crush and cement mortar on an east-west axis turning right angles to the north in the east	>4.55	0.65	0.24
5b	500b	Layer		Topsoil	Friable mid brown grey sandy loam	>4.3	>3.8	0.1
5b	501b	Structure		Wall footing	Within section of the trench 240x130x70mm red bricks with cement mortar and English coursing	>4.3		0.3
5b	502b	Layer		Made Ground	Soft dark grey brown sandy silt 10% brick rubble 5% sub angular stone 0.02-0.07m	>4.3	>3.8	0.5
5b	503b	Layer		Alluvium	Soft mid yellow brown sandy silt with 15% small sub angular stone inclusions	>4.3	>3.8	0.4
5b	504b	Layer		Natural	Loose mid yellow orange sand and gravels 50% small sub angular stones	>4.3	>3.8	
5b	505b	Fill	506b	Deliberate backfill	Soft mixed brown grey and grey black sandy silt 1% flint pebbles and charcoal	>2.5	>0.75	1.2
5b	506b	Cut		Pit	Sub circular pit with moderate irregular sides and concave base	>2.5	>0.75	1.2

## APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Table 1: Finds concordance

Context	Category	Description	Fabric Code	Count	Weight (g)	Spot-date
108	Late prehistoric pottery	Coarse shell-tempered fabric	SHC	3	34	IA
214	Medieval pottery	Fine shell-tempered fabric	B07	1	3	C12-C13
216	Medieval pottery	Fine shell-tempered fabric	B07	1	35	C12-C13
216 <2>	Medieval pottery	Fine shell-tempered fabric	B07	17	26	
216 <2>	Ceramic building material			5	0.3	
216 <2>	Industrial waste			4	24	
505	Copper alloy	Buckle, Ra. 1		1	9	C16-MC17
	Industrial waste			2	11	

## APPENDIX C: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

Table 2: Identified animal species by fragment count (NISP) and weight and context.

Cut	Fill	BOS	O/C	SUS	LM	MM	un-id SS	Total	Weight (g)
<b>Iron Age</b>									
104	106		1					1	17
104	108	2	3	5	3	10		23	517
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>10</b>		<b>24</b>	<b>534</b>
<b>Medieval</b>									
217	216						38	38	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>62</b>	
<b>Weight</b>		<b>188</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>537</b>	

BOS = Cattle; O/C = sheep/goat, SUS = pig; LM= large sized mammal; MM = medium sized mammal; Ind = indeterminate;



Table 3 Assessment table of the palaeoenvironmental remains

Feature	Context	Sample	Vol (L)	Flot size (ml)	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Charred Other	Notes for Table	Charcoal > 4/2mm	Other
Area A Medieval Ditch											
217	216	2	20	45	5	*	-	-	Indet. grain frags	*/**	Moll-t (***), Moll-f (****)

Key: \* = 1–4 items; \*\* = 5–19 items; \*\*\* = 20–49 items; \*\*\*\* = 50–99 items; \*\*\*\*\* = >100 items, Moll-t = land snails, Moll-f = aquatic snails

Table 4 Assessment table of the molluscan remains

<b>Area</b>	A
<b>Phase</b>	Medieval
<b>Feature type</b>	Ditch
<b>Feature</b>	217
<b>Context</b>	216
<b>Sample</b>	2
<b>Depth (M)</b>	spot
<b>Volume (L)</b>	20
<b>Land Snails</b>	
<i>Carychium</i> spp.	C
<i>Cochlicopa</i> spp.	C
<i>Vallonia pulchella/excentrica</i>	B
<i>Oxychilus cellarius</i> (Müller)	C
<i>Trochulus hispidus</i> (Linnaeus)	A
<i>Cepaea/Arianta</i> sp.	C
<b>Aquatic Snails</b>	
<i>Galba truncatula</i> (Müller)	A
<i>Radix balthica</i> (Linnaeus)	A
<i>Planorbis planorbis</i> (Linnaeus)	A*
<i>Planorbis carinatus</i> Müller	B
<i>Anisus leucostoma</i> (Millet)	A
<i>Gyraulus albus</i> (Müller)	B
<i>Gyraulus crista</i> (Linnaeus)	B
<i>Pisidium</i> spp.	C
<b>Total</b>	100+
Ostracods	A

Key: C = 1–4 items; B = 5–9 items; A = 10–29 items; A\* = 30+

**APPENDIX D: LEVELS OF PRINCIPAL DEPOSITS AND STRUCTURES**

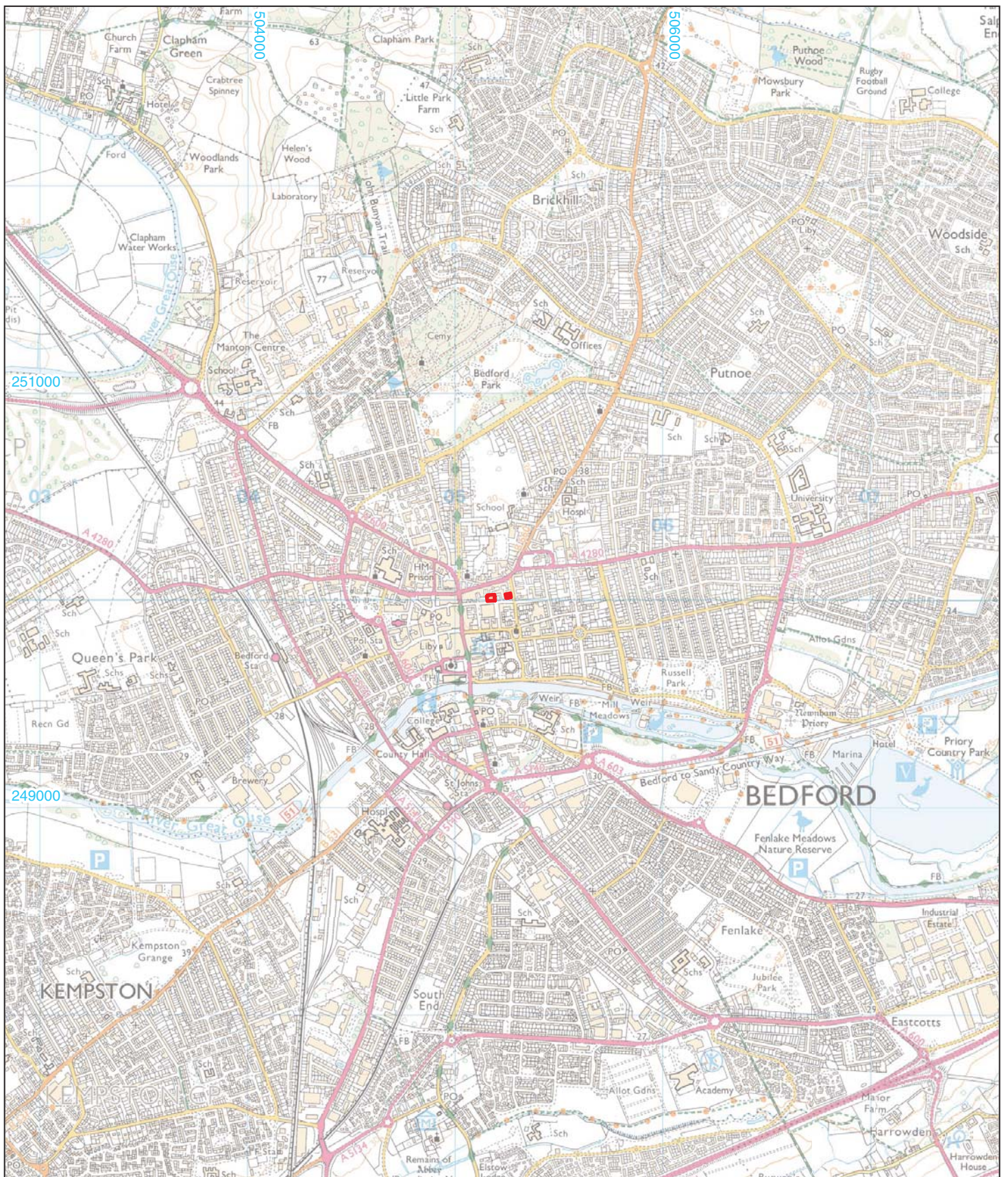
Levels are expressed as metres below current ground level.

	Trench 1	Trench 2	Trench 3	Trench 4a	Trench 4b	Trench 5a	Trench 5b	TP1	TP2	TP3	TP4	DTS1	DTS2	DT S3	DTS4	BH1	BH2
Current ground level	0.00m	0.00m	0.00m	0.00m	0.00m	0.00m	0.00m	0.00 m	0.00m	0.00 m	0.00 m	0.00m	0.00 m	0.00 m	0.00 m	0.00 m	0.00 m
Thickness of made ground	0.95m	1.4m	>2.2m	>0.64m	1.57m	0.85m	-	1.4 m	1.8m	2.4 m	2.2 m	3.5m	1.7m	2.1 m	1.4m	1.9m	3.7m
Top of significant post-medieval deposits	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.4m	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Top of medieval deposits	-	1.4m	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Top of Iron Age deposits	0.95m	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Top of natural	0.95m	2.64	Not reached	Not reached	1.57m	Not reached	1.3m	1.4 m	Not reached	2.4 m	2.2 m	3.5m	1.7m	2.1 m	1.4m	1.9m	3.7m
Limit of excavation	0.95m	3.8m	2.2m	0.64m	1.57m	0.85m	1.6m	1.4 m	1.8m	2.4 m	2.2 m	3.5m	1.7m	2.1 m	1.4m	2m	3.7

## APPENDIX E: OASIS REPORT FORM

<b>PROJECT DETAILS</b>		
Project Name	Land at Lurke Street and St Cuthbert's Street, Bedford, Bedfordshire	
Short description	<p>Archaeology Collective, on behalf of the client, Benross Construction Ltd, commissioned Cotswold Archaeology to carry out an archaeological evaluation in May 2017 of land at Lurke Street and St Cuthbert's Street, Bedford, Bedfordshire. The evaluation was undertaken to provide initial archaeological information in relation to an archaeological planning condition attached to the planning consent for the demolition of boundary walls and the construction of a 5-storey and a 3-storey building at the site. The fieldwork comprised the excavation of seven trenches.</p> <p>The work was managed by Archaeology Collective on behalf of the client.</p> <p>Archaeological interest in the site is derived from its location within the historic core of Bedford and its proximity to the postulated alignment of the northern section of the Saxon Burgh defences.</p> <p>The evaluation has revealed a sequence of deposits and structures dating from the Iron Age, medieval, post-medieval and modern uses of the site. An isolated Iron Age pit was identified within the western part of the site. The evaluation also revealed the well preserved remains of a large medieval ditch which follows the postulated alignment of the northern defensive ditch of the Saxon Burgh, as well as localised post-medieval quarrying.</p> <p>The archaeological works have also successfully characterised the development of the site from the mid-19th to early 20th centuries, and have identified evidence of the structures depicted on 19th-century cartographic sources.</p>	
Project dates	15/05/17 to 19/05/17	
Project type	Evaluation	
Previous work	Desk-Based Assessment Archaeology Collective (2017)	
Future work	Unknown	
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>		
Site Location	Lurke Street, Bedford, Bedfordshire	
Study area (M <sup>2</sup> /ha)	0.12ha and 0.05ha	
Site co-ordinates	505171 250008 and 505268 250019	
<b>PROJECT CREATORS</b>		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	Bedford Borough Council	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Archaeology Collective	
Project Manager	Stuart Joyce (CA); Joe Abrams (AC)	
Project Supervisor	Ralph Brown	
<b>MONUMENT TYPE</b>		
	Iron Age pit, medieval ditch, post-medieval pit	
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS</b>		
	Iron Age and medieval pottery	
<b>PROJECT ARCHIVES</b>		
	Intended final location of archive (BEDFM 2017.36)	Content (e.g. pottery, animal bone etc)
Physical	Higgins Art Gallery and Museum, Bedford	Pottery, bone and a buckle
Paper	Higgins Art Gallery and Museum, Bedford	Report, context sheets trench sheets, sections
Digital	Higgins Art Gallery and Museum, Bedford	digital photos, report
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2017 <i>Land at Lurke Street and St Cuthbert's St, Bedford, Bedfordshire: Archaeological Evaluation</i> . CA typescript report <b>17293</b>		





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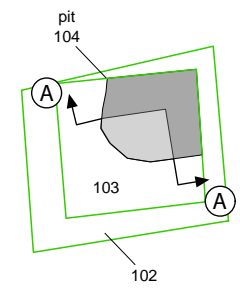
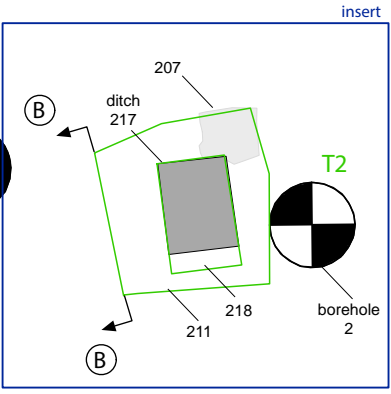
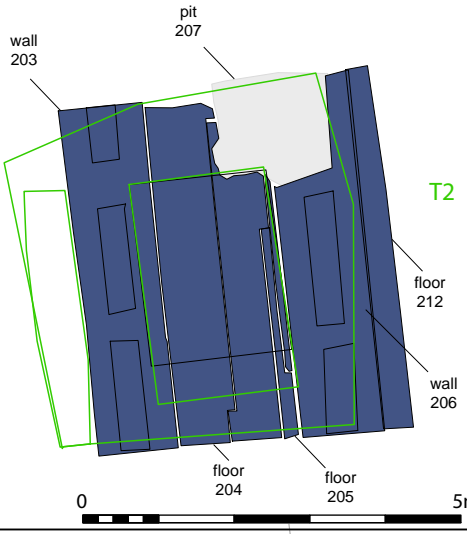
**PROJECT TITLE**  
 Land at Lurke Street and St Cuthbert's Street, Bedford, Bedfordshire

**FIGURE TITLE**  
 Site location plan

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<b>DRAWN BY</b> CP	<b>PROJECT NO.</b> 660912	<b>FIGURE NO.</b>
<b>CHECKED BY</b> DJB	<b>DATE</b> 31/05/2017	
<b>APPROVED BY</b> SJ	<b>SCALE</b> @A4 1:25,000	<b>1</b>





- site boundary
  - evaluation trench
  - existing cellar
  - archaeological feature
  - structural feature
  - modern
  - section location
- geotechnical information**
- approximate location of test pit
  - approximate location of borehole formed by Driven Tube Sampling techniques
  - approximate location of borehole formed by Cable and Tool percussive techniques



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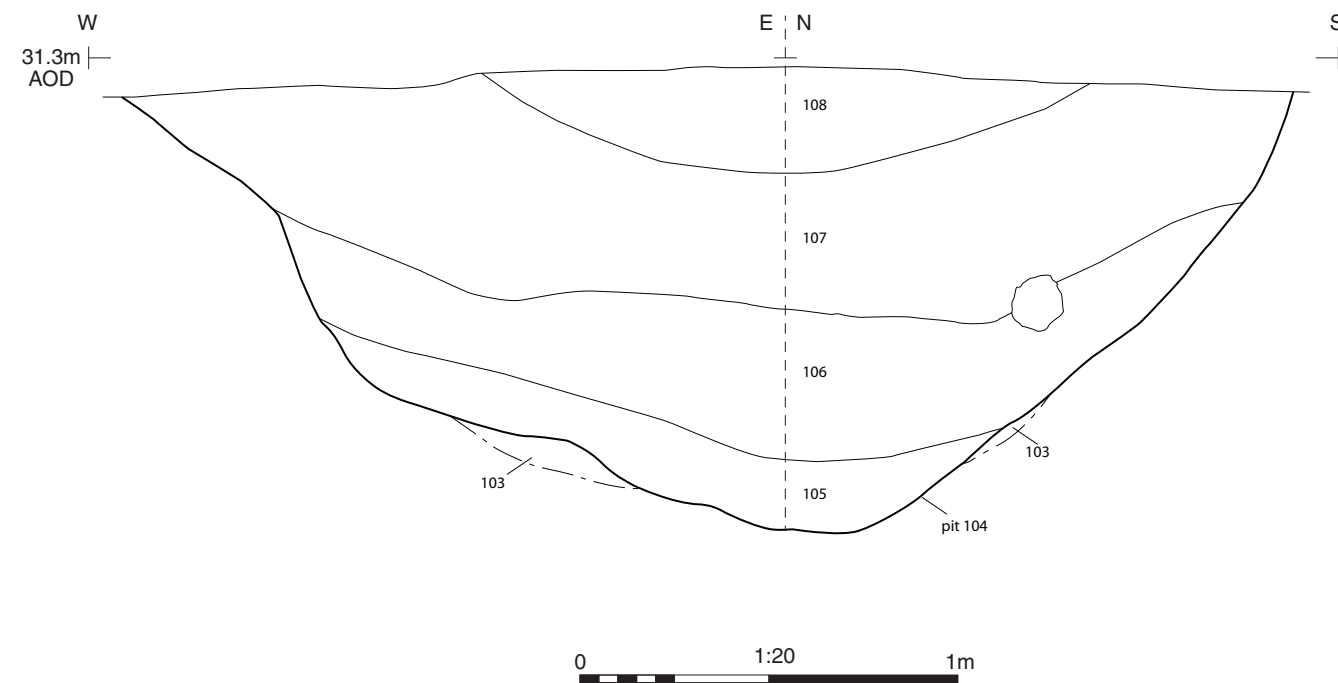
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www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk	
enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk	

PROJECT TITLE  
**Land at Lurke Street and St Cuthbert's Street, Bedford, Bedfordshire**

FIGURE TITLE  
**Plot A trench location plan, showing archaeological features and location of geotechnical investigations**

DRAWN BY	CP	PROJECT NO.	660912	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	30/05/2017	
APPROVED BY	SJ	SCALE@A3	1:200 & 1:100	<b>2</b>

Section AA



Site: plot A, pre-excavation, looking west



Trench 1, looking east (scale 1m)


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PROJECT TITLE  
**Land at Lurke Street and St Cuthbert's Street, Bedford, Bedfordshire**

FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench 1: section and photographs**

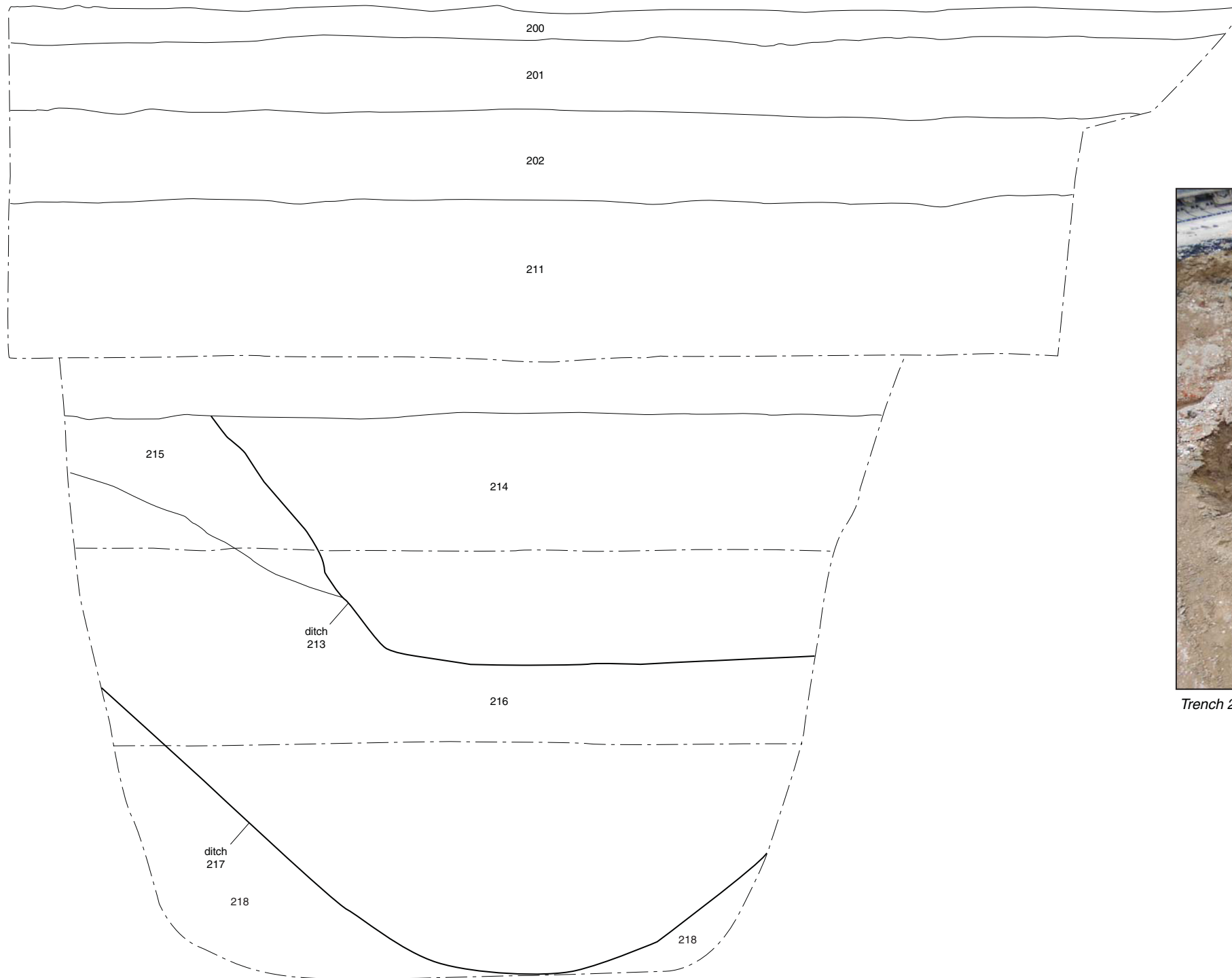
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CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	31/05/2017	<b>3</b>
APPROVED BY	SJ	SCALE@A3	1:20	



Section BB

S  
32.6m  
AOD

N



Trench 2, looking south-west (scale 2m)

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PROJECT TITLE  
Land at Lurke Street and St Cuthbert's  
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FIGURE TITLE  
Trench 2: section and photograph

DRAWN BY	CP	PROJECT NO.	660912	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	31/05/2017	4
APPROVED BY	SJ	SCALE@A3	1:20	





Trench 2 brickwork, looking north-east (scale 1m)

5



Trench 3, looking south (scales 1m)

6



Trench 3, looking south-east (scale 2m)

7









Trench 3, looking north (scale 2m)




8





-  site boundary
-  evaluation trench
-  archaeological feature
-  structural feature
-  modern
-  section location

**geotechnical information**

-  approximate location of test pit
-  approximate location of borehole formed by Driven Tube Sampling techniques
-  approximate location of borehole formed by Cable and Tool percussive techniques



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**PROJECT TITLE**  
 Land at Lurke Street and St Cuthbert's Street, Bedford, Bedfordshire

**FIGURE TITLE**  
 Plot B trench location plan, showing archaeological features and geotechnical investigations

DRAWN BY	CP	PROJECT NO.	660912	FIGURE NO.
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APPROVED BY	SJ	SCALE@A3	1:200	





10

Plot B pre-excitation, looking south-west



11

Trench 4a, looking north (scales 1m)



12

Trench 4b, looking west (scale 2m)



13

Trench 5a, looking west (scales 1m)


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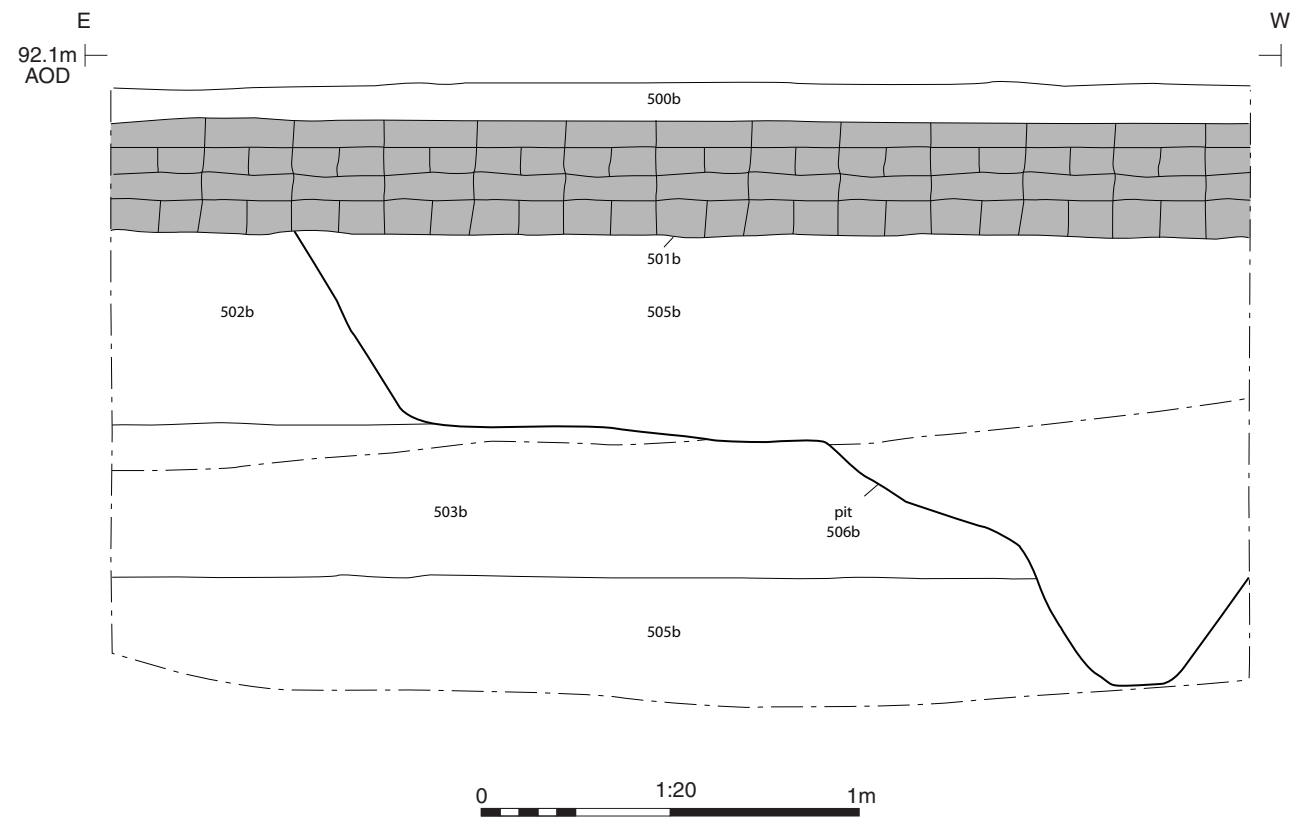
PROJECT TITLE  
 Land at Lurke Street and St Cuthbert's  
 Street, Bedford, Bedfordshire

FIGURE TITLE  
 Photographs

DRAWN BY	CP	PROJECT NO.	660912	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	31/05/2017	10-13
APPROVED BY	SJ	SCALE	@A3 NA	



Section CC



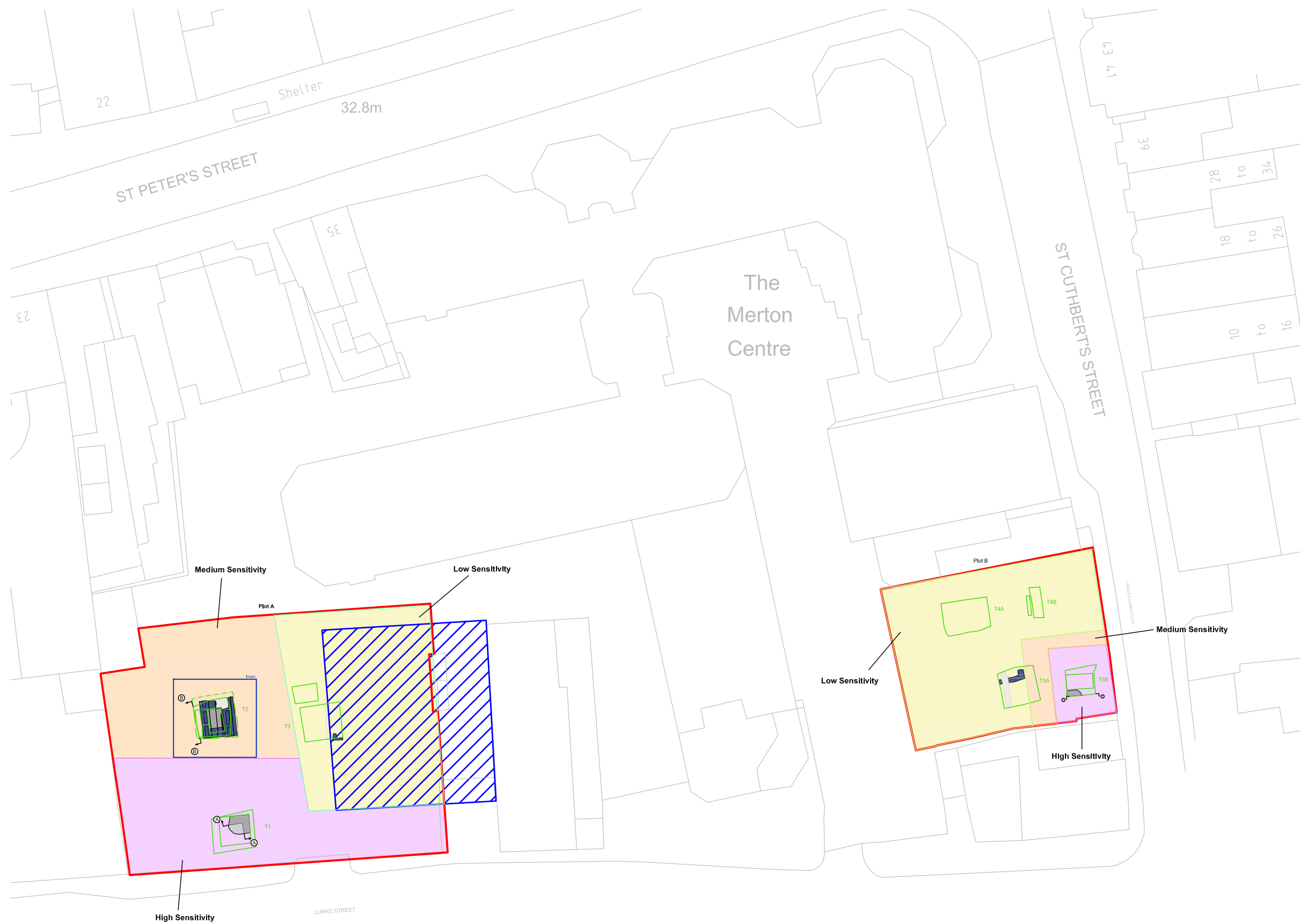
Trench 5b, looking south (scale 2m)


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PROJECT TITLE  
 Land at Lurke Street and St Cuthbert's  
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FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench 5b: section and photograph**

DRAWN BY	CP	PROJECT NO.	660912	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	31/05/2017	14
APPROVED BY	SJ	SCALE@A3	1:20	



- site boundary
- evaluation trench
- archaeological feature
- structural feature
- modern
- section location
- Low sensitivity
- Medium sensitivity
- High sensitivity

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**PROJECT TITLE**  
 Land at Lurke Street and St Cuthbert's Street, Bedford, Bedfordshire

**FIGURE TITLE**  
 Model of archaeological sensitivity

<b>DRAWN BY</b> CP	<b>PROJECT NO.</b> 660912	<b>FIGURE NO.</b>
<b>CHECKED BY</b> DJB	<b>DATE</b> 31/05/2017	<b>15</b>
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