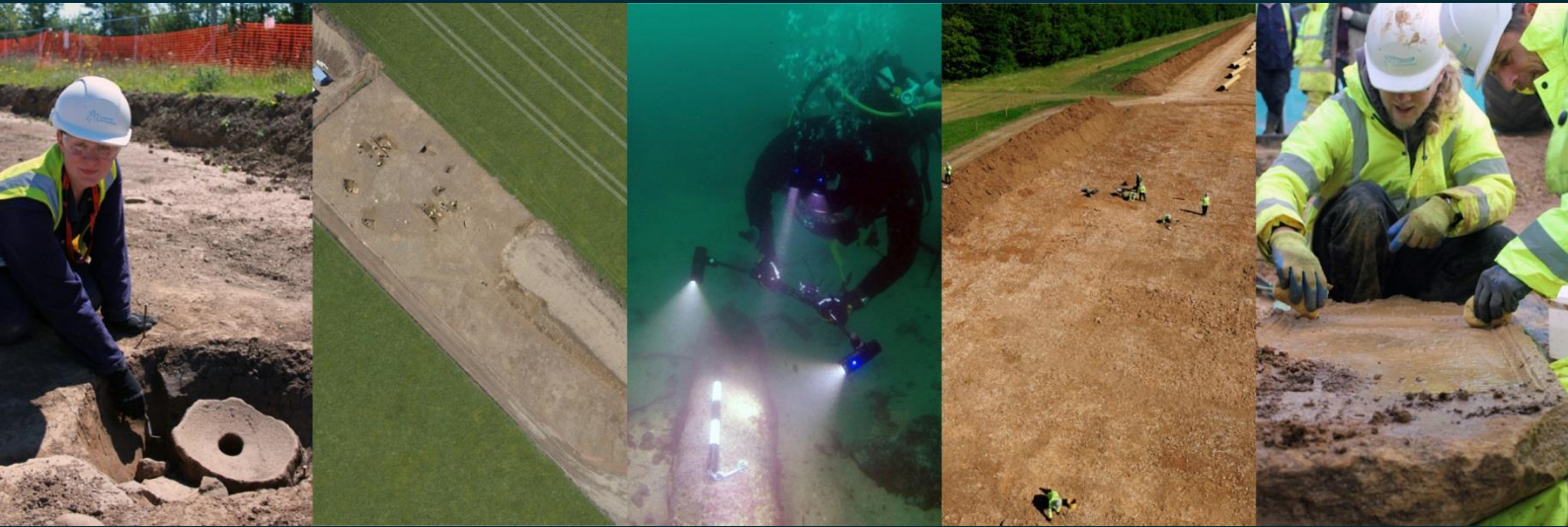


# Great Linford Manor Park Great Linford Milton Keynes

*Archaeological Investigation and Community Project*



*For*  
The Parks Trust

CA Project: 661033  
Site Code: GLMP19  
Accession Number: AYBCM: 2019.36

May 2020



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## SUMMARY

<b>Project Name:</b>	Great Linford Manor Park
<b>Location:</b>	Great Linford, Milton Keynes
<b>NGR:</b>	485195 242384
<b>Type:</b>	Archaeological Investigation and Community Project
<b>Date:</b>	8-15 April and 1-5 July 2019
<b>Location of Archive:</b>	To be deposited with Milton Keynes Museum (AYBCM: 2019.36)
<b>Site Code:</b>	GLMP19

An archaeological investigation and community project were undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in two phases April and July 2019 (Stage 1 and 2 respectively) at Great Linford Manor Park, Great Linford, Milton Keynes. The site was located in the portion of the park which extends to the south of the canal, comprising part of the Wilderness and the area between the manor and current Arts Centre. The works were commissioned by The Parks Trust to inform a larger-scale National Lottery Heritage funded project (the *Reveal, Revive and Restore* project) to improve the site and wider park as a visitor destination, including revealing, restoring and recreating aspects of the 18th century formal grounds. A total of 7 trenches were targeted on known features of interest and the results of a preceding programme of geophysical survey.

The works revealed the full profile of the ha-ha which formerly bisected the eastern end of the park, including a well-preserved drystone retaining wall which survives to a height of just over 1m above present ground level covered by a layer of topsoil and vegetation.

An isolated shallow ditch was encountered in the area to the west of the ha-ha, however it was not possible to determine the feature's date or function.

Immediately in front of the manor house, the likely foundation pit of an ornamental sundial was investigated, the approximate location of which had been identified from historic photographs dating to the 1960s and was confirmed by the fieldwork.

Approximately halfway between the pavilions and the manor, a possible robbed out wall line was encountered, together with an associated layer interpreted as a possible occupation deposit and a possible pit dating to the 12th to 14th century, pre-dating the manor and formal parkland. Similarly, in the area of the Doric Seat, two walls were encountered, cut by the

Doric Seat foundations. It is possible that these features indicate activity within the area which pre-dates the establishment of the manor and park. However, due to the restricted time and scope of the project these features were not further investigated at this time and a decision was made to preserve these remains *in-situ* for potential future investigation.

A particular focus was placed on public engagement and community involvement throughout Stage 1 of the fieldwork programme. A total of 84 volunteer members of the public were able to participate in the investigation and recording of features alongside Cotswold Archaeology staff. A public Open Day held at the end of the Stage 1 fieldwork facilitated greater engagement with a variety of visitors to the park, including the presentation of finds and preliminary site interpretations during guided site tours.

On-site engagement was supplemented by social media campaigns throughout both stages of fieldwork, showcasing progress and raising awareness for the project. A short segment filmed for the local ITV evening news, broadcast at the start of the fieldwork, also successfully raised awareness among the local residents. In addition, a time-lapse video documenting the progress of the excavation around the Doric Seat was produced during the Stage 2 fieldwork and made available on YouTube.



## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In April and July 2019 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological investigation and community project at Great Linford Manor Park, Great Linford, Milton Keynes (centred at NGR: 485195 242384; Figure.1). The site comprises an area within the central portion of the park to the south of the Grand Union Canal, between St Andrews Church to the west and marsh Drive to the east, as well as the area between the North and South pavilion and Great Linford Manor. The fieldwork was commissioned by The Parks Trust who had received funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) for a project to restore the historic landscape within the site and wider park. The archaeological investigation was undertaken to inform the masterplan and The Parks Trust's restoration proposals for the grounds.
- 1.2 The aim of the *Reveal, Revive and Restore* project is to restore features dating to the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries when the park was laid out, along with implementing improvements such as improved paths, signage and interpretation (Appendix E). The scope of the archaeological investigation was partially informed by the previously drafted Conservation Management Plan (AHaCL 2013) and a geophysical survey carried out by AOC Archaeology Group (2017).
- 1.3 The initial scope of the archaeological work, comprising the excavation of seven trial trenches/areas (hereafter Stage 1 works), was defined during discussions between CA, the Senior Archaeological Officer at Milton Keynes Council (SAOMKC; Nick Crank) and The Parks Trust. A detailed project design was produced by CA on this basis (CA 2019a) and approved by the SAOMKC. In subsequent consultation between CA, The Parks Trust and the SAOMKC a second phase of works was defined based on the Stage 1 works results, specifically the investigations in Trenches 3 (the Doric seat) and 7 (the ha-ha) (hereafter Stage 2 works). An updated project design (CA 2019b) was produced for further investigations in Trenches 3 and 7 only and approved by the SAOMKC.
- 1.4 The fieldwork was carried out in accordance with the project design (CA 2019a and 2019b) and adhered to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation* (ClfA 2014) and the Historic England procedural documents *Management of Archaeological Projects 2* (EH 1991) and *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE): *Project*

*Manager's Guide* (EH 2015). Both stages of work were monitored by the SAOMKC, including site visits on 9th April, 11th April and 12th April 2019 (Stage 1 works), and on 2nd and 4th July (Stage 2 works).

### **The site**

- 1.5 The site covers an area of approximately 4.8ha, and lies within a public park associated with the privately owned Great Linford Manor which sits to the immediate east of the site, within the eastern extent of the park. Great Linford Manor Park predominantly comprises open grass areas with mature trees and public footpaths throughout. To the north of the site boundary the park is bisected by both the Grand Union Canal and the Newport Pagnell railway, both running on a roughly east-west alignment. In the area to the north of the canal (to the north of the site) the park is significantly more wooded. Located in the central and western parts of the park are a series of ponds, St Andrew's Parish church and the 17<sup>th</sup> century Almshouses, Milton Keynes Arts Centre and a number of private businesses. The southern extent of the sites lies at approximately 79m AoD dropping away gently towards the Grand Union canal at approximately 74m AoD with a gently undulating landscape throughout.
- 1.6 The underlying bedrock geology of the area consists of limestone and clay of the Blisworth Formation formed during the Jurassic Period (BGS 2017). No superficial deposits are recorded by the BGS.

## **2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The archaeological background of the site, the manor and the park is drawn from information contained in the *Great Linford Manor Grounds, Milton Keynes: Draft Conservation Management Plan* (DCMP) (AHaCL 2013). It is supplemented by Historic Environment Record (HER) data for the site and surrounding area, a recent geophysical survey of the site (AOC 2017), and a watching brief associated with hydrological works at the Hine Spring in the north-western part of the site (close to the proposed location of Trench 5), to the south of the ponds (CA 2017). The following summary has been superseded by the results of the evaluation.

### **Prehistoric (Pre AD43)**

- 2.2 Aerial photography identified a possible prehistoric (Early Neolithic to Bronze Age) ring ditch (MMK1199) within the northern part of the park. The feature is recorded in

a location to the west of the Lower Pond (MMK5455) and Cascade (MMK5456), located to the north of the site.

### ***Roman (AD43 – AD410)***

- 2.3 Two Roman coins have been recorded in the vicinity of the park. To the south-west a coin dated to AD308-313 was found associated with a possible Roman nail (MMK1826) and to the south-east a late 4<sup>th</sup> century minim forgery was also recorded (MMK1886).
- 2.4 Approximately 1km north-east of the site, just south of the River Ouse Stantonbury Roman Villa (MMK755) was excavated revealing evidence for Iron Age and early Roman occupation succeeded by substantial buildings dated to the 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> centuries AD (Mynard 1987, 97-104). The site has now been destroyed by quarrying.

### ***Early medieval (AD410 – AD1066)***

- 2.5 A truncated Saxon soil sealed beneath the medieval floor levels of St Andrew's Parish Church (MMK2084), to the immediate west of the site, contained abraded Saxon pottery fragments and bone. In addition, service trenching in the graveyard produced additional pottery sherds, suggesting an early to mid-Saxon settlement lay in the area of the church. The church itself may date to the later Saxon period. Excavation work by Milton Keynes Archaeological Unit in the nave of the church (EMK75) uncovered the foundations of a pre-12th century church building.

### ***Medieval – Post-medieval (AD1066 – AD1800)***

- 2.6 A c.13<sup>th</sup> century deer park is recorded within the area of the park in a historic document from AD1283 (MMK2474) when Ralph Pipard complained of theft of his deer. Later accounts of the manor also contain references to such a park.
- 2.7 An evaluation and earthwork survey (EMK175) revealed a large, linear pond, interpreted as a medieval fish pond (MMK5206) and a stone built oven of possible medieval date (MMK5207) just beyond the southern extent of the park. These were situated next to The Old Rectory, an early 17<sup>th</sup> century Grade II listed building (MMK4382) with an associated early 17<sup>th</sup> century dovecote to the north-west (MMK4383).
- 2.8 A large midden deposit dated to the late 17<sup>th</sup>-late 18<sup>th</sup> century was uncovered within the site area during an excavation immediately north of the manor



(EMK84/MMK4023). It was overlain by a layer of Victorian rubbish and rubble. Pre-1800 deposits were interpreted as originating from the kitchens of the manor comprising waste material.

### ***The manor and grounds***

- 2.9 Extensive excavations in the 1980s by Milton Keynes Archaeological Unit (EMK518 – Mynard and Zeepvat 1991) at the site of the current South Pavilion (in the area of Milton Keynes Arts Centre to the west of the site) revealed the foundations of the original, medieval manor house (MMK2473). The original manor house underwent several alterations following its construction in the late 14<sup>th</sup> century. The first phase consisted of a hall, cross passage and service room (Phase 1 – Building 1) with a bakehouse/brewhouse (Phase 1 – Building 2) on the opposite side of a yard to the east. Following a fire in the late 15<sup>th</sup> century Building 2 was demolished and extensive renovations and additions were made to Building 1.
- 2.10 In 1633 the Manor House (MMK2472) was acquired by Sir Richard Napier and subsequently sold to Sir William Pritchard by 1679. In 1679 the final iteration of the original house was demolished and a new manor constructed on the opposite side of the former line of the main street (preserved by the current north-south aligned footpath) in its current position to the east of the site.
- 2.11 The single-storey, stone alms-houses (MMK2858) were constructed within the grounds between 1696-97, with the village church, St Andrew's (MMK2084), being subject to large-scale renovation works between 1709-10. The early manor grounds were laid out as a formal system of three terraces at the rear of the house to the east of the site, with two steep, distinct banks to the north and south within the site.
- 2.12 Between 1720-40 the manor house and grounds (MMK2471) were altered on at least two separate occasions, firstly through the addition of the North and South Pavilions (around 1725), formalising a more axial plan of the grounds. The Great Room or Ballroom was added sometime between 1740-50. An inventory dating to 1758 records 21 rooms within the building, as well as a large service area on the north side. Landscape designer Richard Woods produced a landscape design plan for the neighbouring estate of Little Linford in 1761 but it is not clear if this was implemented. There were plans for the intensive re-landscaping of the manor grounds, introducing water gardens (MMK5456), a Cascade (MMK5455), Doric Seat

(MMK5782) and ha-ha, consistent with the English Landscape style. The manor itself was re-fronted in c.1780, with a walled garden likely appearing during this time.

- 2.13 During the 19th century the estate was severely truncated by the construction of the Grand Union Canal in 1800, splitting the water gardens in half. This was followed by the completion of the Newport Pagnell Railway Company line, just to the north and parallel to the canal, in 1865. The railway line was taken over in 1875 by the London & North Western Railway, and converted into a pedestrian and cycle way after its closure in 1964.
- 2.14 The manor and grounds passed from private ownership to the Milton Keynes Development Corporation during the 20th century. The manor was subsequently converted into an arts centre, with new access ways and parking areas added. A memorial hall was also constructed to the east of the manor, and the manor and gardens changed ownership several times. However, by 1992 the estate ownership was split between the Milton Keynes Parks Trust, looking after the landscape, Buckinghamshire County Council, who owned the Almshouses to the west of the site, and the current private owners of Linford Manor and its private garden, Mr and Mrs Winkelman. The freehold of the park is currently with Milton Keynes Council, subject to The Parks Trust's 999 year leasehold.

#### ***Watching brief and geophysical survey***

- 2.15 A watching brief conducted by CA (2017) in the north-western part of the site revealed evidence of a small, disused pond associated with the water garden and the Hine Spring. The pond could not be dated securely although it is visible on the 1841 Tithe Map and included evidence of a possible decorative spring head.
- 2.16 A geophysical survey of the site carried out by AOC Archaeology Group (2017) revealed numerous features of potential archaeological significance throughout the park, to the south of the Grand Union Canal. This was successful in revealing the location of the Doric Seat (MMK5782), which was destroyed by fire in the 1980s as well as a possible 'promenade' feature extending to the north. The survey also revealed evidence for the remains of a potential sun dial or stone column located immediately east of the manor house.
- 2.17 A strong north-south linear anomaly running centrally through the park was identified as being a road originally running through the medieval settlement of Great Linford.

This may also relate to a nearby east-west limestone trackway, now destroyed by housing development, recorded to the south-east of the site (MMK4034). To the west of this road, mid-way between the manor and the South Pavilion was a geophysical anomaly (targeted by Trench 4) that may correspond with two cottages shown on an estate map of 1641, that according to a 1678 map had been replaced by barns.

- 2.18 Two linear anomalies in the far north-east of the site may indicate remains of the 13<sup>th</sup> century park pale (MMK2474). However, one of these two anomalies runs into a modern ditch to the north of the survey area so may be of more recent date.

### 3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 The objectives of the Stage 1 evaluation were to provide information about the archaeological resource within the site, including its presence/absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality. The objectives of the Stage 2 evaluation were to further investigate the ha-ha ditch (in Trench 7) and possible structural remains exposed in the area of the Doric Seat (in Trench 3). In accordance with the *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014), the evaluation was designed to be minimally intrusive and minimally destructive to archaeological remains. The information gathered will be used to further inform the masterplan and The Parks Trust's restoration proposals for the grounds. It will also further enable Milton Keynes Council to identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage assets, consider the impact of any proposed works upon them, and avoid or minimise conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the proposed restoration works.
- 3.2 It was hoped that the fieldwork would contribute to some of the aims set out within the *Solent-Thames Research Framework for the Historic Environment Resource Assessments and Research Agendas* (Hey and Hind 2014), particularly in furthering the understanding of a former deer park and manorial site (as defined in sections 16.4.10 and 16.6.12 respectively). However, this framework offers a rather general, broad agenda for the wider region. The themes set out in the *Great Linford Manor Grounds, Milton Keynes: Draft Conservation Management Plan* (AHaCL 2013) provided more directly measurable project aims:

- Themes 1 and 2 (AHaCL 2013, 60) concern the enhancement of the visitor experience and enjoyment of the park, achievable through better interpretation of different aspects of the park, its history and changing use over time.
- Theme 3 (AHaCL 2013, 61) identifies the aim to reveal, restore, and recreate the elements and sense of the 18<sup>th</sup> century pleasure grounds. Particular reference is made in this context to the ha-ha feature near the north-east corner of the site, targeted by Trench 7 (see section 6.21, below).
- Theme 5 (AHaCL 2013, 62) links to Themes 1 and 2, formalising the aim to improve the understanding and interpretation of the grounds in order to facilitate a greater level of visitor enjoyment and understanding of the park.

3.4 During meetings on the 7<sup>th</sup> August 2017 and the 29<sup>th</sup> November 2018 a number of research objectives were defined in discussions between CA, the Parks Trust and the SAOMKC. These included:

- To clarify the original profile of the ha-ha ditch (Trench 7), and to confirm the presence/absence of any retaining wall or palisade structure;
- To investigate the area between the Doric Seat and the Great Union Canal (Trench 3), in order to expose any formal path or terracing leading north from the edge of the Seat itself;
- To identify the location of an ornamental sundial feature immediately in front of the manor (Trench 1), which is visible in historic photographs;
- To confirm the reliability of the geophysical survey results in identifying possible remains of early activity within the area which may predate the formal landscape associated with the manor.

3.3 Additionally this project aimed to encourage a deeper knowledge and understanding of local heritage. Inclusion of local residents and volunteers in the Stage 1 fieldwork aided the engagement of the local community in the process of archaeological research. No formal public participation was provided during the Stage 2 works, although the ongoing works continued to attract the interest of visitors to the park.

However, a time lapse camera was set up in Trench 7 for the duration of the Stage 2 fieldwork, and the video has been made publicly available on YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oD2haHTaZUc>).

#### 4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 The fieldwork comprised the excavation of 7 trenches of varying dimensions, in the locations shown on Figure 2. Detailed descriptions and rationales for the trench locations can be found in the project design (CA 2019a and 2019b), and in section 6, below. The trenches were set out on OS National Grid (NGR) co-ordinates using Leica GPS and Total Station equipment and surveyed in accordance with CA Technical Manual 4 *Survey Manual* (CA 2009).
- 4.2 Trenches 2, 4, 5 (partially excavated) and 6 were excavated by mechanical excavator equipped with 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). Trenches 1, 3, and 7 were excavated by hand. Topsoil and subsoil were stored separately adjacent to each trench. Where archaeological deposits were encountered they were excavated by hand in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual* (CA 2007). At the end of the Stage 1 works, Trenches 1, 2 and 4-6 were backfilled. Trenches 3 and 7 remained open, with archaeological remains and excavated slots covered with geotextile in order to protect the remains. The same methodology was employed at the end of the Stage 2 works and Trenches 3 and 7 were left open but covered with geotextile.
- 4.3 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* (CA 2003) and one deposit was sampled and processed. All artefacts recovered were processed in accordance with Technical Manual 3 *Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation* (CA 2005).
- 4.4 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 Milton Keynes Museum, along with the site archive (under accession number AYBCM: 2019.36). A summary of information from this

project, set out within Appendix D, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

## 5. PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT, PARTICIPATION AND BENEFIT

5.1 This project was delivered with the aim to facilitate public engagement and participation particularly during the course of the Stage 1 fieldwork. —Work undertaken as part of this project as a whole aimed more widely to encourage knowledge of local heritage and history and a feeling of a sense of place in the local community via the direct engagement of local residents in the process of archaeological research and the eventual presentation of the results at an appropriate venue.

### ***Social media and traditional media coverage***

5.2 A comprehensive social media campaign, coordinated between CA and the Parks Trust, covered both stages of fieldwork. Prior to starting on site, announcements were posted on social media notifying members of the public of the upcoming project. During the works, daily updates from site showcased progress in the trenches, examples of finds recovered, and the involvement of volunteers during Stage 1.

5.3 In addition, at the start of the project, a short segment was filmed on site for inclusion in the ITV local evening news broadcast on Tuesday 9 April, including short interviews with the Parks Trust and CA staff. This noticeably raised awareness in the local community, with a number of visitors referencing the news coverage as their source of information for the works.

### ***Fieldwork participation***

5.4 In order to facilitate active participation in the fieldwork process for members of the public, a total of four sessions were advertised by the Parks Trust for Wednesday 10th April and Thursday 11th April. Pre-booking was mandatory in order to control the maximum numbers of volunteers to 15 per session, to ensure adequate training and supervision ratios. All sessions proved highly popular, with four groups of 15 volunteers per session contributing to investigation and recording of Trenches 1, 3, 4, 6 and 7.

- 5.5 Additionally, on Friday 12th April two sessions were offered specifically for the Parks Trust volunteers including their Young Rangers group. Like the open public sessions, this proved highly popular with a total of 24 volunteers contributing to the ongoing investigations in Trenches 3, 4 and 7.
- 5.6 At the end of the first phase of fieldwork, a total of 84 volunteers had been able to participate actively in the investigation and recording of the trenches. In addition, other visitors to the park were able to observe the teams at work throughout both stages of work. They were able to engage with CA staff, as well as the Parks Trust staff and volunteers from the Friends of Great Linford Manor Park group during the first stage of works, to ask questions about the archaeological works and the wider project. The Parks Trust had a marquee on site for the duration of the Stage 1 works. An activity area with a sandbox with hidden finds was set up in the marquee during the Stage 1 works to facilitate engagement for younger children.

### ***Public Open Day***

- 5.7 A public Open Day was held on site on Saturday 13th April, with joint contributions from CA, the Parks Trust, and the Friends of Great Linford Manor Park group. Finds from the fieldwork and the CA reference collection were displayed to showcase the range of items and materials recovered, and the sandbox activity was available for young visitors (as detailed above). A display was also created by the Parks Trust, detailing the plans for the wider project of restoring and improving the park.
- 5.8 In addition, a group of CA staff continued to work on recording the trenches throughout the day, enabling visitors to gain an insight into the process of archaeological recording. Guided tours of the trenches, ran jointly by CA and Parks Trust staff, were also offered in order to provide additional detailed information and interpretations to a wider audience.

## **6. RESULTS (FIGS 2-10)**

- 6.1 Seven trenches were excavated across the site (Fig. 2), largely in accordance with the proposed trench plan; however, the positions of trenches 2, 4 and 6 were adjusted slightly to protect adjacent mature trees, and the excavation of trench 5 was abandoned due to its proximity to the pond, public footpath and a number of mature trees including one protected tree. Based on the results of the Stage 1

works, trenches 3 and 7 were extended during Stage 2 in order to further investigate features revealed during the first phase of works. In order to facilitate easy identification of features which relate specifically to the project aims detailed in section 3, above, the features are grouped by chronological period, so far as possible. The individual features and deposits are summarised below. Detailed summaries of the recorded contexts, finds and environmental samples (palaeoenvironmental evidence) are to be found in Appendices A, B and C respectively.

### ***Blank trenches and undated features***

#### *Trench 1 (Figures 2 and 3)*

- 6.2 Trench 1 comprised a hand dug test pit measuring 4m x 4m, central to a circular grass feature immediately west of the manor.
- 6.3 In the southeast corner of the trench, parts of a possible L-shaped wall foundation (107) were encountered. These remains comprised rough, undressed limestone fragments of varying sizes (107), arranged above a dark grey blue clay layer (108) (Figure 3) which may represent a foundation supporting layer. Identical clay material was also observed as packing (106) between the stones. The individual stones and general construction method of the possible wall line were noted to be similar to that of the walls encountered in Trench 3 (see below).
- 6.4 Due to the limited exposed area and a lack of dating evidence it was not possible to conclusively date the feature, but it is worth noting that no known historic photographs of the manor frontage feature any walls or similar structural features. This highlights the possibility that the feature may relate to earlier activity, potentially predating the manor. Circular pit 101 was also revealed in Trench 1 and is discussed below.

#### *Trench 2 (Figures 2 and 4)*

- 6.5 Trench 2 measured 20m long by 1.6m wide; its orientation had to be adjusted to account for on-site constraints, in consultation with the Parks Trust and with the approval of the SAOMKC. The trench was targeted on several parallel linear anomalies identified by the geophysical survey.
- 6.6 A single northwest-southeast aligned ditch 202 (Figure 4; Section BB) was encountered within the trench. The feature measured in excess of 5m long, 1.20m



wide and 0.10m deep, with gently sloping, straight sides and a flat base. A single fill (203) of dark grey brown clayey silt contained fragments of animal bone, but no dating evidence.

#### *Trench 5 (Figures 2 and 8)*

- 6.7 Trench 5 was planned in a location immediately adjacent to the Upper Pond, targeted on two linear, geophysical anomalies, with the aim of establishing nature and date of these features. Due to the trench location's proximity to the pond, public footpath and a number of mature trees it was decided to abandon the excavation of the trench, following consultation with the Parks Trust and with the approval of the SAOMKC.

#### *Trench 6 (Figures 2 and 8)*

- 6.8 Trench 6 was located to the far north-west of the site near the Grand Union Canal and measured approximately 10m long by 3.4m wide. The trench was targeted on two linear geophysical anomalies, with the intention to clarify their nature and date. Trench 6 was placed in an area of lower archaeological potential as suggested by the results of the geophysical survey. However, it was also considered possible that landscaping associated with the canal had potentially masked features. Due to a cluster of trees in the immediate area of the trench its final location was determined on site in agreement with the Parks Trust and with the approval of the SAOMKC.
- 6.9 No archaeological features or deposits of any date were observed in Trench 6. However, a small assemblage of modern artefacts was collected from the topsoil.

### ***Pre-18th century***

#### *Trench 3 (Figures 2, 5 and 6)*

- 6.10 Trench 3 was positioned in the location of a former 18th or 19th century structure known as the Doric Seat; this was originally likely used as sheltered seating area to allow for the appreciation of views out of the park towards the north (CA 2017). The structure was subsequently utilised as a cattle shelter (see Photo 1, below), before being mostly demolished following a fire in the 1980s. The only currently surviving visible remains of the structure are the base platform and a pair of cattle troughs. Trench 3 was targeted on a geophysical anomaly located to the north of the Doric Seat. As machine access into the area was not possible, the trench was excavated by hand, aligned down a moderately steep slope from the edge of the Doric Seat towards the canal and measuring approximately 16.5m long and between 2m and

5.7m wide. The trench was excavated during the Stage 1 works as a 2m wide linear corridor, but it was agreed to extend the southern portion of the trench as part of the Stage 2 works in order to facilitate additional investigation of the structural features uncovered during Stage 1.



**Photo 1:** The Doric Seat in use as a cattle shelter (reproduced from CA 2017).

- 6.11 At the southern end of the trench an L-shaped wall line 302 was encountered. The roughly east-west aligned section measured at least 5.4m long and continued beyond the western limits of the trench. The wall line was observed to turn south and was truncated by the northern edge of the Doric Seat. Along its exposed length the wall had a consistent width of approximately 0.70m, and was constructed of roughly dressed randomly coursed limestone blocks of various sizes, surviving to a height of 0.43m.
- 6.12 Within the presumed interior area of wall 302 a second, north-south aligned wall 311 was encountered during the Stage 2 extension of the trench (Figure 6; Section CC). This also appeared to be truncated by the foundations of the Doric Seat, surviving with a length of 1.10m by 0.80m wide and 0.45m in height. Its construction method and material are identical to those of wall 302, although their relative alignments do not readily suggest any obvious structural or functional interpretation. The foundation trench cuts 312 and 303 for wall structures 311 and 302 respectively

were not clearly identified within the area investigated. The fill (313) infilling and overlying the stone structure 311 was a mid greyish-brown clayey-silt, producing five sherds of Lyveden-Stanion ware pottery of probable late medieval date, between the 15th and 16th centuries (Bellamy 1983, 161). Based on the evidence revealed within the area investigated it is not possible to determine if the pottery securely dates wall structure 311. The construction of the Doric Seat 314 is likely to have truncated any earlier remains within its footprint and associated rubble layer (317) contained limestone blocks considered likely to have derived from wall structures 302 and 311. Accordingly, due to the disturbance and landscaping associated with the construction of the Doric Seat 314 it is not possible to conclusively determine if the pottery recovered from (313) dates wall structure 311. However, it does indicate the possibility of late medieval activity taking place in the vicinity of Trench 3.

- 6.13 The construction materials of the walls pointedly do not match those of the Doric Seat; on the contrary it appears that some of the limestone blocks were reused in the rubble layer (317) which forms part of the Seat's foundations (see below). It is possibly of some interest, however, that both are similar to the wall observed in trench 1 (see above). The Doric Seat (314) and a possible ornamental plinth (305) were also investigated in Trench 3 and are discussed below.

#### *Trench 4 (Figures 2 and 7)*

- 6.14 Trench 4 measured 10m long by approximately 4m wide and was located approximately 40m east of the South Pavilion in an area of archaeological potential identified by the geophysical survey. It was hoped that the trench would allow for better interpretation of the nature and date of these anomalies, in order to relate the features to the wider landscape of the manor grounds.
- 6.15 A possible robbed out wall foundation 403 was observed at the northern end of the trench on a northwest-southeast alignment. What remained of the feature measured approximately 0.95m wide, with a visible length of 4.70m although the line of the possible wall continued in both directions beyond the limits of the trench. A number of limestone fragments (405) very similar to those forming the walls in Trench 3 (see above) remain *in-situ* but they do not provide sufficient evidence to identify the original function of the possible wall.
- 6.16 To the south of possible wall remains 403, abutting it and covering the rest of the trench area, was possible occupation layer 401/406. The layer was composed of

grey brown silty clay with infrequent charcoal inclusions. A sondage was excavated (Figure 7) and was intended to clarify the thickness and nature of layer 401/406 near the southern limit of the trench. Layer 401/406 measured 0.15m thick in the sondage, overlying natural 400. No finds were recovered from layer 401/406 within the small sondage slot. In northern part of the trench, closest to the possible wall line 403, layer 401/406, produced a variety of animal bone and post-medieval ceramic finds, as well as a single disarticulated fragment of human mandible. It is considered likely, however, that the human bone was residual. Localised areas of limestone rubble material (411) and (414) at the edges of the trench may have originated from the possible wall line 403.

- 6.17 The sondage slot through layer 401/406 also included the edge of possible pit 412 (Figure 7; Section DD) which was partially covered layer 401/406 in the southeast corner of the trench. The feature was only partially revealed within the trench, with a visible length of 3m, width of 1.4m and minimum depth of 0.36m, although the base was not reached. Pottery fragments recovered from the single fill (413) date the feature to the 12th to 14th century, predating the manor and formal park landscape.
- 6.18 Due to the limited scope of the current programme of fieldwork, it was decided in discussion between CA, the Parks Trust and the SAOMKC that Trench 4 would not be investigated further but would be preserved *in-situ*. This would better facilitate a separate programme of works in the future, should this be required by The Parks Trust. Accordingly, Trench 4 was largely only recorded in plan at this time and was then covered with geotextile prior to backfilling.

### **Mid- 18th century**

#### *Trench 3 (Figures 2, 5 and 6)*

- 6.19 The northern edge of the Doric Seat, constructed as part of the re-design of the park during the mid-18th century (see section 6.10, above), formed the southern limit of Trench 3. This resulted in structure 314 being only partially exposed in section, revealing some of the construction sequence: the base is formed of roughly dressed sandstone blocks of varying sizes (315) with a thickness of 0.40m. This is overlain by a single course of bricks, 316, sealed in turn by a layer of rubble and debris, 317, which contained post-medieval ceramic and glass finds as well as limestone blocks likely originating from the two walls 302 and 311 encountered to the north of the Doric Seat (as described above). This is capped by a layer of concrete (318) which

forms the current surface of the Doric Seat's structural remains, on which a set of two troughs still remain *in-situ*.

#### *Trench 7 (Figures 2, 9 and 10)*

- 6.20 Trench 7 comprised the manual cleaning of a strip across the ha-ha to the north of the manor building, in an area where the ditch is still mostly extant, with only some basal infilling. The location for this was determined during a pre-commencement site meeting in discussion with the Parks Trust and the SAOMKC, taking into account on-site constraints.
- 6.21 The fieldwork was able to reveal the full profile of the mid-18th century ha-ha, which has been adversely affected by prolonged neglect. The ditch itself, 701 (Figure 10; Section FF), measured approximately 6m wide, with a vertical side along the southwest and a straight, moderately sloping side to the northeast. At its deepest point, approximately 1.6m below present ground level, the limestone bedrock 707 was visible. The feature's sides were cut into the brown yellow clay deposits 706 which were also encountered in other trenches and which overlaid the bedrock.
- 6.22 Fills 703, 704, and 705 filled the base of the ha-ha ditch and appear to result from the prolonged period of neglect and disrepair to which the feature has been subjected. All three fills are comprised of mixed grey brown silty clay deposits including stones derived from the collapsed top section of the ha-ha wall. The fills produced a variety of post-medieval and modern finds including fragments of modern glass bottles, ceramic fragments and plastic waste.
- 6.23 Along the southwest side of the ditch, drystone retaining wall 702 (Figure 9; Section EE) was shown to survive to a maximum height of 1.13m, with a thickness of 0.60m. This was constructed from fragments of tabular limestone in uneven courses, with the fronting stones roughly dressed to create a more visually appealing surface. While it is clear that a section at the top of the wall has been lost, likely due to collapse caused by exposure and root damage over time, the main body of the structure appears to have survived well, protected by a layer of organic topsoil material (700).

#### **Mid- 20th century**

*Trench 1 (Figures 2 and 3)*

- 6.24 The fieldwork confirmed the presence of circular pit 101 near the southwest corner of the trench, measuring approximately 1.0m in diameter and 0.62m deep, with steep sloping straight sides and a concave base (Figure 3; Section AA). A basal fill 102 comprised mottled mid blue grey and yellow brown silty clay, containing oyster shell fragments and an iron nail of indeterminate date; this was sealed by an upper fill 103 of mid brown grey gravelly sand which contained no finds.
- 6.25 Despite the absence of direct dating evidence, it is possible that the pit represents the foundation cut for an ornamental sundial base dating to the mid- 20th century, which is clearly visible in aerial photographs of the site (see AHaCL 2013, Fig. 2.32).

*Trench 3 (Figures 2, 5 and 6)*

- 6.26 The first phase of investigation in the trench revealed structural remains located at its northern end. These included a roughly square plinth or ornamental feature base, 305 (Figure 5) which measured 0.84m long and 0.78m wide; the structure was constructed from bricks 307 partially overlain by dispersed patches of a mortar-like material (306). The feature was located approximately halfway between the edge of the Grand Union Canal to the north and the Doric Seat to the south, and partially covered by a charcoal dump deposit, 310, likely related to modern activity (see section 8.12). The feature was covered by a thin layer of topsoil, 300, and grass. Its construction resembles that of a number of similar structures and inspection chambers within the park.
- 6.27 Plinth 305 lies in an area of mature trees and dense vegetation on the southern bank of the Grand Union Canal referred to as the Wilderness. It is possible that it marked the former location of an ornamental urn which is said to have been placed in the Wilderness area during the time when the manor was used as the headquarters of the Chilstone firm between the 1950s and 1970s. This would make the plinth roughly cotemporary with the likely sundial pit encountered in Trench 1.

7. **THE FINDS** by Peter Banks and Ed McSloy

- 7.1 The artefactual material is recorded from 24 deposits comprising pit and ditch fills, wall construction cut fills, layers and the topsoil (Appendix B). The material was recovered by hand.

### **Pottery**

- 7.2 The pottery recovered from the evaluation is recorded in Appendix B and discussed below. Recording of the finds assemblage was direct to an Excel spreadsheet; this now forms the basis of Appendix B (Table 1). The pottery was examined by context, using a x40 hand lens and quantified according to sherd count and weight per fabric type. The fabrics are described in Appendix B (Table 2) in accordance with the Historic England guidelines (Barclay et al. 2016) and where appropriate the Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group Guidelines (PCRG 2010).
- 7.3 The assemblage comprises 107 sherds (1197g) of pottery recorded from 16 deposits, which included pit and ditch fills, wall construction cut fills and layers. Approximately half of the assemblage (53 sherds), including material of earlier Anglo-Saxon and medieval date, was derived from the topsoil 100 in Trench 1, 300 in Trench 3, 400 in Trench 4, 500 in Trench 5 and 600 in Trench 6. Despite this, the condition of the assemblage is moderately good with minimal abrasion and some large sherds, joining sherds present from among the topsoil deposits. The quantity and good condition of the pottery from the topsoil 300 in Trench 3 may suggest that it has been recently disturbed from stratified archaeological deposits.

### *Early Saxon*

- 7.4 A total of 14 sherds (98g) can be dated to this period, c. AD 450–750. All appears to be residual, occurring in association with later-dated pottery or other material (Table 1). Unfeathered bodysherds in handmade fabrics make up the majority, most in fabric Q1 and recorded from the topsoil of Trenches 3 and 7. The fabrics (Table 2) compare to types known locally, for instance at Pennyland, Milton Keynes (Blinkhorn 1993). Rim sherds are limited to two from the topsoil 300 in Trench 3 and ditch fill 304 in Trench 3. Both rims are simple and slightly-everted, and probably come from jars of 'baggy' or globular form. One further body sherd (fabric Q1) from topsoil 300 in Trench 3 is also identifiable as a globular-bodied vessel, probably a jar. Decoration/surface treatment was limited to on one bodysherd (fabric Q1) from topsoil 300 in Trench 3 with a deep-scored linear decoration. The sherd is small and it is unclear if the decoration is part of a linear scheme, characteristic of some 5th or

earlier 6th century styles, or is the border zone of a later (6th century) scheme incorporating stamped motifs.

#### *Late Saxon/Medieval*

- 7.5 A total of 49 sherds (683g) of pottery from six deposits were attributable to this period. Only nine sherds were derived from features comprising fill 313 of wall cut 312 in Trench 3 and fill 413 of possible pit 412 in Trench 4; the remainder was residual or unstratified. The majority of the Late Saxon/Medieval group, including 27 sherds from the topsoil 300 of Trench 3 consists of sherds in shell-tempered St Neots type ware (STND). St Neots ware is well known from the wider area, most likely representing the products of a number of kilns and its date range spanning the 10th to late 12th century. A later tradition of shell-tempered pottery, developed from the St Neots tradition, extends into the 14th or 15th centuries and it can be difficult to distinguish unfeatured sherds. For this reason, the dating of some material recorded under fabric STND is unclear. Where vessel forms can be identified, these for the most part correspond to those of the earlier St Neots ware tradition. A deep bowl from topsoil 300 in Trench 3, with an in-turned rim and fingertip rim decoration, compares to examples from previous excavations at Great Linford (Mynard 1992, 250, fig. 123, no. 4) and also from St Neots, Cambs (Addyman 1969, 83, fig.13, no.26). Similarly, dish or bowl forms with in-turned rims, three of which were recorded from topsoil 300 in Trench 3, also find parallels among St Neots ware, including from Great Linford (Mynard 1992, 250, fig. 123, no. 3) and Northampton (McCarthy 1979, 181, fig. 86, nos 189–191 and fig. 97, nos. 505–507). A jar with simple, everted rim and a sherd with an applied, thumbled strip, also from topsoil 300 in Trench 3 would accord better with the later, 'developed' St Neots Ware tradition.
- 7.6 Few featured sherds occur in fabrics other than type STND. A bowl with an expanded rim made in medieval sandy coarse ware fabric MCW, is recorded from fill 413 of possible pit 412 in Trench 4. A similar example recorded from West Cotton was recovered from deposits dating to the early 14th century (Blinkhorn 2010, 285, fig.10.19, no.126), although a broad date between the 12th and 14th century is likely for this fabric. Three green lead-glazed body sherds of Lyveden-Stanion ware (LSCW) are recorded from layer 106 in Trench 1, fill 413 of possible pit 412 in Trench 4 and the topsoil 400 of Trench 4. This material dates from the 13th to 14th centuries (Bellamy 1983, 159). Five sherds of Lyveden-Stanion ware (from fill 313) are made in a developed fabric (LYST) and can probably be dated to the late medieval period, between the 15th and 16th centuries (Bellamy 1983, 161). Seven plain body sherds



(25g) of Olney 'B' ware (OLHB) are recorded in poor condition, recovered from contexts 104, 400, and 413. Olney 'B' wares can be dated to the 14th century (Mynard 1984, 74). One sherd (31g) of late medieval glazed ware (LMGW) dating from the 15th to 16th centuries is recorded from the topsoil 400 of Trench 4.

#### *Post-medieval/modern*

- 7.7 A total of 43 sherds (415g) of post-medieval pottery are recorded from ten deposits. One small plain body sherd (1g) of glazed red earthenware (GRE) dating to between the 16th and 18th centuries is recorded from fill 703 of ditch 701 in Trench 7. Seven sherds (162g) of Frechen Stoneware (GSW4) are noted from fill 705 of ditch 701 in Trench 7 and layer 401 in Trench 4. The material dates to between the 16th and 17th centuries. Fill 703 of ditch 701 in Trench 7 produced four sherds from a jar with an internal purple glaze made in North Midlands earthenware fabric (NMEW). This fabric is known to date to between the 17th and 20th centuries. Four sherds of refined white earthenware (REFW) dating to between the late 18th and 20th centuries, are recorded from fills 703 and 705 of ditch 701 in Trench 7. Two joining sherds from a cup (REFW) with a light blue glaze are recorded from both fills. Fill 703 of ditch 701 in Trench 7 also produced two sherds, including a strap handle from a cup, of Creamware (CRE). This material can be dated to 18th century. One sherd of Yellow ware (YELW), dating from the late 18th to 19th centuries, is recorded from fill 705 of ditch 701 in Trench 7. Nine sherds (25g) of transfer-printed whiteware (TPW) are recorded from four topsoil deposits and fill 705 of ditch 701 in Trench 7. This material has been decorated with blue landscape or floral designs or brown geometric or floral prints. Transfer printed wares date to between the late 18th and 20th centuries. Three joining sherds from a shallow bowl or plate with blue floral grapevine moulded decoration are made from Porcelain (PORC); they are recorded from three separate deposits: fill 705 of ditch 701 in Trench 7, within the cracks and silted up spaces within wall 702 and the topsoil 700 of Trench 7. A teacup painted with a floral decoration, a teacup handle and a lattice decorated rim (PORC) are recorded from the topsoil 300 of Trench 3. A date between the 19th and 20th centuries can be ascribed to the porcelain material, which is all probably English. Two small sherds of post-medieval refined red earthenware (REFR) are recorded from the topsoil 100 and 300 of Trenches 1 and 3. One small sherd of an unknown glazed yellow slip ware (UNYS) from the topsoil 300 of Trench 3 is most likely post-medieval in date.

### *Summary*

- 7.8 Although re-deposited the Early Saxon and Saxo-Norman (St Neots ware) pottery is significant evidence of activity of these periods in the area, adding to that described by Mynard (1992, 243–244). Similarly the medieval pottery, some of which appears to be stratified (Possible pit 412) provides evidence for continued activity into the 12th to 14th centuries. The post-medieval and later pottery indicates that activity may have been continuous up until the present day.

### ***Ceramic Building Material***

- 7.9 A total of 146 fragments (6817g) of post-medieval ceramic building material are recorded from 16 deposits. The material is made in fine sandy (fs), medium sandy (ms) and coarse sandy (cs) fabrics with some calcareous (c), micaceous (m) and ferrous (fe) inclusions, clay pellets (cp) and flint (f). A small number of fragments are also made in refined white fabrics (refw). Four fragments of peg tiles (PEG) are recorded from layer 104 in Trench 1, fill 705 of ditch 701 in Trench 7 and the topsoil 300 of trench 3. A total of 50 fragments of roof tile (RT) are recorded, in particular from made ground deposits 104 in Trench 1 and 401 in Trench 4 and ditch fill 705 in Trench 7. Four fragments of brick (BR) are recorded, one from layer 104 in Trench 1 and from the topsoil 300 in Trench 3. Nine fragments of salt glazed drain pipe (DR) are recorded from layer 317 in Trench 3, ditch fill 705 in Trench 7 and the topsoil 300 in Trench 3. There is some evidence for the reuse of some material with mortar residues recorded on fragments from layer 307 in Trench 3, ditch fill 703 in Trench 7 and the topsoil 300 and 600 of trenches 3 and 6.

### ***Glass***

- 7.10 A total of 30 fragments (192g) of post-medieval glass are recorded from seven deposits. Colourless, green and brown bottle glass is all present, although all pieces are fragmentary. One blue glass bead is recorded from the topsoil 300 of Trench 3. The bead most likely dates to the post-medieval period. Green and blue green bottle glass (14 fragments) from layer 310 and topsoil 300 in Trench 3 has been reheated and has lost its original form resulting to an amorphous shape. This may possibly indicate industrial activity or an attempt to reuse the glass. One fragment of green bottle glass, also from layer 310 in Trench 3, has the letter 'e' moulded on it. This may represent part of the name of the manufacturer or the brand of product contained within. Two fragments of glass from layers 307 and 310 in Trench 3 have suffered minor surface degradation suggesting some level of prolonged exposure.

### ***Industrial Waste***

- 7.11 Ten fragments (312g) of industrial waste are recorded from three deposits. One large fragment (276g) of ironworking slag is recorded from layer 401 in Trench 4. Ditch fill 705 in Trench 7 produced seven fragments of coke and two fragments were recovered from the topsoil 700 of the same trench.

### ***Worked Stone***

- 7.12 One fragment of slate (2g) is recorded from the topsoil 300 of Trench 3. Due to the small size of the fragment it is not possible to determine its function. Two fragments of limestone (306g) are recorded from the same deposit. The surface of one is abraded and its function is uncertain; however, it is roughly rectangular in shape with flat sides and may have been used as some kind of building material. A second fragment has suffered minor heat damage to one end. One fragment (281) of modern concrete was removed (as requested by SAOMKC) from structure 305 for examination.

### ***Mortar***

- 7.13 Six small fragments (4g) of lime mortar are recorded from layer 306 in Trench 3. It is not possible to provide any further analysis of this material.

### ***Clay Tobacco Pipe***

- 7.14 The stem from a clay tobacco pipe (2g) is recorded from ditch fill 703 in Trench 7 and a pipe bowl is recorded from the topsoil 300 in Trench 3. They can be both dated to the post-medieval period; however, due to their fragmentary nature it is not possible to provide any further meaningful commentary.

### ***Metalwork***

- 7.15 A total of 67 fragments of iron are recorded from the site. The overwhelming majority (49 fragments) are post-medieval iron nails of industrial manufacture. A further 12 iron nails, from fill 102 of pit 101 in Trench 1 and the topsoil 300 and 400 of Trenches 3 and 4, are square shafted suggesting that they are handmade and possibly of a pre-industrial date. One fragment of thin iron wire is recorded from the topsoil 100 of Trench 1. An iron fork, the firing cap from a shotgun cartridge, a small iron hoop and two ferrous tent pegs are recorded from layer 310 in Trench 3 and the topsoil 300 of Trench 3. These artefacts are modern and may represent casual losses. All of the iron is heavily encrusted and corroded. A lead spike (34g) with a hexagonal section is

recorded from the topsoil 300 of Trench 3; its function is unknown, but it most likely dates to the post-medieval period. Four modern copper alloy curtain hooks (22g) are recorded from layer 317 in Trench 3. The lead and copper objects have suffered light corrosion.

### ***Plastic***

- 7.16 The topsoil 300 of trench 3 produced a blue plastic comb (5g) which represents casual loss.

## **8. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE**

### ***Human remains*** by Sharon Clough

- 8.1 A single demi-mandible was recovered from layer 401 in Trench 4. The fragment was a left demi-mandible of a non-adult individual. The teeth which still remained in the alveolar enabled an age estimation of 10-12 years age at death. The single remaining deciduous tooth (second molar) was heavily worn through dental attrition. This indicates that the diet was of coarse material and this is more commonly observed on pre-industrial teeth, particularly prehistoric.
- 8.2 The bone surface condition was grade two (after McKinley 2004), good, and the fragmentation was low, although due mostly to the fact it was a single whole fragment.
- 8.3 The alveolar present were right first incisor and then all the left (first incisor, second incisor, canine, deciduous first molar, deciduous second molar, first adult molar, and second adult molar), the teeth present (all left side) were deciduous second molar, first permanent molar and second permanent molar was partially erupted. The root of the left second incisor was present with a recent break. The permanent second molar roots were half formed which gives an age estimate of 7.75-12.5y (Moorees et al. 1963). The attrition on the deciduous second molar was even across the surface and had removed all the cusps. Since this has been in occlusion since around 2-3 years old, the diet would have been fairly coarse to reduce the enamel in the c.7 years of use. No enamel hypoplasia or caries were present on the three teeth; the alveolar around the emerging second permanent molar was wide, similar to that for periodontal disease, but this is probably related to the erupting tooth. Due to the non-adult status of the individual it is not possible estimate sex.

- 8.4 The mandible is likely to relate to a disturbed grave somewhere in the close vicinity to the excavation.

***Animal Bone*** by Andy Clarke

- 8.5 Animal bone amounting to 214 fragments (2034g) was hand recovered from the fills of seven ditch and pit features and seven archaeological layers. Artefactual material dating from the medieval to post-medieval period was also recovered from these deposits (See Table 3, Appendix C). The material was highly fragmented but well preserved making possible the identification of cattle (*Bos taurus*), sheep/goat (*Ovis aries/Capra hircus*), pig (*Sus scrofa sp.*), dog (*Canis familiaris*), domestic fowl (*Gallus gallus sp.*) and rabbit (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*).

*Medieval*

- 8.6 Seven fragments (59g) were recovered from fill 313 in Trench 3 and fill 413 of possible pit 412 in Trench 4. Cattle, sheep/goat and pig were identified from a partial metapodial and isolated incisor and molar teeth.

*Post-medieval*

- 8.7 The post-medieval activity on site produced 51 fragments (629g), recovered from seven deposits. The remains of cattle, sheep/goat and pig were most common with each species represented by skeletal elements both rich and poor in meat-yield such as the scapular, femur and the bones of the lower legs and feet. Evidence of butchery was observed from occasional cut marks and frequent impact damage suggesting an origin in the waste from primary and secondary butchery i.e. the preparation of a carcass dress and its subsequent separation into individual cuts of meat. The presence of dog was confirmed, not only by the frequent gnaw marks seen throughout the assemblage, but also from a partial humerus from fill 703 of ditch 701 in Trench 7.

*Modern/undated*

- 8.8 A total of 156 fragments (1346g) were recovered from five deposits, displaying a similar level of preservation as seen in the post-medieval assemblage. Cattle and sheep/goat dominate and once again, they are represented by meat-rich and meat-poor bones that display damage or cut marks indicative of primary or secondary

butchery. Pig and dog were also identified, each from two fragments recovered from topsoil 300 in Trench 3. Also recovered from this deposit were an ulna and femur from a bantam-size domestic fowl along with a rabbit femur. While these later two species may well be residual in nature their presence, along with the major domestic species, is to be expected in a manor house assemblage.

### ***Plant Macrofossils by Emma Aitken***

- 8.9 A single environmental sample (20 litres of soil) was processed from a layer 310 in Trench 3 (sample 1) which was overlying a modern concrete plinth. This was done with the intention of recovering environmental evidence of industrial or domestic activity on the site. The sample was processed by standard flotation procedures (CA Technical Manual No.2).
- 8.10 Preliminary identifications of plant macrofossils are noted in Table 4 (Appendix C), following nomenclature of Stace (1997) for wild plants. The presence of mollusc shells has also been recorded, following nomenclature according to Anderson (2005) and habitat preferences according to Kerney (1999) and Davies (2008).
- 8.11 The flot was quite large in size and contained a high number of rooty material and uncharred seeds. The charred material comprised poor to moderate levels of preservation. Due to the poor to moderate preservation levels and the fact that much of the charcoal was silt impregnated, further wood species identification was inhibited.

### ***Layer 310***

- 8.12 Sample 1 (Layer 310) contained no charred cereal grains or grain fragments and only a very small number of meadow grass/cat's-tails (*Poa/Phleum* sp.) seeds alongside a single monocot stem fragment. Large quantities of charcoal fragments larger than 2mm in size were recorded during assessment and included fragments of round wood charcoal and oak (*Quercus* sp.) charcoal. Some silt impregnation and vitrification was present on a small to moderate number of the charcoal fragments. Moderately high numbers of terrestrial snail shells were recorded and belonged to the open country species *Vallonia* sp.

### ***Summary***

- 8.13 This environmental assemblage is likely to be representative of a dump of hearth or possibly bonfire material. Due to the lack of charred grain within the assemblage, it

is not possible to confirm the date of this layer from the environmental remains. No further work is required of this sample at this time.

## 9. DISCUSSION

9.1 The aims of the fieldwork were closely linked to the themes identified as part of the *Great Linford Manor Grounds, Milton Keynes: Draft Conservation Management Plan* (AHaCL 2013), particularly themes 1-3 and 5 as detailed in section 3, above. In particular, it was hoped that any information pertaining to the nature of the ha-ha and the Doric Seat might be utilised to finalise the design plans currently being created by the Parks Trust.

9.2 The results from the investigations in Trenches 1, 3 and 7 directly contribute to the main objectives set by the Parks Trust and agreed within the SAOMKC, with some additional findings extending beyond the scope of the current overarching project.

### ***Contributions to project research aims***

9.4 In Trench 1, the likely foundation pit 101 of an ornamental sundial feature was encountered. The feature is visible in historic photographs dating to the 1960s, but it was hoped that its foundations may have remained in the ground when the feature itself was demolished. While no evidence was encountered for any parts of the original structural feature, the pit dimensions appear to correspond with the size of the sundial visible in the photographs.

9.5 The investigations in Trench 3 were able to confirm the absence of any formal stepped path in the area between the canal and the Doric Seat, in the area investigated. This may be of some help in defining the design plans for the Wilderness area surrounding the Doric Seat. Trench 3 and the excavated features have been covered with geotextile for protection but not backfilled, to allow the Parks Trust to determine their approach to the interpretation and future treatment of this area.

9.6 In Trench 7 it was possible to reveal the full width of the original ha-ha ditch 701, as well as a portion of the largely well-preserved retaining wall 702. The excavated slot has been covered with geotextile but not backfilled; the Parks Trust is currently

considering options which would facilitate the retention of the exposed section for public display as a feature of interest in the long term.

- 9.7 In the main the results of the fieldwork did not correlate well with the geophysical survey, in particular in the wooded areas of the site. The majority of the anomalies flagged by the survey were not encountered within the trenches; it is likely that various phases of remodelling and landscaping, combined with the presence of a large number of mature trees and other vegetation, have heavily affected the whole area and thus the geophysical survey results.

### ***Results outside the current scope of works***

- 9.8 Trenches 1, 3, and 4 revealed several walls and possible evidence of occupation which appear to pre-date the formal park landscape and the manor itself. While it was not possible to fully interpret the remains during the course of the fieldwork, some of the finds recovered from Trench 4 suggest a 12th to 14th century date. This is crucial for our understanding of the use of the area prior to the existence of the manor, and the radical changes associated with its establishment.
- 9.8 Similarly, the presence of possible structural remains in Trench 3, which were truncated by the foundations of the Doric Seat, may indicate activity within the area which predates the establishment of the manor and enclosure of the surrounding grounds. The construction materials and methodologies, described above in section 6, appear very similar to those observed in Trenches 1 and 4; although this does not constitute proof of their contemporaneity. However, it is worth noting that they differ markedly from the construction of the manor and the Doric Seat.
- 9.9 As detailed in section 6, Trench 4 was mostly recorded in plan only and a decision was taken in consultation with the Parks Trust and SAOMKC that the remains in Trench 4 were to be preserved *in-situ*, in order to facilitate more detailed investigation as part of a separate programme of works in the future (should this be required by The Parks Trust). In Trenches 3 and 7, all features were covered with geotextile but the trenches were not backfilled, in order to facilitate the possible inclusion of the wall lines and features into any interpretative designs for the restoration or revival of the park.



## 10. CA PROJECT TEAM

### ***Fieldwork***

- 10.1 Fieldwork was undertaken by Anna Moosbauer, assisted variously by Molly Day, Molly Agnew-Henshaw, Alice Krausova, Mat Ferron, Adrian Arenas, Susanna Ferron, Breana McCulloch, Lucy Fletcher, Fanny Dubuc, and Harriet Farr. The Total Station survey and photogrammetry were carried out by Jake Streatfeild-James and Marta Perlinska. Additional support during the public Open Day was provided by Hannah Shaw, Richard Hardy, Rachel Alexander, and Esther Escudero.

### ***Post-excavation***

- 10.2 The report was written by Anna Moosbauer. The finds reports were written by Peter Banks and Ed McSloy, and the biological evidence reports by Emma Aitken and Andy Clarke. The illustrations were prepared by Amy Wright and the photogrammetry data was processed by Jake Streatfeild-James and Marta Perlinska. The archive has been compiled by and prepared for deposition by Emily Evans. The project was managed for CA by Michelle Collings.

### ***Acknowledgements***

- 10.3 CA is grateful for the support and advice provided by Nick Crank (SAOMKC) and the Parks Trust project staff, particularly Darrell Canvin, Philip Bowsher and James Cairncross, and for the assistance of all volunteers who contributed to the project in a variety of ways. The support and insights of Rebecca Hiorns (Landscape Architect) and the Friends of Great Linford Manor Park are also gratefully acknowledged. CA thanks the MK Arts Centre for providing welfare facilities including hot drinks for the CA team during both stages of fieldwork. The archaeological works have been facilitated by a monetary grant and additional contingency funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund to the Parks Trust in support of the overarching project which aims to *Reveal, Revive and Restore* Great Linford Manor Park, with a particular view to recreate aspects of the 18th century formal park landscape.

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## APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Context Number	Context Type	Fill of	Context Description
100	Layer		Topsoil – Dark greyish-brown, friable sandy- silt, rare small to med. stones
101	Cut		Pit, possible cut of sundial foundations
102	Fill	101	Lower fill of pit. Mottled mid blueish-grey and yellowish-brown, silty-clay, mod. Compact, occ. Lenses of gravels, rare ang. Flint and rounded pebbles.
103	Fill	101	Upper fill of pit. Mid brownish-grey, gravelly sand, mod. Compact, occ. Angular flint and sub-rounded pebbles.
104	Layer		Made ground. Mid orangey-brown, mod. Compact, gravelly sand, freq. small to med. Stones
105	Layer		Made ground. Mottled mid blueish-grey and yellowish-brown, mod. Compact, silty-clay, occ. Small to med. Stones
106	Deposit		Packing layer. Mottled dark greyish-blue and mid blueish grey clay/ silty/clay, mod. compact
107	Deposit		Alignment of stone. Mid yellowish-grey, stones (limestone?), compact
108	Deposit		Levelling layer. Dark greyish-blue, clay/ silty-clay, mod. Compact
109	Deposit		Pos. demolition layer. Mottled mid greyish-brown and dark blueish-grey, mix of silty-clay and gravelly-sand, mod. compact
200	Layer		Topsoil – Dark brownish-grey, clayey-silt, loose, occ. Small sub-rounded and sub-angular stones, freq. rooting
201	Layer		Natural – Brown, mottled light yellow-white, compact, sand with freq. limestone
202	Cut		Cut of NW-SE ditch. Gentle sloping, flat base
203	Fill	202	Solitary fill of ditch. Dark-greyish brown, clayey-silt, friable, small/med. Suband stones, moderate.
300	Layer		Topsoil – Dark greyish-brown, clayey-silt, mod friable, freq rooting, occ charcoal, freq small/ large sub-round/ sub-ang stones
301	Layer		Mid orangey-brown, clayey-silt, mod compact, occ. Rooting, freq small/ med sub-ang sandstone
302	Structure		Wall – “L” shaped, limestone.
303	Cut		Cut of wall –corner of wall E-W, turning N-S. Vertical sides, flat base.
304	Fill	302	Fill of wall cut. Dark greyish-brown, clayey-silt, firm, rare small sub-round/sub-ang stones.
305	Structure		Concrete plinth/ square
306	Deposit	305	Mortar on 305
307	Deposit	305	CBM under 305
308	Cut		Cut of sub-circular pit/ natural depression, gentle concave, concave base.
309	Fill	308	Fill of pit/ natural depression. Mid blueish-grey, silty-clay, compact,,occ charcoal flecks
310	Deposit		Burnt deposit, likely modern, modern debris, glass, nails inside.
311	Structure		Levelling/ pos wall. Limestone.
312	Cut		Cut of levelling/ wall. N-S. Vertical, flat base.
313	Fill	311	Fill of levelling/wall. Mid greyish-brown, clayey-silt, firm.
314	Structure		Doric Seat, 19 <sup>th</sup> c. Large sandstone blocks covered by sandstone hewn blocks topped with a layer of bricks, rubble and concrete.
315	Structure	314	Sandstone blocks at base of structure 314
316	Structure	314	CBM, brick layer of structure 314
317	Layer	314	Rubble/ debris used as levelling for structure 314, CMB, glazed tiles/ CBM
318	Layer	314	Concrete layer at the top of Doric seat structure 314
319	Layer		Natural – Mid orangey-brown, silty-clay, freq sub ang medium and large sandstone. Natural bedrock?
320	Fill	315	Fill between sandstone blocks 315. Mid greyish-brown, silty-clay, crumbly.
400	Layer		Topsoil – Mid brown silt, freq. rooting, debris removed whilst machining, rubble and brick.

Context Number	Context Type	Fill of	Context Description
401	Layer		Made ground. Mottled mid-orange-brown, silty-clay, freq. med./ large sub-ang limestone
402	Layer		Natural – mid yellow-brown, sandy-clay, freq. sub-ang and sub-rounded stones
403	Cut		Cut of possible NW-SE wall.
404	Fill	403	Fill of possible wall. Mid grey-brown, silt, friable, occ small sub-rounded stones
405	Fill	403	Rubble fill of possible wall, whiteish limestone fragments
406	Layer		Possible occupation layer. Mid greyish-brown, silty-clay, firm, freq. small sub-round/sub-ang stones
407	Cut		Cut of possible tree throw
408	Fill	407	Fill of treethrow.
409	Cut		Cut of possible rooting
410	Fill	409	Fill of rooting
411	Deposit		Rubble deposit. Limestone, layered flat stones, not fully exposed.
412	Cut		Cut of possible pit. Sub-oval.
413	Fill	412	Fill of pit. Dark brown, silt, loose, occ. Sub-round/sub-ang stone, occ limestone.
414	Deposit		Possible occupation layer. Same as (401), (406) and (411)
500	Layer		Topsoil – Mid grey-brown, clayey-silt, friable, occ. Small stones, high rooting.
600	Layer		Topsoil – Mid greyish-brown, silt, freq small sub-rounded stones, rooting
601	Layer		Natural – Mid yellow-brown, clayey-sand, patches of light yellowish-brown clayey-sand, freq small to large stone and rubble.
700	Layer		Topsoil – Dark brownish-grey, sandy-silt, friable, freq small stones
701	Cut		Cut of NW-SE ditch, vertical side, flat base
702	Structure		Wall, dry stone construction, ha-ha wall
703	Fill	701	Backfill of ditch [701]. Deliberate backfill, dark brownish-grey, silty-clay, compact
704	Fill	701	Middle fill of ditch [701]. Mid brownish-grey, clayey-sand, mod compact.
705	Fill	701	Upper fill of ditch [701]. Mid yellowish-grey, clayey-sand, mod compact
706	Layer		Natural – Mid yellow, clayey silt, limestone.
707	Layer		Natural – limestone bedrock

## APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Table 1: Finds concordance

Context	Class	Description	Fabric Code	Ct.	Wt.(g)	Spot-date
100	Post-med. pottery	Transfer printed whiteware	TPW	1	3	C18-C20
	Post-med. pottery	Refined red earthenware	REFR	1	1	
	CBM	RT x 9	fs/fsc/fsf/fscp/ms/msc	19	217	
	Glass	Colourless bottle glass		1	3	
	Iron	Nail & object		2	8	
102	Iron	Nail		1	15	POST-MED
103	CBM		csfec	1	8	POST-MED
104	Medieval Pottery	Olney B ware	OLHB	2	3	POST-MED
	CBM	PEG x 1, RT x 1, BR x 1	fsc/fsfe/fscp/cscp	10	1483	
	Glass	Colourless bottle glass		1	1	
	Iron	Nail		2	10	
106	Medieval Pottery	Medieval coarse ware	MCW	1	1	POST-MED
	Medieval Pottery	Lyveden-Stanion ware	LYST	1	1	
	Medieval Pottery	Olney B ware	OLHB	2	7	
	CBM	RT x 1	fscp/fsc	3	83	
108	Iron	Nail		1	2	
300	Saxon pottery	Quartz/sandstone fabric	Q1	9	66	MOD
	Saxon pottery	Organic fabric	ORG	1	5	
	Saxo-Norm./med. pottery	St Neots type ware	STND	27	502	
	Medieval Pottery	Lyveden-Stanion ware	LYST	3	15	
	Post-med. pottery	Refined red earthenware	REFR	1	6	
	Post-med. pottery	Yellow slipped ware	UNYS	1	36	
	CBM	DR x 3, RT x 27, BR x 3, PEG x 1, GT x 1, NIB? x 1	refwfe/fs/fsx//fsc/fsfe/ fscpm/fscpcx/fscp/ fsfecp/fsc/ms/msfec/ msc/csc	55	3068	
	Clay tobacco pipe	Bowl x 1		1	8	
	Fired/burnt clay		fs/fsfe/fscpcx/mscp/msx	8	66	
	Glass	Blue glass bead		1	1	
	Worked stone	Slate		1	2	
	Worked stone	Limestone		1	306	
	Burnt stone	Limestone		1	179	
	Iron	Nails x 10, Objects x 6		19	272	
	Lead	Object		1	34	
	Plastic	Comb		1	5	
	304	Saxon pottery	Coarse sandy fabric	Q2	2	
CBM			fs/fsc	3	15	
305	Concrete			1	281	MOD
306	Mortar	Lime mortar		6	4	
307	Glass	Green bottle glass		1	6	POST-MED
	CBM		fs/fscp/fsfe	11	319	
310	Iron	Nails, tent peg x 1		39	141	POST-MED
	CBM		fs/fsfec/fsfe	8	76	
	Glass	Brown bottle glass x 4, green bottle glass x 18		22	121	
313	Medieval pottery	Lyveden-Stanion Ware	LYST	5	30	C15-C16
317	Post-med. pottery	Porcelain	PORC	5	31	C18-C20
	CBM	DR x 5	refwfe	5	300	
	Glass	blue green glass		1	12	
	Iron	Nail		1	16	
	Copper Alloy	Curtain hooks x 4		4	22	
400	Medieval Pottery	Lyveden-Stanion ware	LYST	1	31	POST-MED
	Medieval Pottery	Olney B ware	OLHB	2	6	
	Medieval Pottery	Late medieval glazed ware	LMGW	1	31	
	Iron	Nail		1	8	
	CBM	RT x 2	ms/mscp	3	89	
401	Post-med. pottery	Frechen stoneware	GSW4	1	17	POST-MED
	CBM	RT x 1	msc	1	22	
	Slag	ironworking slag		1	276	

404	CBM		fscp	1	6	POST-MED
413	Medieval Pottery	Medieval coarse ware	MCW	2	40	C12-C14
	Medieval Pottery	Lyveden-Stanion ware	LYST	1	7	
	Medieval Pottery	Olney B ware	OLHB	1	9	
500	Post-med. pottery	Transfer printed whiteware	TPW	3	2	C18-C20
	CBM	RT x 1	mscp/msc	5	40	
600	Post-med. pottery	Transfer printed whiteware	TPW	1	9	C18-C20
	CBM	RT x 1	ms	1	12	
700	Saxon pottery	Sandy fabric	Q1	1	3	C18-C20
	Post-med. pottery	Transfer printed whiteware	TPW	3	8	
	Post-med. pottery	Porcelain	PORC	4	19	
	Post-med. pottery	North Midlands earthenware	NMEW	1	6	
	Glass	Colourless bottle glass		3	48	
	Industrial waste	Coke		2	6	
	Iron	Nail		1	15	
702	Post-med. pottery	Porcelain	PORC	1	13	C18-C20
703	Saxon pottery	Sandy organic fabric	QO	1	5	C18-C19
	Post-med. pottery	Glazed red earthenware	GRE	1	1	
	Post-med. pottery	North Midlands earthenware	NMEW	4	47	
	Post-med. pottery	Cream ware	CRE	2	11	
	Post-med. pottery	Refined whiteware	REFW	3	41	
	CBM		fscp/ms/mscp	5	189	
	Clay tobacco pipe	Stem x 1		1	2	
705	Post-med. pottery	Frechen stoneware	GSW4	6	145	C18-C20
	Post-med. pottery	Yellow ware	YELW	1	42	
	Post-med. pottery	Transfer printed whiteware	TPW	1	3	
	Post-med. pottery	Porcelain	PORC	1	2	
	Post-med. pottery	Refined whiteware	REFW	1	5	
	CBM	DR x 1, PEG x 2, RT x 6	fs/fsc/fsf/ms/msc	15	890	
	Industrial waste	Coke		7	30	

Table 2: Pottery summary

Period	Fabric Description	Code	Mynard Fabric*	Ct.	Wt. (g)
Early Saxon	Moderate well sorted quartz including polycrystalline (sandstone) $\leq 0.5\text{mm}$ Moderate poorly sorted coarser quartz $\leq 1\text{mm}$ Sparse moderately sorted sub-rounded medium quartz $\leq 0.5\text{mm}$ ; Common organic voids $\leq 4\text{mm}$ common voids from burnt-out organics; sparse rounded clay pellet $\leq 1\text{mm}$	Q1	-	10	69
		Q2	-	2	19
		QO	-	1	5
		ORG	-	1	5
Saxo-Norman/ Medieval	St Neots type ware Medieval coarse ware Olney B ware Lyveden-Stanion ware Late Medieval glazed ware	STND	SNC1	27	502
		MCW	MS2	3	41
		OLHB	MSC6	7	25
		LYST	MSC4	11	84
		LMGW	-	1	31
Post-Medieval	Glazed red earthenware Frechen stoneware North Midlands earthenware Refined red earthenware Refined whiteware Transfer printed whiteware Unknown yellow slipped ware Yellow ware Creamware Porcelain	GSW4	TLMS12	1	1
		FRE	-	7	162
		NMEW	-	5	53
		REFR	-	2	7
		REFW	-	4	46
		TPW	-	9	25
		UNYS	-	1	3
		YELW	-	1	42
		CRE	-	2	11
		PORC	-	11	65
<b>Total</b>				<b>107</b>	<b>1197</b>

\* codes equate to types used from medieval pottery from excavations at Great Linford (Mynard 1992, 5-372)



## APPENDIX C: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

Table 3: Identified animal species by fragment count (NISP) and weight and context

Cut	Fill	BOS	O/C	SUS	Canid	GAL	Lepus	LM	MM	Ind	Total	Weight (g)
<b>Medieval</b>												
311	313		2	1				1			4	22
412	413	1						1		1	3	37
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>				<b>2</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>Post-medieval</b>												
	104		1								1	17
302	304	1						3	3		7	96
	310									3	3	7
	400	1	2	3				5	1		12	205
	401		1						8		9	52
403	404	1								2	3	59
701	703	12	1		1			2			16	193
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>15</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>			<b>10</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>629</b>
<b>Modern/undated</b>												
	100	1	3					2	8		14	93
202	203									1	1	6
	300	10	18	2	2	2	1	33	57	11	136	1118
	600		2								2	77
701	705	1							2		3	52
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>12</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>1346</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>28</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>214</b>	
<b>Weight</b>		<b>666</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>562</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>2034</b>	

BOS = cattle; OS = Cattle; O/C = sheep/goat; SUS = pig; Canid = dog; Gal = domestic fowl; Lepus = rabbit; LM = cattle size mammal; MM = medium sized mammal; Ind = indeterminate

Table 4: Assessment of Environmental Evidence

Feature	Ctxt	Sample	Vol (L)	Flot size (ml)	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Notes for Table	Charcoal > 4/2mm	Other
Layer	310	1	20	470	90	-	-	-	*	<i>Poa/Phleum</i> ; monocot stem frags	***/*	moll-t ****

Key: \* = 1–4 items; \*\* = 4–20 items; \*\*\* = 21–49 items; \*\*\*\* = 50–99 items; \*\*\*\*\* = >100 items, moll-t; terrestrial molluscs

**APPENDIX D: OASIS REPORT FORM**

<b>PROJECT DETAILS</b>	
Project Name	Great Linford Manor Park, Great Linford, Milton Keynes
Short description	<p>An archaeological investigation and community project were undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in two phases April and July 2019 (Stage 1 and 2 respectively) at Great Linford Manor Park, Great Linford, Milton Keynes. The site was located in the portion of the park which extends to the south of the canal, comprising part of the Wilderness and the area between the manor and current Arts Centre. The works were commissioned by The Parks Trust to inform a larger-scale National Lottery Heritage funded project (the Reveal, Revive and Restore project) to improve the site and wider park as a visitor destination, including revealing, restoring and recreating aspects of the 18th century formal grounds. A total of 7 trenches were targeted on known features of interest and the results of a preceding programme of geophysical survey.</p> <p>The works revealed the full profile of the ha-ha which formerly bisected the eastern end of the park, including a well-preserved drystone retaining wall which survives to a height of just over 1m above present ground level covered by a layer of topsoil and vegetation.</p> <p>An isolated shallow ditch was encountered in the area to the west of the ha-ha, however it was not possible to determine the feature's date or function.</p> <p>Immediately in front of the manor house, the likely foundation pit of an ornamental sundial was investigated, the approximate location of which had been identified from historic photographs dating to the 1960s and was confirmed by the fieldwork.</p> <p>Approximately halfway between the pavilions and the manor, a possible robbed out wall line was encountered, together with an associated layer interpreted as a possible occupation deposit and a possible pit dating to the 12th to 14th century, pre-dating the manor and formal parkland. Similarly, in the area of the Doric Seat, two walls were encountered, cut by the Doric Seat foundations. It is possible that these features indicate activity within the area which pre-dates the establishment of the manor and park. However, due to the restricted time and scope of the project these features were not further investigated at this time and a decision was made to preserve these remains in-situ for potential future investigation.</p> <p>A particular focus was placed on public engagement and community involvement throughout Stage 1 of the fieldwork programme. A total of 84 volunteer members of the public were able to participate in the investigation and recording of features alongside Cotswold Archaeology staff. A public Open Day held at the end of the Stage 1 fieldwork facilitated greater engagement with a variety of visitors to the park, including the presentation of finds and preliminary site interpretations during guided site tours.</p> <p>On-site engagement was supplemented by social media campaigns throughout both stages of fieldwork, showcasing progress and raising awareness for the project. A short segment filmed for the local ITV evening news, broadcast at the start of the fieldwork, also successfully raised awareness among the local residents. In addition, a time-lapse video documenting the progress of the excavation around the Doric Seat was produced during the Stage 2 fieldwork and made available on YouTube.</p>
Project dates	8-15 April and 1-5 July 2019
Project type	Archaeological investigation and community project
Previous work	Geophysical survey (AOC 2017) Watching Brief (CA 2017)
Future work	Unknown
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>	
Site Location	Great Linford, Milton Keynes

Study area (M <sup>2</sup> /ha)	4.8ha (site)	
Site co-ordinates	485195 242384	
<b>PROJECT CREATORS</b>		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	n/a	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Michelle Collings	
Project Supervisor	Anna Moosbauer	
<b>MONUMENT TYPE</b>	Ha-ha, walls, ditches, summerhouse (Doric Seat)	
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS</b>	Ceramics, glass, plastic, stone, animal bone, human bone, metal	
<b>PROJECT ARCHIVES</b>	Milton Keynes Museum AYBCM : 2019.36	Content
Physical	Milton Keynes Museum AYBCM : 2019.36	Ceramics, animal bone, glass, metal
Paper	Milton Keynes Museum AYBCM : 2019.36	Site records, trench sheets, context sheets, plan/section drawings
Digital	Milton Keynes Museum AYBCM : 2019.36	Digital photos, survey data, report, spreadsheets
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2019 <i>Great Linford Manor Park, Great Linford, Milton Keynes: Archaeological Investigation and Community Project</i> . CA typescript report <b>661033_1</b>		

## APPENDIX E: THE PARKS TRUST MASTER PLAN FOR THE REVEAL, REVIVE AND RESTORE PROJECT

# GREAT LINFORD MANOR PARK

## Masterplan



### KEY

-  Proposed trees
-  Proposed shrubs
-  Young Children's Themed Play Trail
-  Toddler play area
-  Cycle parking
-  Wildflower meadow

### KEY COMPONENTS

- 1 WESTERN APPROACH  
Enhance arrival and sight lines into Manor
- 2 MANOR SETTING  
Re-define the Manor setting
- 3 WATER GARDENS  
Restore ponds, cascade and bridge
- 4 WILDERNESS  
Recreate the footpath network and interpret the Doric seat
- 5 HA-HA  
Restore and interpret the ha-ha
- 6 MARSH DRIVE ENTRANCE  
Re-organise entrance into park and enhance sense of arrival
- 7 CASCADE  
Restore the northern pond and repair the cascade
- 8 BLACKHORSE WOOD  
Play and ecological interventions

1:1250 @A1  
0 m 50 m 100 m



The Parks Trust  
MILTON KEYNES

JON SHEAFF & ASSOCIATES



2



3



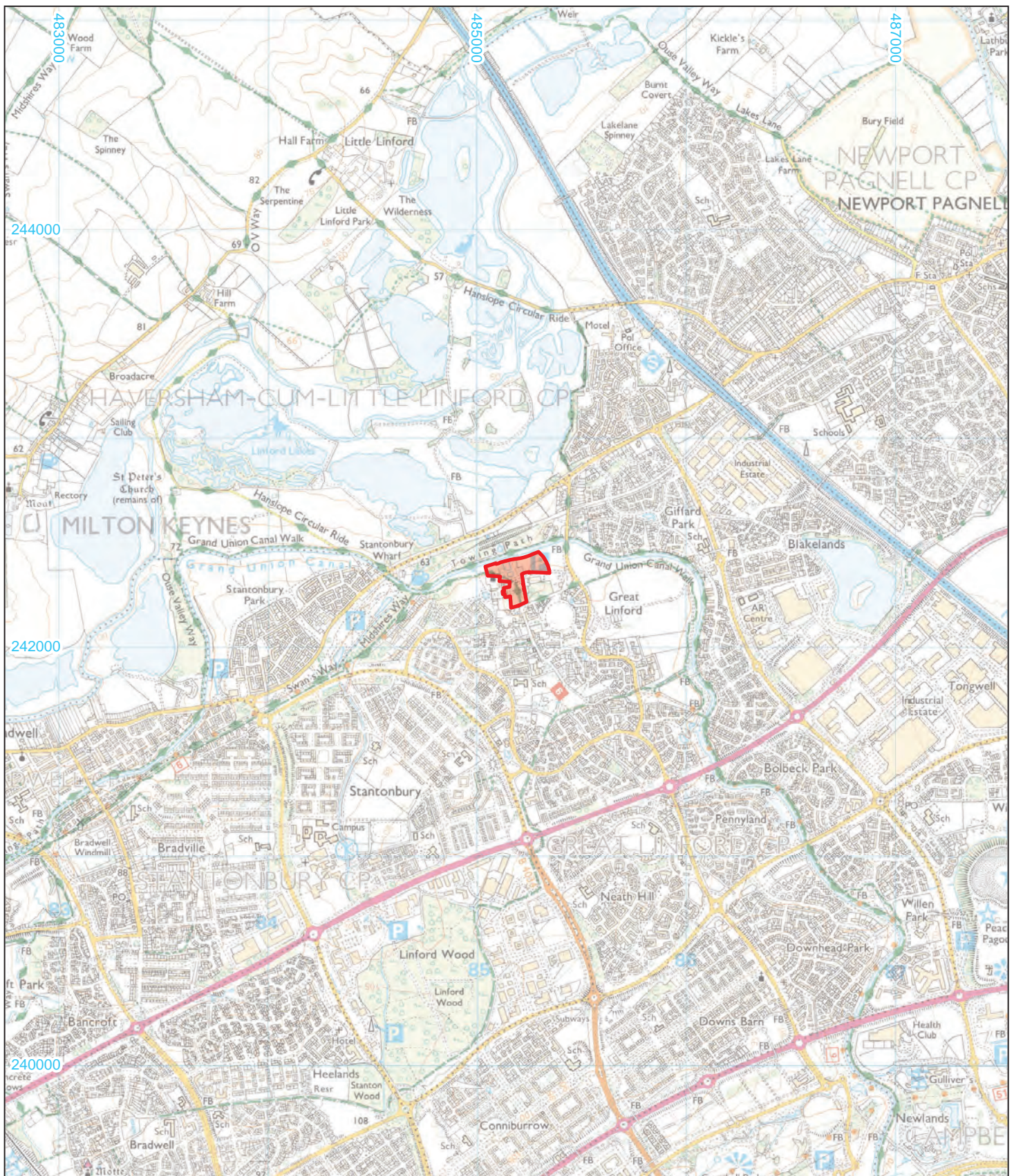
5



7



8



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**PROJECT TITLE**  
 Great Linford Manor Park, Great Linford  
 Milton Keynes

**FIGURE TITLE**  
 Site location plan

0 1km

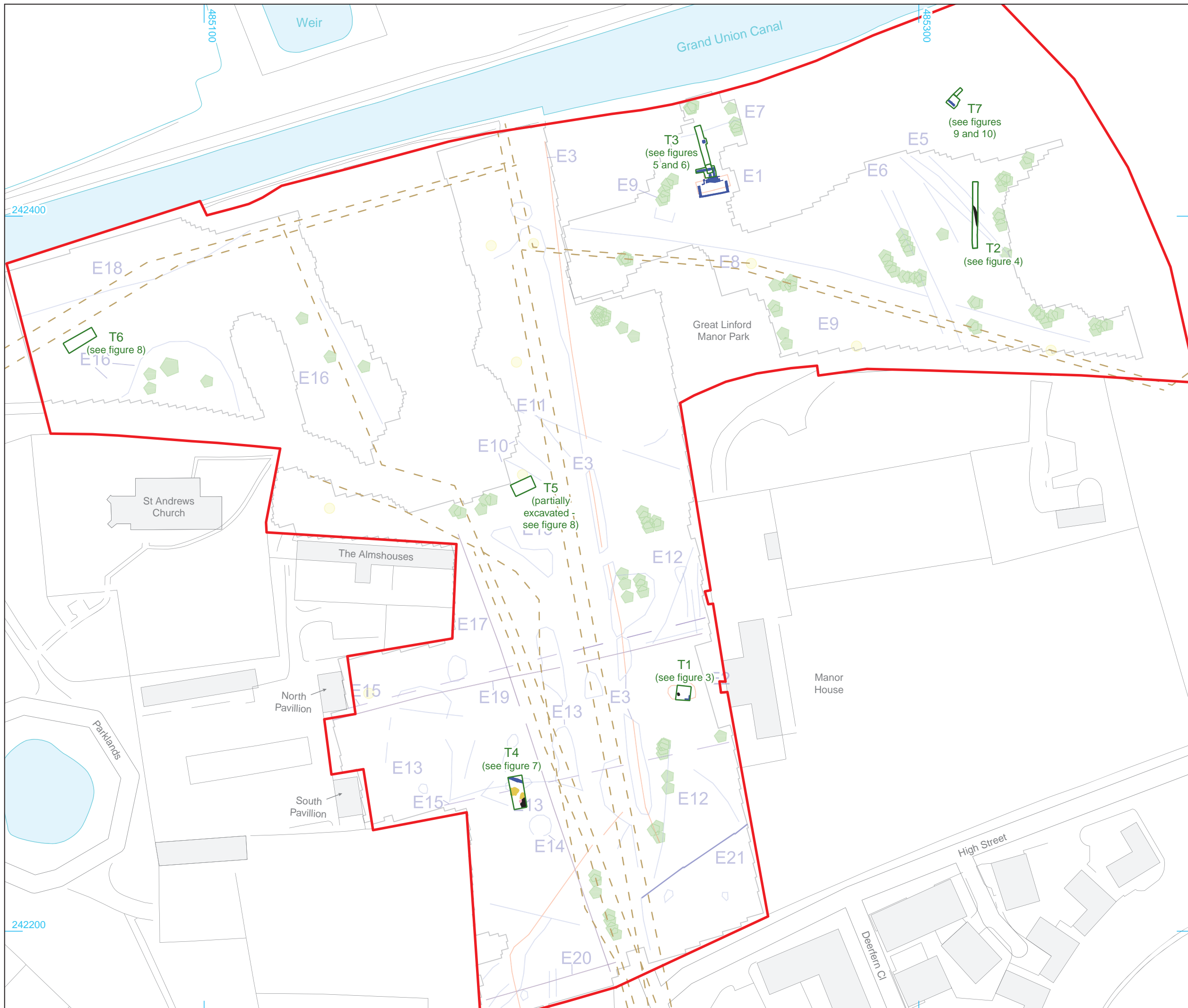
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**APPROVED BY** AM

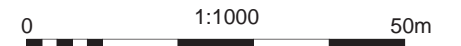
**PROJECT NO.** 661033  
**DATE** 24.07.19  
**SCALE** @A4 1:25,000

**FIGURE NO.**

**1**



- Site boundary
  - Evaluation trench
  - Archaeological feature
  - Structure
  - Spread
  - Bioturbation
  - Constraint
- Geophysical survey results  
(AOC Archaeology Group, 2017)
- Known archaeology
  - Known modern feature
  - Unknown feature
  - Suggested avenue alignment
  - Vegetation
  - Modern object  
(manhole cover/lamp post/sign)



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PROJECT TITLE  
**Great Linford Manor Park, Great Linford  
 Milton Keynes**

FIGURE TITLE  
**Site plan showing trench locations and  
 archaeological features**

DRAWN BY <b>AW</b>	PROJECT NO. <b>661033</b>	FIGURE NO. <b>2</b>
CHECKED BY <b>DJB</b>	DATE <b>24.07.19</b>	
APPROVED BY <b>AM</b>	SCALE@A3 <b>1:1000</b>	



Trench shot, looking north (1m scales)

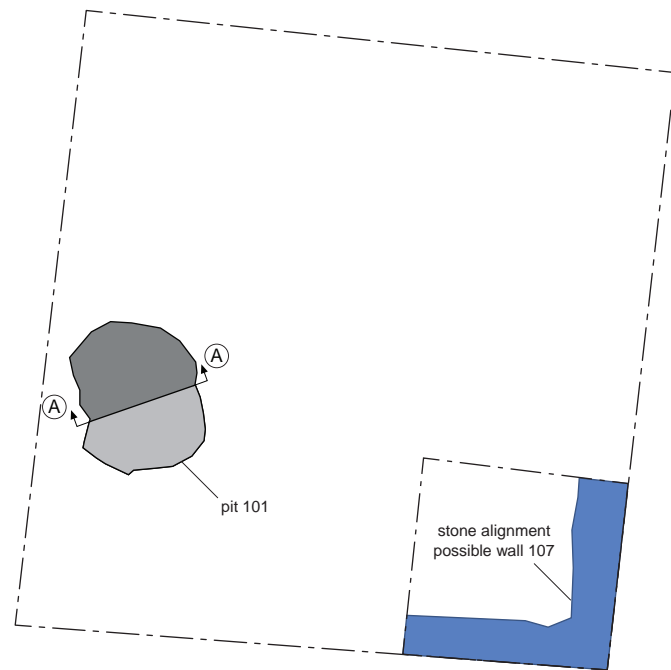


Pit 101, looking north-west (0.5m scale)



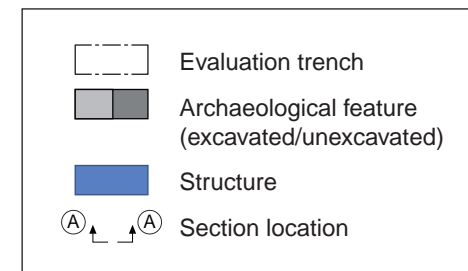
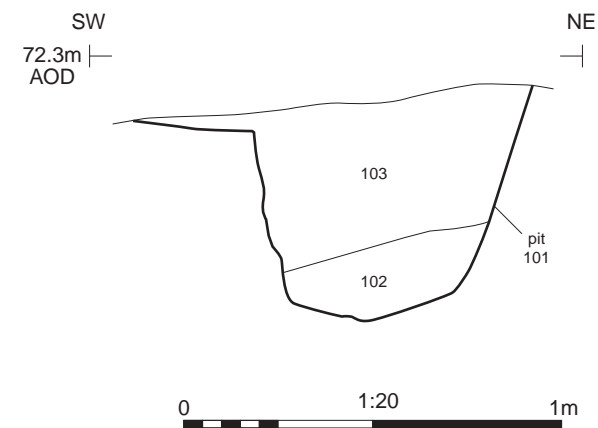
Stone alignment/possible wall 107, looking south-east (1m scale)

Trench 1



0 1:50 2m

Section AA




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PROJECT TITLE  
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 FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench 1: Plan, sections, and  
 photographs**

DRAWN BY **AW** PROJECT NO. **661033** FIGURE NO.  
 CHECKED BY **DJB** DATE **23.07.19**  
 APPROVED BY **AM** SCALE@A3 **1:50, 1:20** **3**



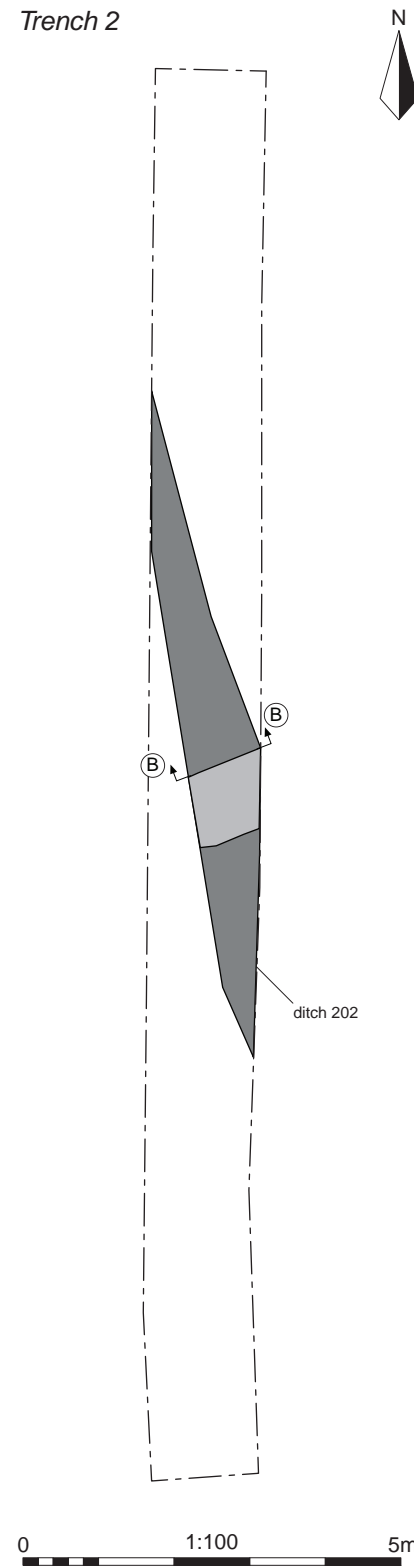


Trench shot, looking north (1m scales)

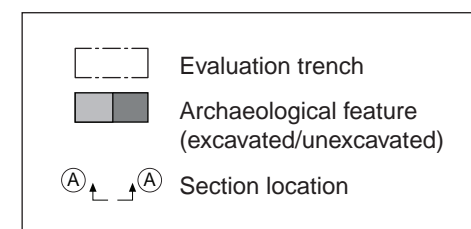
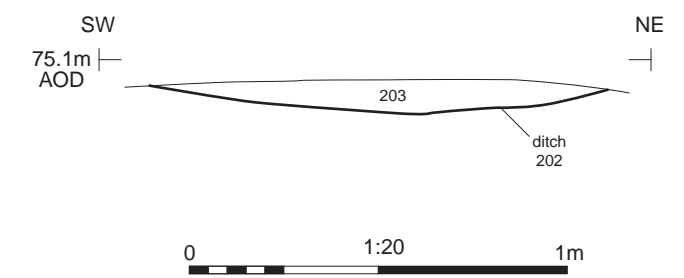


Ditch 202, looking north-east (1m scale)

Trench 2



Section BB




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FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench 2: Plan, sections, and  
 photographs**

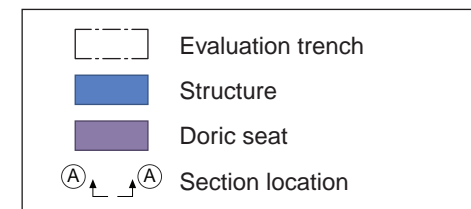
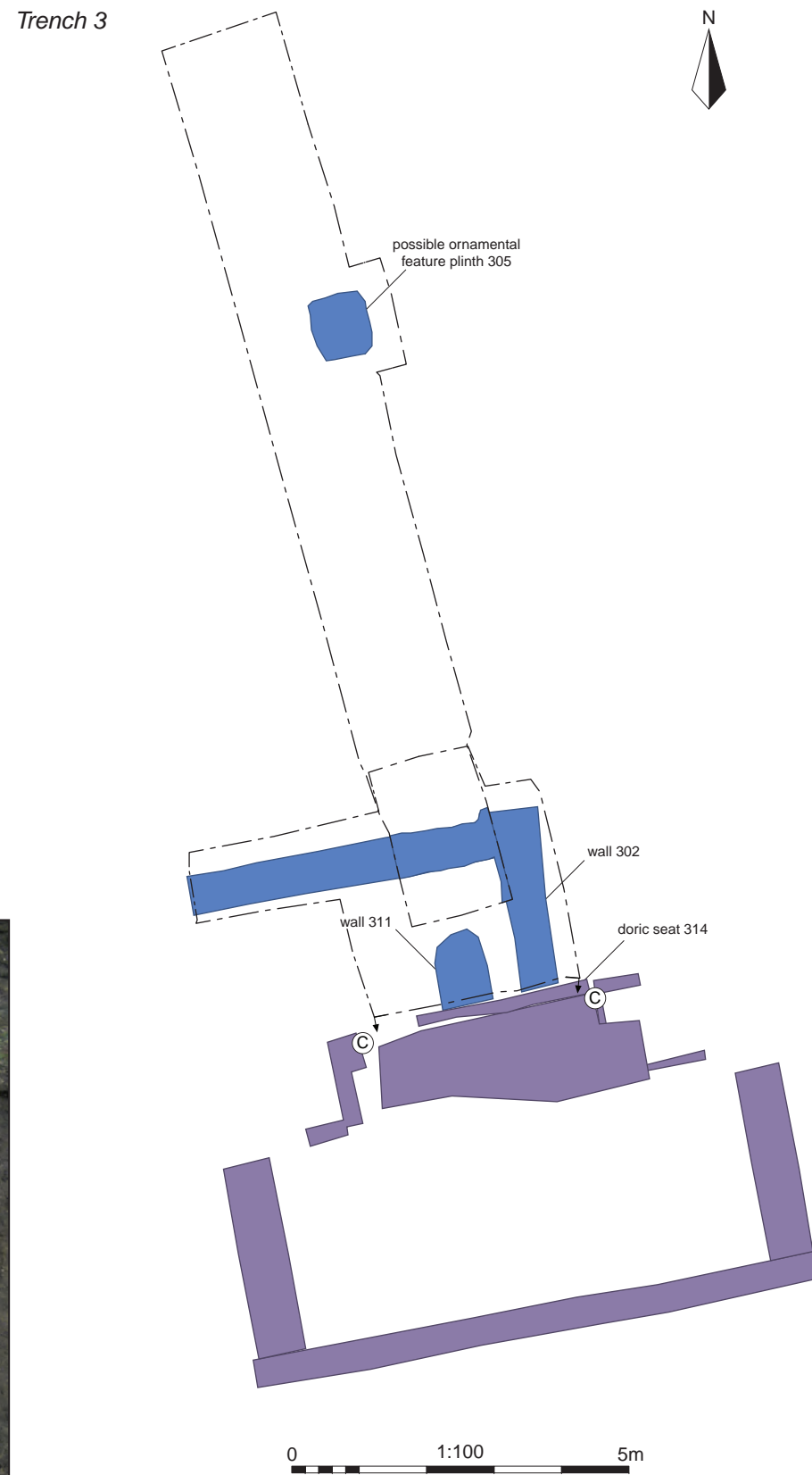
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APPROVED BY	AM	SCALE@A3	1:100; 1:20	



Mid-excavation trench shot prior to widening, looking north (1m scales)



Possible ornamental feature plinth 305, looking east (1m scale)

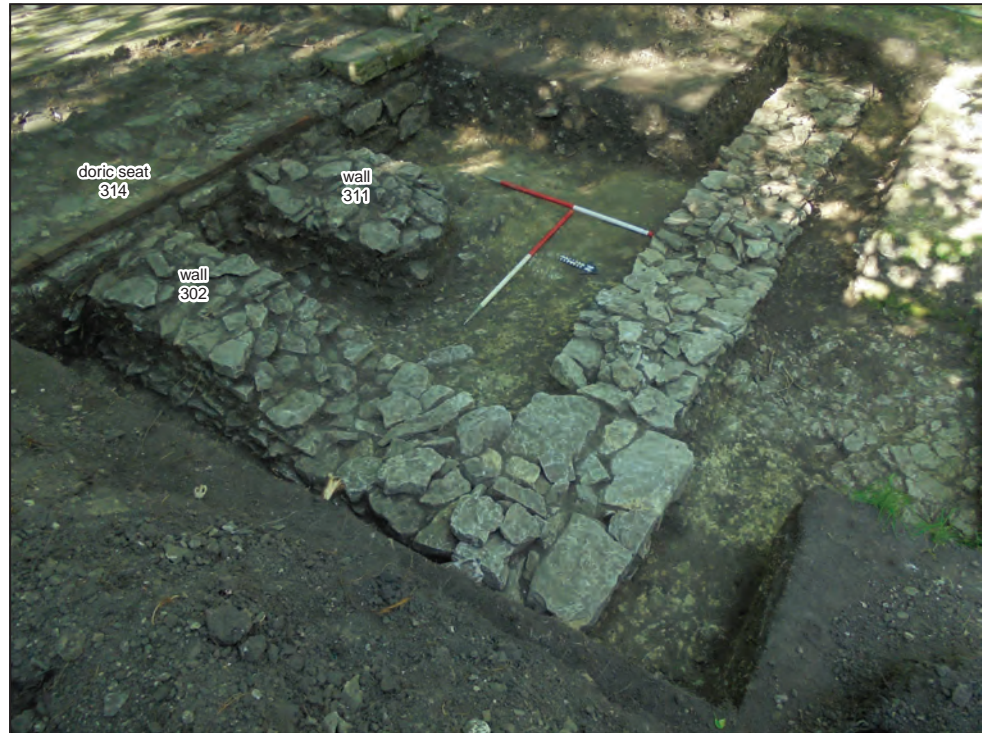



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FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench 3: Plans and photographs**

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 CHECKED BY DJB DATE 23.07.19 5  
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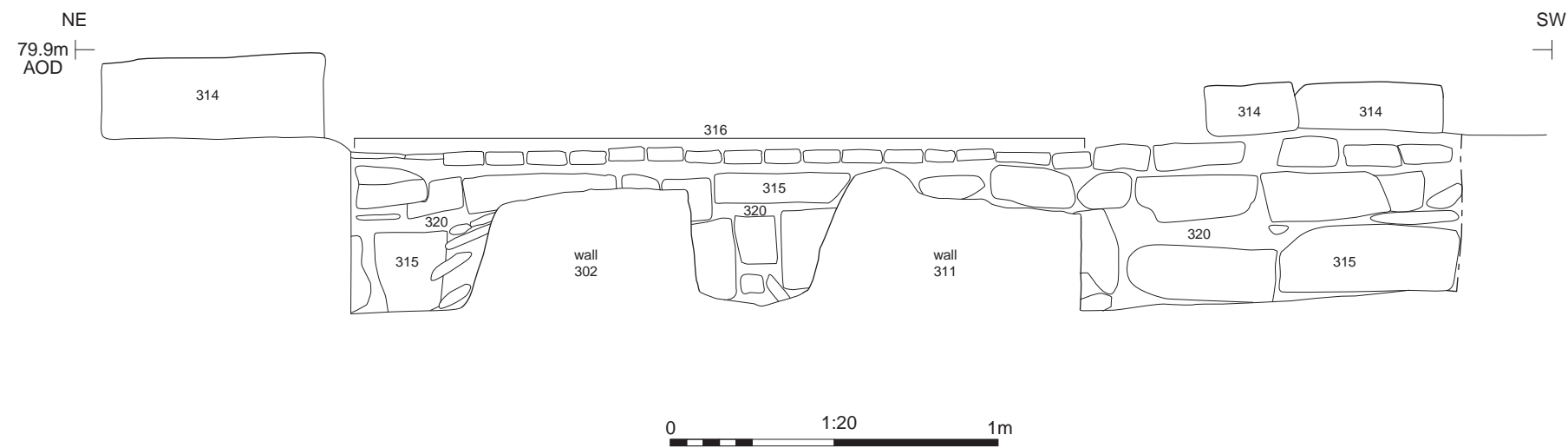


Overview of Doric Seat 314 and walls 302 and 311, looking south-west (1m scales)



Section of Doric Seat 314 and walls 302 and 311, looking south (2m scale)

Section CC





Trench shot, looking south



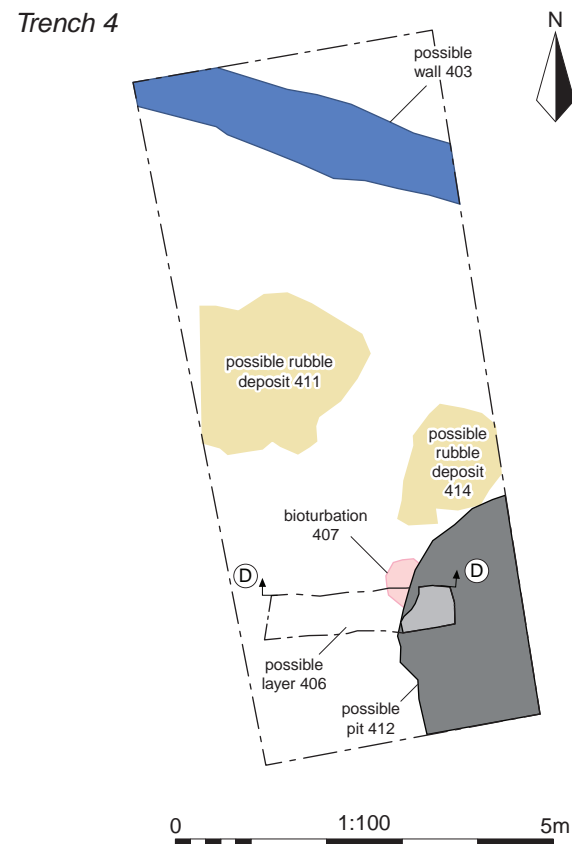
Possible wall 403, looking east (1m scale)



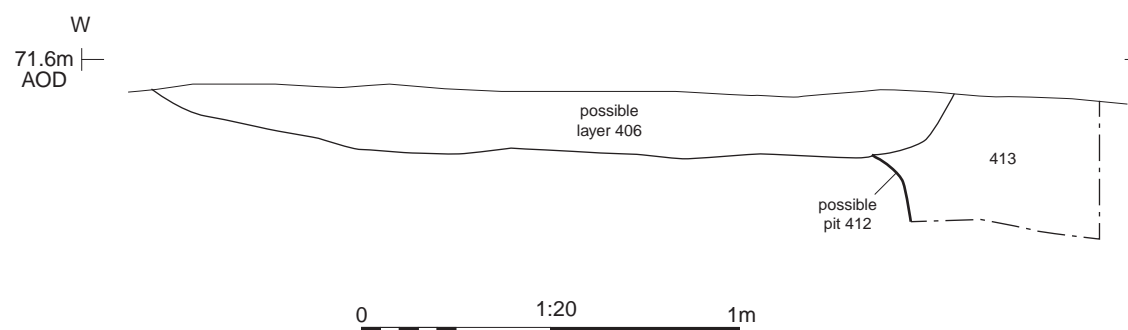
Possible layer 411, looking west (1m scale)



Possible layer 406, possible pit 412 and bioturbation 407, looking north (1m scale)



Section DD



- Evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature (excavated/unexcavated)
- Structure
- Spread
- Bioturbation
- Section location


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FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench 4: Plan, section and  
 photographs**

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Partially excavated trench 5 (excavation ceased), looking south-west (1m scales)



Trench 6, looking north-east (1m scales)



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PROJECT TITLE

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FIGURE TITLE

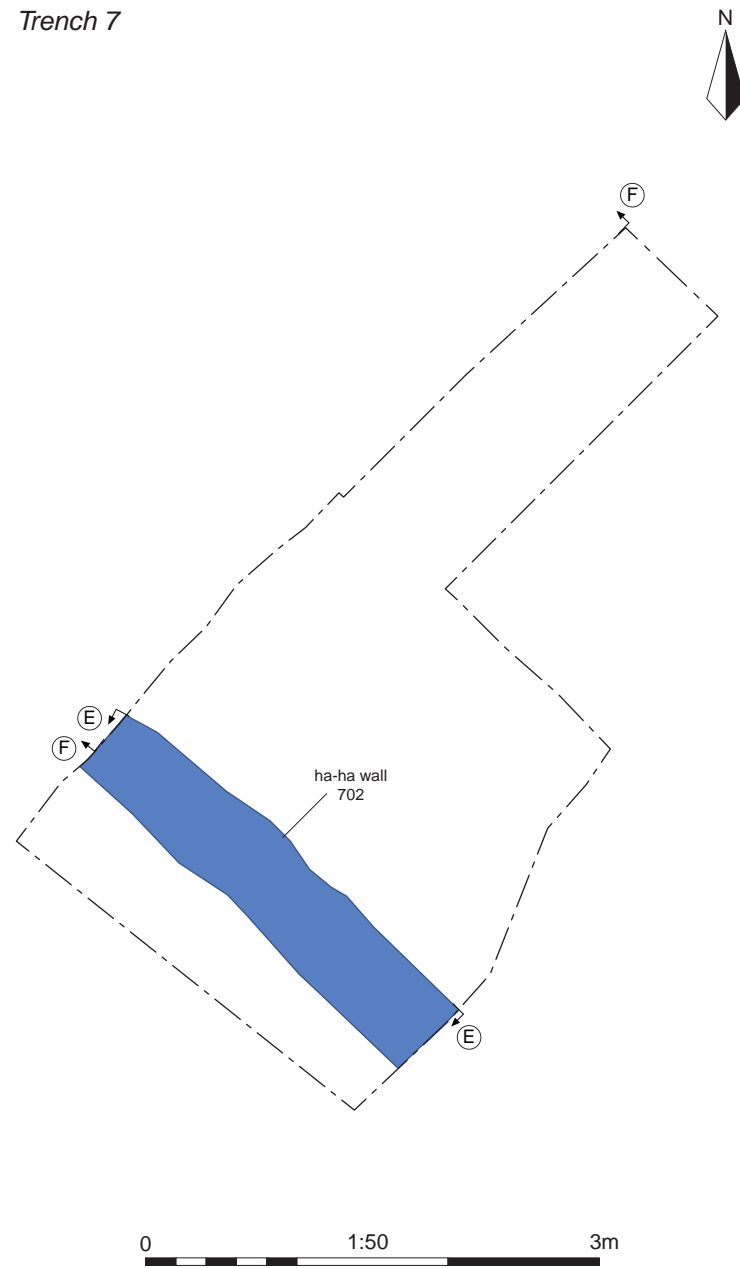
Trenches 5 and 6: photographs

DRAWN BY AW PROJECT NO. 661033  
 CHECKED BY DJB DATE 23.07.19  
 APPROVED BY AM SCALE@A4 NA

FIGURE NO.

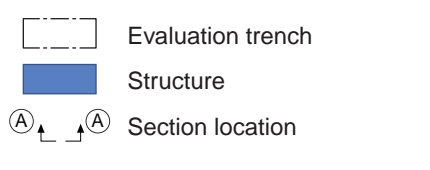
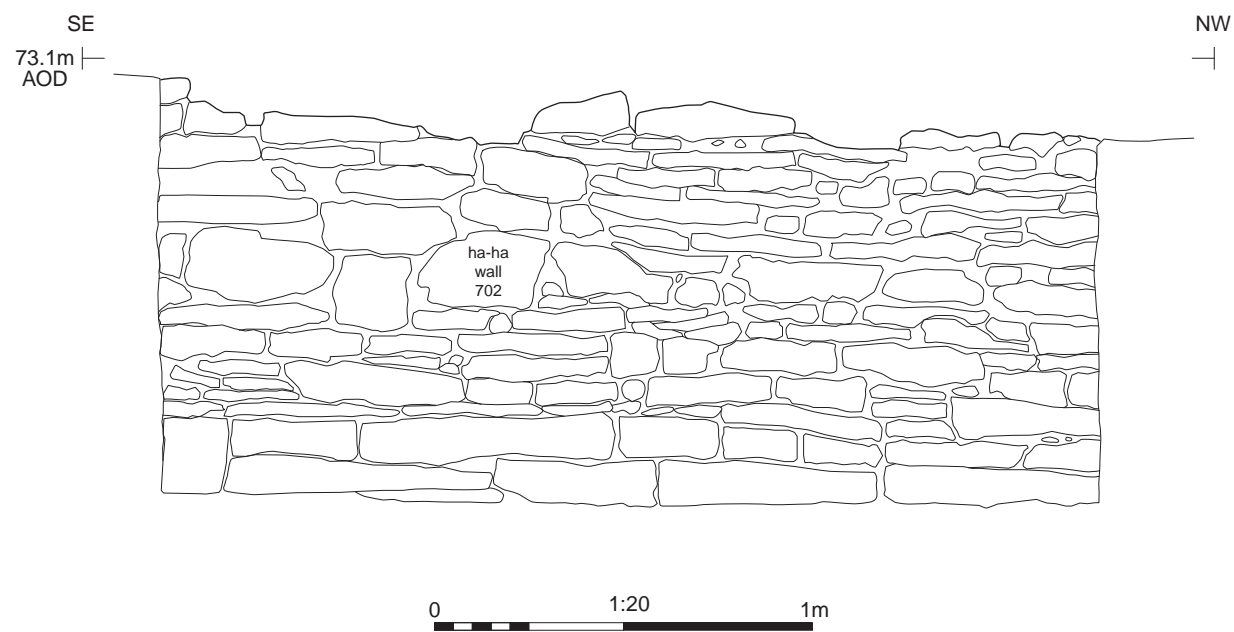
8

Trench 7



Ha-ha wall 702, looking south-west (2m scale)

Section EE




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FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench 7: Plan, section and photograph**

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Section of ha-ha wall 702 and ditch 701, looking south-west (1m scale)

Section FF

SW  
73.8m  
AOD

NE

Haha wall  
702

703

704

705

ditch  
701

0 1:20 1m


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FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench 7: Section and photograph**

DRAWN BY	AW	PROJECT NO.	661033	FIGURE NO.
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APPROVED BY	AM	SCALE@A3	1:20	

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