

# Archaeology, Excavation & Surveys

**Coplowe Barn, Coplowe Lane  
Bletsoe, Bedfordshire  
MK44 1QE**

## **HERITAGE STATEMENT**

**Extension of existing garden store and erection of detached pavilion to rear garden**

**Report No. AES/2020/33**



**Coplowe Barn  
Coplowe Lane, Bletsoe  
Bedfordshire, MK44 1QE**

## **HERITAGE STATEMENT**

**Written and compiled by**

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October 2020

NGR: TL 02482 58285

Report No. AES/2020/33  
HER Search No. 459

Oasis id: archaeol15-410090

### The Application Site

**Site address:**

Coplowe Barn, Coplowe Lane,  
Bletsoe, Bedfordshire, MK44 1QE

Is the development site (please tick relevant boxes):

- A listed building
- A scheduled monument
- Within a designated conservation area
- Within a registered historic park or garden
- A building of local interest
- A site of known or potential archaeological interest
- Other non-designated heritage asset
- In the setting of/adjacent to one of the above

### Use of the HER

Has a search of the Bedford Borough Historic Environment Record been undertaken for the purposes of the statement and impact assessment?  
(please tick relevant boxes):

- Yes
- No

If yes, the HER licence no. is:

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If no, the reason is:

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## 1.0 The Proposed Works

The following statement has been prepared in support of a Planning and Scheduled Ancient Monument Consent application for the extension to an existing garden store and erection of a detached pavilion to rear garden at Coplowe Barn, Coplowe Lane, Bletsoe (planning reference 20/01986/FUL).

The proposed extension to the existing garden store and erection of detached pavilion will be situated to the rear of Coplowe Barn and within the extent of an scheduled ancient monument, the moated site with garden earthworks at Bletsoe Castle (**LEN no: 1012365**).

The layout of the proposed works are shown within the drawn plans of Coplowe Barn and gardens (appendix 1, figures 1 to 5). The existing garden store lies within the garden to the rear of Coplowe Barn. The proposed pavilion to be built directly on approximately a third of the existing raised patio also lies within the garden at the rear of Coplowe Barn (appendix 1, figures 2 and 4).

The scale of the proposed layouts as per the drawn plans are A2 at 1:50/100. The extension to the garden store is to be extended to similar dimensions as the existing garden store c3m(h) x 3m(w) x 3m(l) as seen on the plan in appendix 1, figure 3. The overall height of the store is to match the existing. The pavilion c3.6m(h) x 4m(w) x 4m(l) as seen on the plan in appendix 1, figure 4, is approximately a metre from the guttering of Coplowe Barn and occupies c4m of a c27m frontage of the rear of the barn. The overall height of the pavilion is c3.6m.

The construction and materials of the proposed extension to the garden store are to be as the original store (appendix 1, figure 3). The extension will be built on rafts and will not include any intrusive groundworks such as foundation trenches. The stepped timber barge is to be as the existing store. The existing timber doors and window are to be reused. The brickwork fascia is to match the existing. The roof slates are to match the existing slates. A stained timber door is to be added in the south east facing side of the proposed extension.

The construction and materials of the proposed pavilion are to replicate that of Coplowe Barn. The roof tiles are to match that of Copolowe Barn. The pavilion is to be constructed of upright posts of treated timber (appendix 1, figure 4)

The design of the proposed extension to the garden store is to be identical to the existing garden store, with similar dimensions, construction and materials.

The design of the proposed pavilion to be located on the existing raised patio in front of the rear of Coplowe Barn, similar to that of the proposed extension to the garden store is to use the same materials as the roof of Coplowe Barn and in keeping with the farmyard ethos the structure of the pavilion is to be of timber.

No additional landscaping is proposed.

As the proposed works are within the grounds of a Scheduled Ancient Monument (**LEN no 1012365**), a known archaeological site, the following are details of any proposed groundworks. No foundations are to be dug for the extension to the existing garden store. No foundations are to be dug for the erection of the pavilion to the rear of the barn as this is to be built upon an existing raised patio.

## 2.0 The Proposal site

### 2.1 Site description

The proposal site lies within the gardens of Coplowe Barn, which comprises a single dwelling house (converted from former barn), lean-to outbuilding and lawned gardens, situated on Coplowe Lane in Bletsoe (NGR: 502483 258286) and within the boundaries of a Scheduled Ancient Monument, known as the '*Moated site with garden earthworks at Bletsoe Castle*' (**NLE no: 1012365, MBD308**). The proposal site also lies within Bletsoe Conservation Area within the parish of Bletsoe **MBB18952**.

Bletsoe village lies approximately 6 miles to the north of Bedford, on the banks of the River Ouse. In relation to the village of Bletsoe, Coplowe Barn lies to the North East along Coplowe Lane, and East of St Mary's Church.

The proposal site comprises of an extension to the existing garden store and erection of a detached pavilion to the rear of the garden, located at Coplowe Barn, Coplowe Lane, Bletsoe and located within the boundaries of Scheduled Ancient Monument **NLE no: 1012365, MBD308**.

### 2.2 The relationship of the site to its surroundings

The proposed development site for the extension to the existing garden store and erection of a pavilion to the rear of Coplowe Barn lies within the bounds of the rear garden to Coplowe Barn. Both of which lie close to the rear access to the garden and the rear of Coplowe Barn.

The position of the site in relation to Coplowe Lane is that it is situated north east of the lane, beyond the boundary of the garden wall. A single building lies close to Coplowe Barn entrance, and Coplowe Barn and gardens viewed from the rear also backs onto a row of farm buildings (appendix 1, figure 2). In relation to the village of Bletsoe itself Coplowe Barn is located north east of the main village and St Marys Church, which lies on the outskirts of the village (appendix 1, figure 1). Coplowe Barn and its proposed development area lie in a rural area with land subject to agricultural use to the south (appendix 1, figure 1). The topography of the proposed development area and surrounding land is relatively flat (appendix 2, figures 6 – 16). The orientation of the proposed extension to the garden store lies approximately north west - south east and the proposed erection of a new pavilion on an existing raised patio approximately south west to north east. A series of photographs have been taken to give an indication of the views from and to the proposed development. These are to be viewed within appendix 2 figures 6 - 20. From the photographs it is evident that the proposed development can be viewed easily over the boundary wall. However from the lane and junction of the road towards the site of Bletsoe Castle itself, the garden and proposed development are screened from view by trees (appendix 2, figures 17 – 20).

### 3.0 The Nature of the asset(s) to be affected by the proposal

This section of the heritage statement deals essentially only with the asset to be affected by the proposal, namely that of Scheduled Ancient Monument Bletsoe Castle. However the asset affected by the proposal has been placed within the context of the national and local planning policies, which affect the heritage statement. The asset affected by the proposal has also been placed within the context of recorded heritage assets that also lie within the Scheduled Ancient Monument and within a 500m area surrounding the proposed development area in order to give an overview of the archaeological importance of the area surrounding the proposed development within Coplowe Barn and gardens.

#### 3.1 Recent planning history and planning policy

13/00199/FUL	Erection of a detached garage and garden store at Coplowe Barn, Bletsoe
20/01986/FUL	Extension of existing garden store and erection of detached pavilion to the rear garden.

#### 3.2 National Planning Policy

##### 3.2.1 NPPF Paragraph 189

In determining applications, local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance. As a minimum the relevant historic environment record should have been consulted and the heritage assets assessed using appropriate expertise where necessary. Where a site on which development is proposed includes, or has the potential to include, heritage assets with archaeological interest, local planning authorities should require developers to submit an appropriate desk- based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation.

##### 3.2.2 NPPF Paragraph 190

Local planning authorities should identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset that may be affected by a proposal (including by development affecting the setting of a heritage asset) taking account of the available evidence and any necessary expertise. They should take this into account when considering the impact of a proposal on a heritage asset, to avoid or minimise any conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the proposal.

##### 3.2.3 NPPF Paragraph 193

When considering the impact of a proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage asset, great weight should be given to the asset's



conservation (and the more important the asset, the greater the weight should be). This is irrespective of whether any potential harm amounts to substantial harm, total loss or less than substantial harm to its significance.

### 3.2.4 NPPF Paragraph 194

Any harm to, or loss of, the significance of a designated heritage asset (from its alteration or destruction, or from development within its setting), should require clear and convincing justification. Substantial harm to or loss of:

- a) grade II listed buildings, or grade II registered parks or gardens, should be exceptional;
- b) assets of the highest significance, notably scheduled monuments, protected wreck sites, registered battlefields, grade I and II\* listed buildings, grade I and II\* registered parks and gardens, and World Heritage Sites, should be wholly exceptional.

### 3.2.5 NPPF Paragraph 196

Where a development proposal will lead to less than substantial harm to the significance of a designated heritage asset, this harm should be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal including, where appropriate, securing its optimum viable use.

### 3.2.6 NPPF Paragraph 197

The effect of an application on the significance of a non-designated heritage asset should be taken into account in determining the application. In weighing applications that directly or indirectly affect non-designated heritage assets, a balanced judgement will be required having regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset.

### 3.2.7 Local Plan 2030, Policy 41s - Historic environment and heritage assets

i. Where a proposal would affect a heritage asset the applicant will be required to describe :

- a. The significance of the asset including any contribution made by its setting and impacts of the proposal on this significance, and
- b. The justification for the proposal, how it seeks to preserve or enhance the asset/setting or where this is not possible, how it seeks to minimise the harm.

.ii. This description must be in the form of one or a combination of: a desk based assessment; heritage statement; heritage impact assessment; and/or archaeological field evaluation. Further information will be requested where applicants have failed to provide assessment proportionate to the significance of the assets affected and sufficient to inform the decision-making process.

.iii. Where a proposed development will lead to substantial harm to (or total loss of significance of) a designated heritage asset or non-designated heritage asset of archaeological interest of demonstrably equivalent significance to a scheduled monument, consent will be refused unless it can be demonstrated that the

substantial harm or total loss is necessary to achieve substantial public benefits that outweigh that harm or loss, or all of the following apply: a) the nature of the heritage asset prevents all reasonable uses of the site; and b) no viable use of the heritage asset itself can be found in the medium term through appropriate marketing that will enable its conservation; and c) conservation by grant-funding or some form of not for profit, charitable or public ownership is demonstrably not possible; and d) the harm or loss is outweighed by the benefit of bringing the site back into use.

iv. Where a development proposal will lead to less than substantial harm to the significance of a designated heritage asset, this harm will be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal including, where appropriate, securing its optimum viable use.

v. In considering proposals affecting designated heritage assets or a non-designated heritage asset of archaeological interest of demonstrably equivalent significance to a scheduled monument, involving their alteration, extension, demolition, change of use and/or development in their setting, the Council will include in their consideration as appropriate:

- a. The asset's archaeological, architectural, artistic and historic interest and any contribution to its significance from setting (including the wider historic landscape)
- b. scale, form, layout, density, design, quality and type of materials, and architectural detailing.

### 3.3 Heritage Assets: History, Character and Appearance

#### 3.3.1 Heritage Asset Assessment

An assessment has been made of the heritage assets, those which are directly impacted by the proposed development area, those which lie within the boundary of Scheduled Ancient Monument MBD308 (appendix 1, figure 5) and those which lie within a 500m radius of the proposed development. The heritage assets have been presented in chronological order from prehistory to modern and are listed within appendices 1 and 2.

### 3.3.2 Designated heritage assets

### 3.3.3 Scheduled Ancient Monuments

#### **Direct impact on the PDA:**

#### **Scheduled Ancient Monument Bletsoe Castle**

**National ref: 1012365, DBD1281, MBD308**

The history, character and appearance of the heritage asset either directly impacted by the proposal through conversion, demolition, alteration, extension or new development, or impacted through changes to their setting is that of Scheduled Ancient Monument, Bletsoe Castle.

The listing description of Bletsoe Castle is that it was a medieval moated manor house with associated 16th-17th century garden enclosure and landscape earthworks. Significant garden earthworks remain of a formal 16<sup>th</sup> – early 17<sup>th</sup> century garden to the south-east of the moat separated by existing farm buildings. Within the south-western half of the enclosure are the remains of medieval open fields predating the garden. Surrounding the moated site and the enclosed garden are a number of less regular earthworks, which are considered to be the remains of medieval fields and paddocks remodelled by 16th-17th century garden landscaping.

Historically, the earliest reference to the manor of Bletsoe occurs in the Domesday book, which records that the manor was held by Osbert de Broilg, of Hugh de Beauchamp, but there is no evidence of a castle on the site until 1327, when John de Pateshull obtained the King's licence to crenellate the manor house. The castle is one of several medieval defensive sites located on the northern slopes of the Ouse valley. Ruins of a fortified house were observed on the moated site in 1837. Bletsoe is said to be the birthplace of the mother of Henry VII and both Queen Elizabeth I and James I are reputed to have visited the Castle. The Jacobean period saw the major modification of the site, from fortified moat into a more comfortable residence with its landscaped gardens. Additional information on the extent of the remains at Bletsoe is available from accurate surveys of the earthworks. The Grade II\* Listed manor house and agricultural buildings, including the Grade II Listed barn, the farmworkers' cottages adjacent to Coplowe Lane, the 16th Century bridge and the metalled surfaces of the modern driveways are specifically excluded from the scheduling. However, the ground beneath the buildings and driveways is included' (ref: Historic England).

'From the sixteenth century onwards, in certain areas of the country, moats became less fashionable and any new ones tended to be designed around garden landscape features. The site at Bletsoe is unusual in that it developed out of an original high status manorial location, only becoming part of an elaborate garden system in the Jacobean period. In its earlier stages the moated site formed a vital link in what is believed to be a network of post-Conquest defensive sites in Bedfordshire, extending from Odell to Thurleigh. It has a long and well-documented history with particularly important associations with the Tudor monarchy. In the 17th century, the moat was incorporated into a formal garden

plan and important buildings were added to the interior. Surviving remains therefore represent the growth and development of the site from a purpose-built defensive location to an ornamental garden site. As such it exhibits considerable longevity as a monument type and with its diversity of features offers high potential for the preservation of archaeological evidence' (ref: Historic England).

The section of the Scheduled Ancient Monument at Bletsoe Castle and associated ground that potentially could be directly impacted by the proposed new extension to an existing garden store and new pavilion is that of the outer bounds of the area designated to be the Scheduled Ancient Monument. Looking specifically at that area, historically and archaeologically the only evidence of medieval activity to be recorded to date is that of the copper-alloy mount **MBB21230**, in so far as the centre of settlement ie the medieval moated manor house itself lies well away from the proposed development area. The character and appearance of the heritage asset at the point of proposed development is of mown lawns. No significant earthworks belonging to the manor, nor to the 16<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> century gardens are deemed visually to appear at this point (appendix 2, figures 6 – 16).

#### 3.3.4 Listed Buildings

There are three listed buildings, which lie within the area of the scheduled monument itself, Bletsoe Castle **MBD231**, the bridge over Bletsoe Castle moat **MBD5565** and the barn at Bletsoe Castle farm **MBD7745**, which lies on the boundary of the gardens belonging to Coplowe Barn.

### 3.4 Archaeological Heritage Assets within the Scheduled Ancient Monument

#### 3.4.1 Previous archaeological investigations

Several archaeological investigations have been made within the Scheduled Ancient Monument area, these are comprised of an evaluation at Coplowe Barn **EBB858**, two watching brief at Bletsoe Castle **EBB1124** and **EBB1125**, a watching brief at Herdsman Farm **EBB1126**, a watching brief at the Hayloft, Bletsoe **EBD58**, a watching brief at Bletsoe Castel Barns **EBD309** and a watching brief at Bletsoe Castle Farm **EBD438**.

Falling directly on the proposed development area at Coplowe Barn is archaeological evaluation **EBB858**. The trenching works revealed the remains of a stone courtyard surface or access track associated with the 19<sup>th</sup> century farm complex, of which Coplowe Barn is the only building to survive.

#### 3.4.2 Prehistoric (Palaeolithic to Iron Age)

No prehistoric heritage assets have been recorded within the area to date.

In light of this evidence, the potential that remains of prehistoric date may be present within the PDA is **nil** there will be **no change** to the asset or its setting.

### 3.4.3 Roman (43BC – 410AD)

Of the findspots recorded within the 500m area surrounding Coplowe Barn only two from the Roman period, fell within the vicinity of the Scheduled Ancient Monument, that of a coin, an incomplete silver Denarius of Marcus Aurelius dating to the second century (156AD – 157AD) **MBB21231**, and also a finger ring made of silver with a tapering hoop, angled shoulders and a flat rectangular bezel 'plate', in the centre of which is an integrally cast transverse oval bezel with inset engraved gem stone of dark orangey red colour with some white mottling **MBB21535**. 07385083773 monica

Two monuments, **MBD728** and **MBD2637** have been recorded within the Scheduled Ancient Monument area. **MBD728** is recorded as a Roman Road and runs the length of Coplowe Lane, which bounds the Scheduled Ancient Monument **MBD308** and the gardens of Coplowe Barn. **MBD2637** is recorded as an artefact scatter providing evidence for Roman occupation.

In light of this evidence, the potential that remains of Roman date may be present within the PDA is **moderate** as although significance exists any potential surviving remains have no value within the context of the current study as no intrusive groundworks are to be completed and therefore **no change** to the asset or its setting.

### 3.4.4 Anglo-Saxon (c450AD – 1066AD)

No evidence has been recorded to date for Anglo-Saxon activity within the Scheduled Ancient Monument area.

In light of this evidence, the potential that remains of prehistoric date may be present within the PDA is **nil** and therefore there is **no change** to the asset or its setting.

### 3.4.5 Medieval (1066AD – 1550AD)

The Scheduled Ancient Monument within which Coplowe Barn lies is a substantial medieval moated site, with sub-rectangular central island, & outer enclosures dating from the 11<sup>th</sup> century through to the 16<sup>th</sup> century **MBD308** **DBD1281**, **LEN no 1012365**.

A single findspot has been recorded within the Scheduled Ancient Monument area that of a copper-alloy mount, probably from a harness strap or a casket, dating from the 13th or 14th century AD **MBB21230**.

In light of this evidence, the potential that remains of Medieval date may be present within the PDA is assessed as **high**, the significance and impact rating is assessed as **negligible** because any potential surviving remains have no value within the context of the current study as no intrusive groundworks are to be completed and therefore **no change** to the asset or its setting. The latter is discussed in full in sections 1.0, 2.0, 5.0 and 6.0, 7.0 and 8.0.

#### 3.4.6 Post-medieval (1550AD – 1900AD)

The listed post-medieval buildings lying within the Scheduled Ancient Monument **MBD308** area include Bletsoe Castle, Coplowe Lane, a late 16<sup>th</sup> century mansion with 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century alterations **MBD231**, the bridge over Bletsoe Castle moat, dated to the late 16<sup>th</sup> century and grade II listed **MBD5565**. The barn at Bletsoe Castle Farm, adjacent to the drive, a 17<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup> century threshing barn, grade II listed **MBD7745**.

A further building lying close to the proposed area of development and within the Scheduled Ancient Monument area is that of an 18<sup>th</sup> century limestone rubble barn at Castle Farm **MBD9872**.

In light of this evidence, the potential that remains of Post Medieval date are present within the view of the PDA the significance is rated as **moderate**, however as although significance exists there is **negligible** change to the asset or its setting. The height of the proposed garden store having minimal impact to and no appreciable direct or indirect effect on the asset or its setting and also its significance.

#### 3.4.7 Modern (1900AD – present)

No records of modern activity have been recorded to date within the Scheduled Ancient Monument area.

In light of this evidence, the potential that remains of modern date may be present within the PDA is **nil** and therefore **no change** to the asset or its setting.

### 3.5 Archaeological Heritage Assets within 500m radius of the Proposed Development Area

#### 3.5.1 Previous archaeological investigations

Several archaeological investigations have been made within the 500m radius of the proposed developments area not including those already mentioned within the area of the Scheduled Ancient Monument. A watching brief at THE GRANGE (formerly "BEDDGELERT"), Rushden Road, Bletsoe **EBB623**. Four trial trenches at the CHURCH OF ST MARY, BLETSOE **EBB914**. A watching brief at Wating for the Sun, Bletsoe, **EBB932**. A watching brief at Land at Wating for the Sun, Bletsoe **EBB938**. An excavation west of Bletsoe village **EBB991**. An excavation west of Bletsoe village, **EBB992**. An excavation west of Bletsoe Village, **EBB1121**. An excavation at St Mary's Church, Bletsoe, **EBB1122**. A watching brief at St Mary's Church, Bletsoe, **EBB1123**. An evaluation Land south of North End Farm **EBB1336**. An excavation and building survey at the Church of St Mary's, Bletsoe **EBB1405**. Tree-Ring dating of 2-3 Old Way, Bletsoe, **EBD244**.

### 3.5.2 Prehistoric (4000BC – 42AD)

Cropmark, SE of Bletsoe Cottage, indistinct cropmark, possibly representing a sub-rectangular enclosure dating to the later prehistoric (4000BC – 42AD) **MBD16538**.

In light of this evidence, the potential that remains of prehistoric date may be present within the PDA is classified as **negligible** as the cropmark lies a significant distance from the proposal site and any potential surviving remains have no value within the context of the current study as no intrusive groundworks are to be completed.

### 3.5.3 Bronze Age to Roman (2350BC to 409AD)

The faint cropmark of a possible Bronze Age – Romano-British (2350 BC to 409 AD) ring ditch is visible on aerial photographs taken in 2005 **MBB22323**.

Several cropmarks of early Iron Age to Roman date are visible on aerial photographs taken between 2004 and 2005, within the 500m area surrounding Coplowe Barn. A possible Iron Age to Roman settlement is visible as a cropmark on aerial photographs to the south east of Bletsoe **MBD8764**. The cropmarks of a group of Late Prehistoric enclosures north east of Bletsoe are visible on aerial photographs taken in 2005 **MBB22320**. A possible settlement enclosure of Iron Age or Roman date is visible as a cropmark on aerial photographs south of Bletsoe **MBB22321**. The cropmarks of possible Iron Age or Roman enclosures west of Bletsoe are visible on aerial photographs taken in 2004 **MBD576**.

In light of this evidence, the potential that remains of Bronze Age and early Iron Age to Roman date may be present within the PDA is **moderate**, however the rating is classified as **no change** as the cropmarks lie a significant distance from the proposal site and also that any potential surviving remains has no value within the context of the current study as no intrusive groundworks are to be completed.

### 3.5.4 Roman (43BC – 410AD)

A plethora of findspots appertaining to the Roman period have been recorded within the 500m area surrounding Coplowe Barn not including those recorded within the Scheduled Ancient Monument area. Two sherds of Roman pottery grey wares were found in Bletsoe **MBD15395**. Several Roman coins were recorded as follows: A copper alloy nummus, copper-alloy nummus of The House of Constantine; 'Victory on prow of boat' reverse; minted at Trier, AD 330 – 331, **MBB19276**. A copper-alloy nummus of Valens (AD 364 - 378); SECVRITAS REI PVBLICAE reverse, uncertain mint, **MBB19277**. A copper-alloy nummus of The House of Constantine; 'She-wolf and twins' reverse; minted at Lyon, AD 330 – 331, **MBB19278**. A silver-washed copper-alloy radiate of Tacitus (AD 275 - 276); TEMPORVM FELICITAS reverse; Gallic mint, **MBB19279**. A copper-alloy dupondius of Marcus Aurelius (AD 139 - 180);

SALVTI AVG . COS III S C reverse; minted at Rome, AD 168- 171, **MBB19280**. A copper-alloy nummus of the House of Valentinian; GLORIA ROMANORVM (Emperor dragging captive) reverse, minted AD 364 – 378, **MBB19312**. A copper-alloy nummus of Constantine I (Augustus), Constantine II, Constantius II or Constans (Caesars); GLORIA EXERCITVS (two standards) reverse, minted AD 330 – 335, **MBB19315**. A copper-alloy nummus of Constantine I (Augustus) or Constantine II (Caesar); GLORIA EXERCITVS (two standards) reverse, minted AD 330-335 **MBB19316**. A copper-alloy nummus of the House of Constantine; 'Victory on prow of boat' reverse; minted at Trier, AD 330 – 331, **MBB19317**. A copper-alloy nummus, probably of The House of Constantine, **MBB19318**. A copper-alloy nummus of the House of Constantine; 'She-wolf and twins' reverse, minted (probably at Trier), AD 330 – 335, **MBB19319**. A copper-alloy nummus of Magnentius (AD 350 - 353); VICTORIAE DD NN AVG ET CAE reverse; minted at Amiens, AD 350 - 353 **MBB19320**. A copper-alloy nummus of Constantine II as Caesar; GLORIA EXERCITVS (two standards) reverse; minted at Trier, AD 333 – 334 **MBB19321**. A gold solidus of Honorius (AD 393-423), dating to the period AD 408 to 420. CONCORDIA AVGG theta reverse, minted at Constantinople. **MBB19369**. A copper-alloy nummus of Licinius II as Caesar; PROVIDENTIAE CAESS reverse, minted at Heraclea in AD 317. RIC no. 19 variant\*. The coin is slightly worn but has little corrosion, **MBB19750**. A copper-alloy nummus of Constantine I (AD 306-337); GLORIA EXERCITVS (two standards) reverse, minted at Cyzicus, AD 331 or 333-334; RIC no. 76, **MBB19751**. A copper-alloy nummus of Constantine II as Caesar; GLORIA EXERCITVS (two standards) reverse, minted at Arles, AD 330- 335 **MBB19753**.

A couple of monuments have been recorded from the Roman period within the 500m area surrounding Coplowe Barn. Evidence for Roman occupation, probably a villa site was discovered with substantial Roman finds & burials in the 1930s during the building of the rectory with further burials excavated in 1970 **MBD307**.

The suggested line of a Roman road has been recorded from Sandy to Sharnbrook, possibly on to Irchester and runs the length of Coplowe Lane **MBD728**. A record of field walking in the early 1970s producing evidence for a large area of Roman occupation, **MBD2637**.

In light of this evidence, the potential that remains of Roman date may be present within the PDA is **moderate**, the rating is however classified as **negligible** as the Roman remains lie a significant distance from the proposal site and any potential surviving remains have no value within the context of the current study as no intrusive groundworks are to be completed and therefore **no change** to the asset or its setting.

### 3.5.5 Anglo-Saxon (c450AD – 1066AD)

A single findspot was recorded of an incomplete copper-alloy annular brooch of early Anglo-Saxon date **MBB21266**.

In light of this evidence, the potential that remains of Anglo-Saxon date may be



present within the PDA is **negligible** as the Anglo-Saxon findspot lies a significant distance from the proposal site and any potential surviving remains have no value within the context of the current study as no intrusive groundworks are to be completed and therefore **no change** to the asset or its setting.

### 3.5.6. Medieval (1066AD – 1550AD)

A single listed building, the medieval parish church of St Mary's is recorded within the 500m area surrounding Coplowe Barn **MBD1023**.

A single medieval building is recorded that of the remains of a Watermill **MBD12132**.

A number of findspots were recorded from within the 500m radius of Coplowe Barn as follows: A bronze medieval seal die with a handle, dated to the 14th to 15th century bearing an image of a stag at bay **MBB16006**. A copper-alloy mount probably from a harness strap or a casket dating from the 13th or 14th century AD, **MBB21230**. A lead seal matrix of probable early 13th century AD date **MBB21258**. A copper-alloy pierced top thimble of mid 14th century AD date, **MBB21264**. A copper-alloy mount, of probable, medieval (14th-15th century AD) date, **MBB21265**. A hammered silver coin of medieval date. Penny of Henry V, York mint, local dies, Class F, North 1403 (1413AD-1422AD) **MBB21334**. A Hooked belt mount, which, it is suggested, dates from between c.1230AD and c.1260 AD **MBB21335**.

A single monument recorded within the 500m km area surrounding Coplowe Barn is a reference to the site of a hermitage dated 11<sup>th</sup> century to 16<sup>th</sup> century, **MBD3648**

An area of medieval settlement earthworks at North End, are located to the west of the road, south of North End Farm. The remains comprise traces of rectangular platforms, hollows, ditches, ridge and furrow and an eroded hollow way **MBD2642**. Areas of ridge and furrow, recorded from aerial photographs **MBD3647**. The village of Bletsoe is still located within its medieval boundaries and to the NE of the village are the earthworks of Bletsoe Castle **MBD17007**.

In light of this evidence, the potential that remains of Medieval date may be present within the PDA is **moderate**, however the rating is **negligible** as the Medieval remains lie a significant distance from the proposal site and any potential surviving remains have no value within the context of the current study as no intrusive groundworks are to be completed and therefore **no change** to the asset or its setting.

### 3.5.7 Post-medieval (1550AD – 1900AD)

A plethora of Listed buildings are located within the 500m area surrounding the Scheduled Ancient Monument **MBD308** as follows:- Bletsoe School & School House **MBD903**, 36 The Avenue (Formerly 23 Village Street) **MBD5558**. Pixie Cottage, 9 Memorial Lane **MBD5560**. 15-17 (Well Cottage) Memorial Lane

**MBD5561.** 1-6 TOP ROW **MBD5562.** Old Pear Tree Cottage (No 15), The Avenue, 17th or 18th century grade II listed building in Bletsoe Conservation Area, formerly grade III listed **MBD5563.** 2 & 3 Oldway 16th century grade II listed building in Bletsoe Conservation Area, formerly grade III listed **MBD5564,** BRIDGE over Bletsoe Castle Moat 17th century grade II listed bridge in Bletsoe Conservation Area **MBD5565.** Bletsoe Cottage, Rushden Road (formerly Milton Road) late 17th or early 18th century grade II listed building, formerly grade III listed **MBD5567.** 46, 48, 50 & 52 the Avenue, Grade II listed terrace of 19th century cottages **MBD6517.** 1 Oldway, Grade II listed 18th century cottage **MBD7739.** OLD RECTORY, 70 The Avenue Grade II listed Rectory dated 1833 **MBD7743.** BARN at Bletsoe Castle Farm, adjacent to drive, Grade II listed 17th century Threshing Barn **MBD7745.** 44 THE AVENUE, formerly 27 High Street, Grade II listed 17th century cottage **MBD9870.**

Several Buildings are recorded as heritage assets are the following:- 40, 41 & 42 High Street, Bletsoe, 17th century former grade III listed building in Bletsoe Conservation Area, demolished in the 1960s **MBD5555.** 34 The Avenue (formerly 22 High Street) **MBD5559.** 11-13 Memorial Lane, 19th century building with modern alterations **MBD7738.** Haydons, Milton Road, 18th/19th century building with later renovation **MBD7740.** Outbuildings to Bletsoe Cottage, 19th century converted stable **MBD7741.** Stables to Old Rectory, 19th century converted stable, **MBD7744.** Brick Kiln (between High Street & A6), Site of demolished 17th century Brickworks. Exact position uncertain **MBD9649.** Twentieth century war memorial **MBD9994.**

Four monuments are recorded within the 500m area outside of the Scheduled Ancient monument area, a Gravel pit dated as Post Medieval to Victorian (1540AD – 1900AD) **MBD2878.** The site of former Post Medieval quarry **MBD8759.** A Post Medieval farmyard surface **MBB21740** and St Mary's Parish Churchyard **MBD8863.**

In light of this evidence, the potential that remains of Post Medieval date may be present within the PDA is **moderate**, however as the Post Medieval remains listed above lie a significant distance from the proposal site the rating is **negligible.**

### 3.5.8 Modern (1900AD – present)

No modern heritage assets have been recorded within the area to date.

In light of this evidence, the potential that remains of modern date may be present within the PDA is **nil** and therefore **no change** to the asset or its setting.

### 3.5.9 Undated

The following although undated are listed as heritage assets.

A possible rectilinear enclosure of unknown date is visible as a cropmark on aerial photographs, located southeast of North End **MBB22319.** A possible enclosure visible as a cropmark on aerial photographs **MBB22322.**

A single undated monument is recorded within the 500m area surrounding the Scheduled Ancient Monument **MBD308**. A possible polygonal enclosure is visible as a cropmark on aerial photographs northwest of Coplar Farm **MBD16566**.

No comment has been made on undated heritage assets, however the potential for cropmarks is **moderate** due to the presence of those already mentioned therefore the potential for presence within the PDA is rated as of **negligible** significance and of **no change** to the asset or its setting as no intrusive groundworks are to be completed.

### 3.6.0 Summary of Heritage asset significance and development impact

#### Archaeological Heritage Assets within the Scheduled Ancient Monument

Assets	Potential for finding asset	Significance	Impact	Significance of impact (before mitigation)	Significance of impact (after mitigation)
Prehistoric (4000BC-42AD)	Nil	Negligible	No change	Neutral	No change
Roman (43BC – 410AD)	Moderate	Low - Moderate	No change	Neutral/slight	No change
Anglo-Saxon (c450AD – 1066AD)	Nil	Negligible	No change	Neutral	No change
Medieval (1066AD – 1550AD)	High	Moderate to High	No change	Neutral/slight	No change
Post-medieval (1550AD – 1900AD)	Moderate	Moderate	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible
Modern (1900AD – present)	Nil	Negligible	No change	Neutral	No change

#### Archaeological Heritage Assets within 500m radius of the Proposal Area

Prehistoric (4000BC-42AD)	Negligible	Negligible	No change	Neutral	No change
Bronze Age (2350BC – 409AD)	Moderate	Negligible	No change	Neutral	No change
Roman (43BC – 410AD)	Moderate	Low to Moderate	No change	Neutral/slight	No change
Anglo-Saxon (c450AD – 1066AD)	Negligible	Negligible	No change	Neutral	No change
Medieval (1066AD – 1550AD)	Moderate	Moderate	No change	Neutral/slight	No change
Post-medieval (1550AD – 1900AD)	Moderate to High	Moderate	Negligible	Neutral/slight	Negligible
Modern (1900AD – present)	Nil	Negligible	No change	Neutral	No change

## 4.0 Cartographic Evidence

Cartographic evidence supports the points in paragraphs 3.3 and 5.0, that the proposed development of the extension to the existing garden store and new pavilion at Coplowe Barn and gardens lies on the edge of the Scheduled Ancient Monument Bletsoe Castle. The maps and plans located in appendix 1, and OS maps of 1884 and 1901 (ref: oldmapsonline.org), show that the Scheduled Ancient Monument earthworks lie to the north west, north and north east of the proposed area of development.

## 5.0 Significance of the Asset or Assets

NPPF paragraph 189 states that in determining applications, Local Planning Authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance.

The archaeological or historic significance of the heritage assets that will be directly affected by the proposal or through changes to their setting affect only those that lie on or within the boundary of Coplowe Barn and its gardens, and the proposed development area therein. These assets apply only to Scheduled Ancient Monument, Bletsoe Castle **NLE no: 1012365, MBD308**. All other assets within the Scheduled Ancient Monument area lie on the outskirts of the proposed development area and are not considered for asset significance (appendix 1, figure 5).

The significance of the Scheduled Ancient Monument lies in the well preserved plan form of the moated site and with the impressive earthworks of the surrounding manorial and garden complex. The evolution and development of the site from a medieval manor to post medieval country house and estate is of particular value and the site and the current range of building demonstrates the long continuity of occupation. In addition, to the earthworks the site is known to contain valuable archaeological remains that correspond with the main periods of occupation.

A brief resume of the history of the heritage asset of the Scheduled Ancient Monument is as follows: – 'the medieval moated site with garden earthworks at Bletsoe Castle' (**National Heritage List entry - 1012365, HER MBD308**), on which stands a later Elizabethan manor house with associated 16-17th century garden enclosure and landscape earthworks. The earliest reference to the manor of Bletsoe occurs in Domesday, which records that the manor was held by Osbert de Broilg, of Hugh de Beauchamp, but there is no evidence of a castle on the site until 1327, when John de Pateshull obtained the King's licence to crenellate the manor house. The castle is one of several medieval defensive sites located on the northern slopes of the Ouse valley. Ruins of a fortified house were observed on the moated site in 1837AD. The Jacobean period saw the major modification of the site, from fortified moat into a more comfortable residence with its landscaped gardens. Around the castle and garden are the remains of medieval field system earthworks, enclosed by a boundary bank. The List entry records that the Grade II\* Listed manor house and agricultural buildings, including the Grade II Listed barn, the farm worker's cottages adjacent to Coplowe Lane, the 16th century bridge and the metalled surfaces of the modern driveways are specifically excluded from the scheduling. However, the ground beneath the buildings and driveways is included.

The Scheduled Ancient Monument of Bletsoe Castle itself is of **high** importance and significance, however the central settlement of Bletsoe Castle lies to the

north of Coplowe Barn and gardens. Logistically Coplowe Barn and gardens lie on the edge of the Scheduled Ancient Monument and on close perusal of maps of Bletsoe Castle it can be seen it is likely that no visible earthworks belonging to the Scheduled Ancient Monument extend that far, and as such the significance of the proposed development on the setting of the Scheduled Ancient Monument is **negligible** (appendix 1, figure 1). The proposed development is also small in appearance and due to its construction and design blends in with the existing buildings (as described in section 1.0 the proposed works), the potential impact on the **high** significance of the Scheduled Ancient Monument is therefore **negligible** as there is only minimal change to the Scheduled Ancient Monument in its setting.

Potential below ground archaeological remains belonging to the Scheduled Ancient Monument are in the case of the proposed development not relevant as no intrusive groundworks are part of the construction and design as mentioned in paragraph 1.0 the Proposed works.

To support the **negligible** significance of the proposed new development on the Scheduled Ancient Monument is an archaeological investigation in the form of a trial trench evaluation, which took place in lieu of the construction of a detached garage and garden store at Coplowe Barn itself **EBB858**. The results of the investigation were only to discover post medieval activity associated with the nineteenth century farm complex of which Coplowe Barn is the only building to survive, nothing was recovered of medieval or sixteenth or seventeenth century date similar to that of Scheduled Ancient Monument Bletsoe Castle.

In the light of the above evidence the potential impact of the proposed development on the significance of the heritage asset, which is to extend the existing garden store and build a pavilion on an existing raised patio, in spite of the significance of the Scheduled Ancient Monument Bletsoe Castle **LEN no 1012365, MBD308** is **negligible**.

## 6.0 The Impact on the asset(s)

The impact the proposals will have on the significance of the heritage assets potentially affected is described as follows, taking into account the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework as stated in paragraph 3.2.

There has been no loss of key features or historic fabric of the Scheduled Ancient Monument as the main settlement area of Bletsoe Castle lies to the north west away from the proposed development (appendix 1, figure 1) and consequently the impact on key features or historic fabric is assessed as **negligible**.

Visibly, Bletsoe Castle cannot be seen within or from Coplowe Barn and gardens (appendix 2, figures 6 - 20). The view being screened by trees and buildings (appendix 2, figures 6 - 20). The proposed development is small in nature particularly that of the extension to the garden store. The pavilion again slight in nature and in appearance only partially covers the rear barn wall and adds only a **negligible** addition to the setting of lawns and gardens to the rear of the barn.

The proposed development once built will be seen from the Roman Road, Coplowe Lane and as situated on the outer boundary of the Scheduled Ancient Monument will have a visual effect and change the visual setting of the Scheduled Ancient Monument, but due to the minimal size of the extension to the garden store and the new pavilion, both of which have been designed sympathetically to Coplowe Barn, the impact on the setting of the Scheduled Ancient Monument is **negligible**. The extension to the garden store being of the same materials and construction as the existing garden store itself and the pavilion being of timber construction and with similar roof tiles as that of Coplowe Barn, the significance that the new build has on the Scheduled Ancient Monument with regard to setting and appearance is again **negligible**. In brief therefore there will be no blocking of key views to and from the Scheduled Ancient Monument taken from the proposed extension to the existing garden store or new pavilion to be built on an existing raised patio as seen in appendix 2, figures 6 - 20).

The sense of tranquility of the Scheduled Ancient Monument of Bletsoe Castle due to its rural setting, will not be disturbed as the proposed development is not of any significant size, the impact of the proposed development on the sense of tranquility will therefore be **negligible**.

Only a **negligible** impact on the relationships between buildings will occur as the proposed development of the extension to the existing garden store and new pavilion on an existing raised patio will not give an overall view of extensive change as the proposed development is not large in nature (appendix 1, figures 2, 3 and 4).

Finally regarding any loss of archaeological evidence, visually the new pavilion will be built in front of nineteenth century Coplowe Barn. The impact however is negligible as the pavilion is not large in nature. Also due to the lack of intrusive groundworks there will be no impact or loss of archaeological evidence as none will be disturbed.

## 7.0 **Preserve, Enhance and Mitigate**

The proposals for the new development of an extension to the existing garden store and new pavilion to be built on an existing raised patio, have been designed and constructed with a view to preserving the Scheduled Ancient Monument Bletsoe Castle (**LEN no 1012365, MBD308**), within which Coplowe Barn and gardens stand. In order to preserve the Scheduled Ancient Monument at above and below ground level, no intrusive groundworks are required as the proposed extension to the garden store is to stand on rafts. In order to preserve the Scheduled Ancient Monument at above and below ground level, no intrusive groundworks are also required for the proposed new pavilion as it is to stand on an already existing patio.

The Scheduled Ancient Monument within its setting has also been born in mind as to preserve its original character as the extension to the existing garden store has been designed so that the materials and construction are the same as the existing garden store (appendix 1, figure 3), the overall view is therefore preserved. Similarly the new pavilion although obviously in view has also been

designed to be sympathetic in nature to Coplowe Barn and to the Scheduled Ancient Monument in its setting, in that the materials are similar to that of the Barn, ie the roof tiles are similar and also being timber framed in construction visually the impact is minimal and again the overall setting and significance of the Scheduled Ancient Monument is preserved.

As to an enhancement of the Scheduled Ancient Monument, in view of the fact that the main settlement of Bletsoe Castle lies to the north west of Coplowe Barn and gardens to the north and north east, the proposed development poses no influence on the latter, therefore the impact and enhancement is **negligible** and also lying on the outskirts of the Scheduled Ancient Monument the proposed development due to its sympathetic design and construction also poses little detriment to the significance of the Scheduled Ancient Monument itself as the impact is **negligible** both directly and on its setting, and therefore on the preservation and enhancement of Scheduled Ancient Monument.

NPPF paragraphs 193, 194, 196 and 197 as noted in sections 3.2.3 to 3.2.6 are concerned with the importance of not harming heritage assets and as such steps have been taken through mitigation at design stage to ensure that there will be no harm to the Scheduled Ancient Monument of Bletsoe Castle. As mentioned in the paragraph on preserving the Scheduled Ancient Monument, no intrusive groundworks are required for either the extension to the existing garden store nor the proposed new pavilion. The extension to the garden store is to be rafted, ie the store will stand on rafts that will not penetrate the ground and the proposed new pavilion will be built upon an existing raised patio. As to harm to the significance of the Scheduled Ancient Monument as to its view within its setting, due consideration has been made at design stage to ensure that the materials and construction used are sympathetic to the Scheduled Ancient Monument, ie similar materials as those on existing structures and of a size as cause little impact visually (section 2.0 the proposed works, appendix 2, figures 6 to 20).

There is no harm proposed to the Scheduled Ancient Monument Bletsoe Castle either through intrusive groundworks or visually. No public benefit has therefore been considered due to this fact.

## 8.0 **Conclusion**

In conclusion drawing from the statements within the paragraphs on the proposal site, proposed works, the nature of the asset to be affected by the proposal, the significance of the asset, the impact on the asset and the need to preserve, enhance and mitigate, the proposed development, although within the boundary of the Scheduled Ancient Monument Bletsoe Castle, the proposed development through construction and design, has sought to preserve and enhance through mitigation the Scheduled Ancient Monuments **high** significance and setting, and to ensure through mitigation that no harm comes to the Scheduled Ancient Monument of Bletsoe Castle.

The Scheduled Ancient Monument, Bletsoe Castle falls within the significance category of regional to national or **high**. The magnitude of impact that best describes the effect of the proposed development on the Scheduled Ancient Monument is that of 'minor permanent or temporary changes to the asset that

have no appreciable direct or indirect effect on the asset or its setting and do not affect its significance'. As such in comparison with the significance and impact criteria in appendix 4 the assessment is therefore that the impact on the Scheduled Ancient Monument, Bletsoe Castle is **negligible**.



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Maps

Ordnance survey map of Bedfordshire, 1884, 1:2500

Ordnance survey map of Bedfordshire, 1901, 1:2500

Ordnance survey map of Bedfordshire, 1951, 1:2500

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<https://maps.nls.uk/geo/explore/side-by-side>)

<https://www.oldmapsonline.org/>

# Appendix 1: Maps and plans



Figure 1: Site location

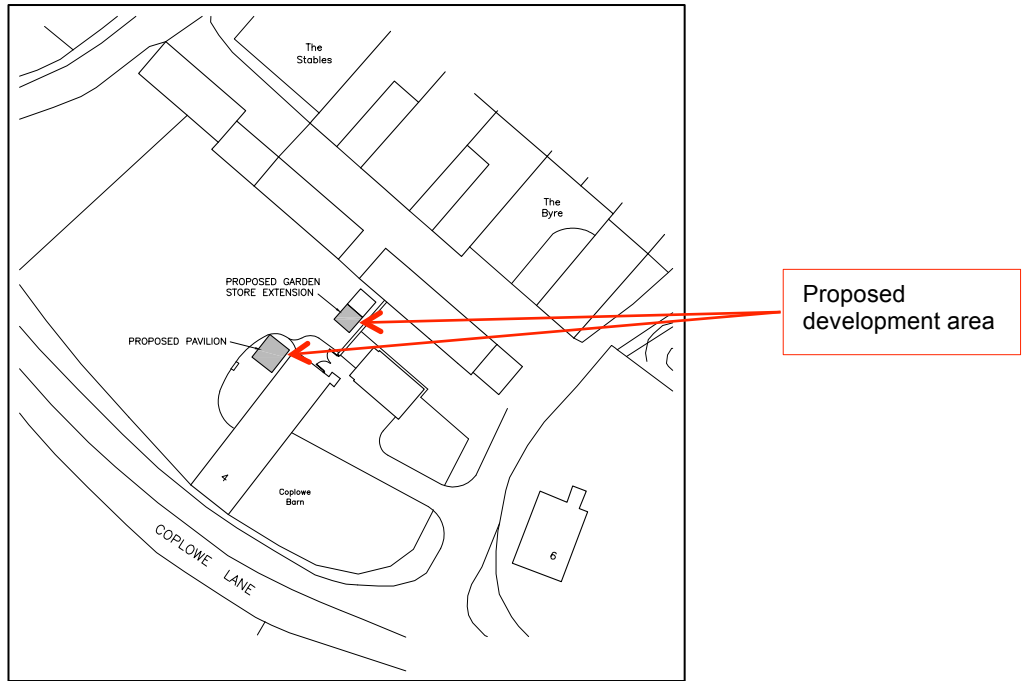


Figure 2: Proposed development area location

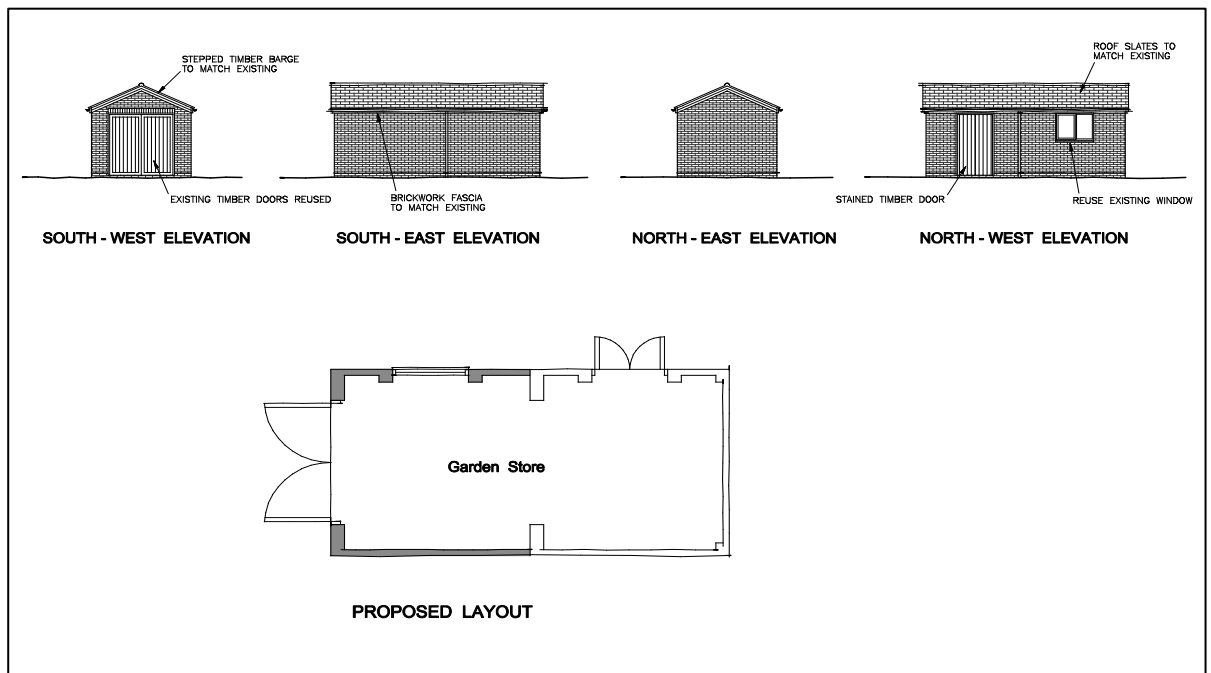


Figure 3: Layout of proposed extension to the garden store

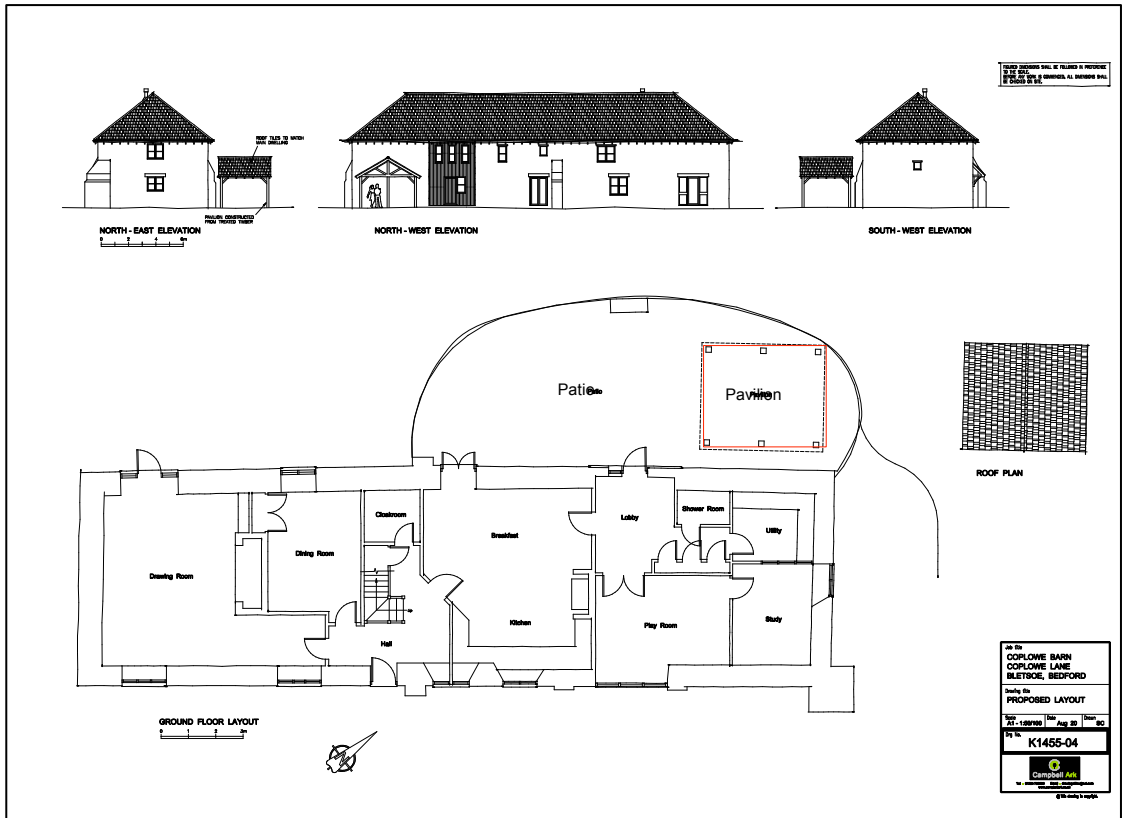
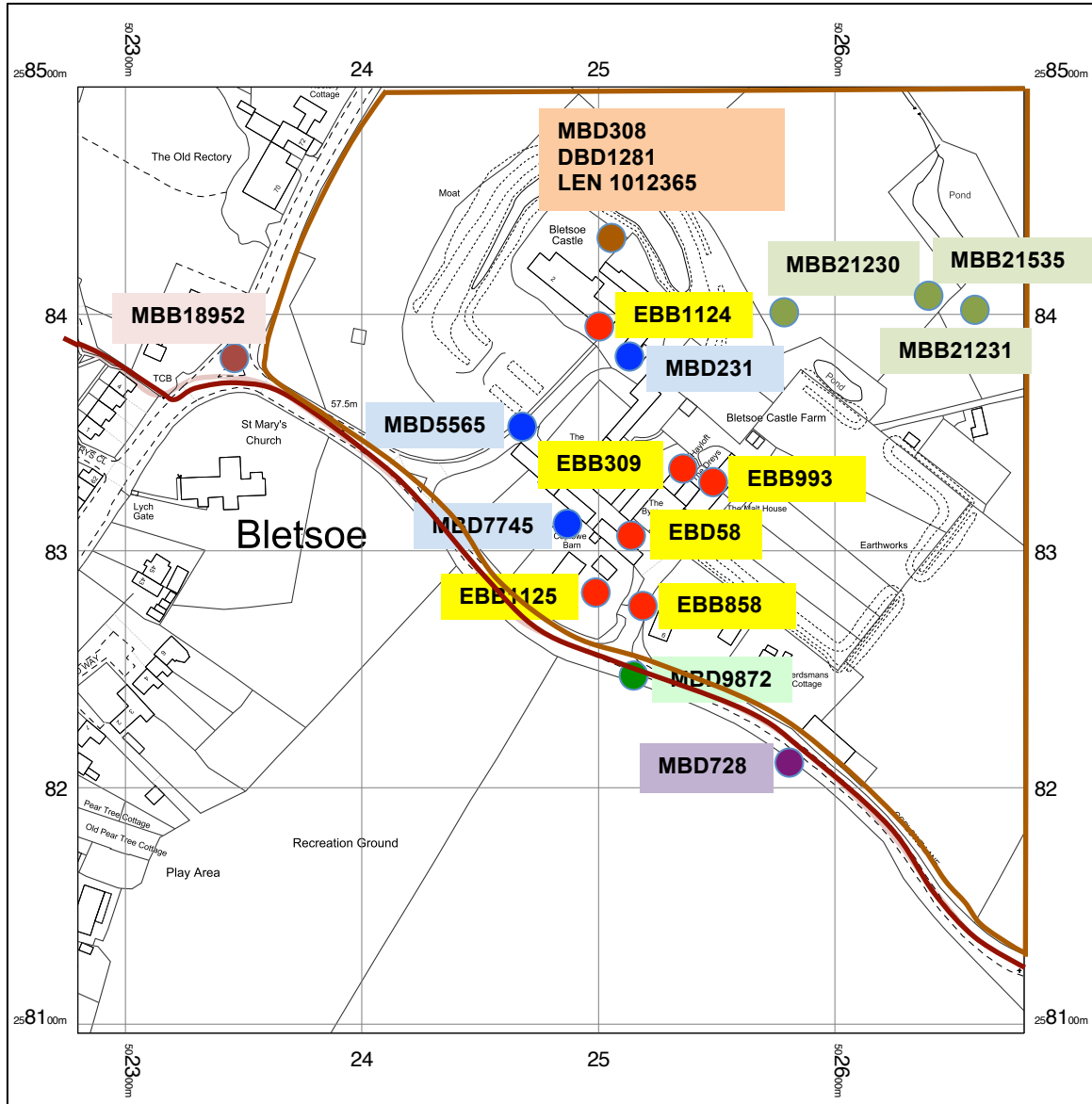


Figure 4: Proposed new pavilion on existing raised patio











	Scheduled ancient monument
	Monuments line
	Monuments poly
	Findspots
	Buildings
	Listed buildings
	Events
	Parishes

Figure 5: Historic Environment Record data within Scheduled Ancient Monument Bletsoe Castle  
**LEN no 1012365, MBD308**

Appendix 2 Site photographs



Figure 6: South east facing view



Figure 7: West facing view



Figure 8: West facing view



Figure 9: North West facing view

Figures 6 – 9: Views taken from the existing garden store



Figure 10: South East facing view



Figure 11: East facing view



Figure 12: East facing view



Figure 13: North East facing view



Figure 14: East facing view



Figure 15: North East facing view



Figure 16: North East facing view

Figures 10 – 16: Views taken from the boundary of Coplowe Barn towards the proposed development area



Figure 17: North East facing view



Figure 18: North East facing view



Figure 19: South East facing view

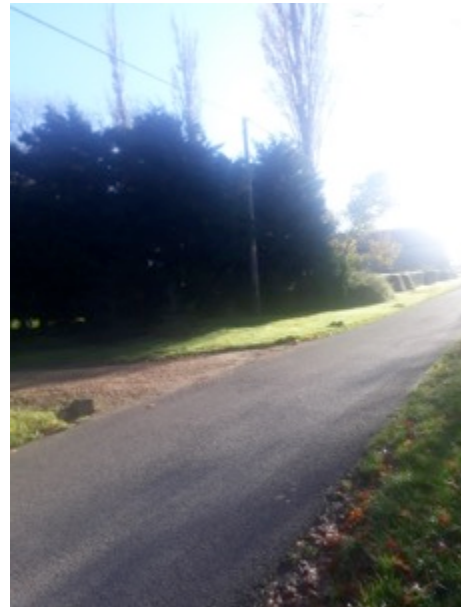


Figure 20: South East facing view

Figures 17 to 20: Views taken towards the PDA from Coplowe Lane and the junction with the access road to Scheduled Ancient Monument Bletsoe Castle



### Appendix 3: Historic environment data

#### Known Heritage assets within a 500 m radius of the proposed development site

Table 1: Scheduled Ancient Monuments

Ref	Name	Description	Period
DBD1281 MBD308 LEN no 1007780	'Moated site with garden earthworks at Bletsoe Castle'	Bletsoe Castle is a medieval moated manor house with associated 16 <sup>th</sup> -17 <sup>th</sup> century garden enclosure and earthworks	Medieval (1327AD – 1837AD)

Table 2: Monuments

Ref	Name	Description	Period
MBD728	Roman Road (Viatores no. 225)	The suggested line of a Roman road from Sandy to Sharnbrook, and possibly on to	Roman (43AD – 409AD)
MBD2637	Roman occupation, north of Bletsoe Castle	Several acres of Roman occupation, located by field-walking	Roman (43AD – 409AD)
MBD2638	Slag patch	An area of slag, identified by fieldwalking in 1972	undated
MBD3648	Hermitage (Religious)	Reference to a hermitage site	Medieval (1066AD – 1539AD)
MBD11263	Roman coin, Bletsoe Rectory	Roman bronze coin	Roman

Table 3: Findspots

Ref	Name	Description	Period
MBD15395	Roman pottery	2 sherds of Roman pottery	Roman (43AD - 409AD)
MBD16006	Medieval seal	A bronze medieval seal die	Medieval (1300AD – 1499AD)
MBB19276	Roman coin	A copper-alloy nummus of The House of Constantine; 'Victory on prow of boat' reverse; minted at Trier, AD 330 - 331. Ref.: RIC Vol. VII, p. 215, no. 530. Dimensions: 17.4mm diameter, 1.2mm thick. Weight: 1.91g	Roman (330AD - 331AD)
MBB19277	Roman coin	A copper-alloy nummus of Valens (AD 364 - 378); SECVRITAS REI PVBLICAE reverse, uncertain mint. Dimensions: 17.3mm diameter, 1.3mm thick. Weight: 1.43g	Roman (343AD - 378AD)
MBB19278	Roman coin	A copper-alloy nummus of The House of Constantine; 'She-wolf and twins' reverse; minted at Lyon, AD 330 - 331. Ref.: RIC Vol. VII, p. 138, no. 242. Dimensions: 17.5mm diameter, 1.7mm thick. Weight: 2.27g	Roman (330AD - 331AD)
MBB19279	Roman coin	A silver-washed copper-alloy radiate of Tacitus (AD 275 - 276); TEMPORVM FELICITAS reverse; Gallic mint. Ref.: RIC Vol. V (part I), p. 332, no. 65*. Dimensions: 23.2mm diameter, 1.2mm thick. Weight: 2.79g	Roman (275AD - 276AD)
MBB19280	Roman coin	A copper-alloy dupondius of Marcus Aurelius (AD 139 - 180); SALVTI AVG . COS III S C reverse; minted at Rome, AD 168- 171. Ref.: RIC Vol. III, p. 290-293, nos. 965, 982 or 1010. Dimensions: 26.3mm diameter, 3.2mm thick. Weight: 12.19g	Roman (168AD - 171AD)
MBB19312	Roman coin	A copper-alloy nummus of the House of Valentinian; GLORIA ROMANORVM (Emperor dragging captive) reverse, minted AD 364 - 378. Dimensions: 16.8mm diameter, 1mm thick. Weight: 1.26g	Roman (364AD - 378AD)
MBB19315	Roman coin	A copper-alloy nummus of Constantine I (Augustus), Constantine II, Constantius II or Constans (Caesars); GLORIA EXERCITVS (two standards) reverse, minted AD 330 - 335. Dimensions: 16.6mm diameter, 0.9mm thick. Weight: 1.4g	Roman (330AD - 335AD)
MBB19316	Roman coin	A copper-alloy nummus of Constantine I (Augustus) or Constantine II (Caesar); GLORIA EXERCITVS (two standards) reverse, minted AD 330-335. Dimensions: 15mm diameter, 1.7mm thick. Weight: 1.67g	Roman (330AD - 335AD)
MBB19317	Roman coin	A copper-alloy nummus of the House of Constantine; 'Victory on prow of boat' reverse; minted at Trier, AD 330 - 331. Ref.: RIC Vol. VII, p. 214, no. 523. Dimensions: 16.7mm diameter, 1.4mm thick. Weight: 1.64g	Roman (330AD - 331AD)
MBB19318	Roman coin	A copper-alloy nummus, probably of The House of Constantine. Dimensions: 14.5mm diameter, 1.7mm thick. Weight: 2.05g	Roman (307AD - 361AD)
MBB19319	Roman coin	A copper-alloy nummus of the House of Constantine; 'She-wolf and twins' reverse, minted (probably at Trier), AD 330 - 335. Off-centre strike. Dimensions: 14.9mm diameter, 1.8mm thick. Weight: 2.12g.	Roman (330AD - 335AD)

MBB19320	Roman coin	A copper-alloy nummus of Magnentius (AD 350 - 353); VICTORIAE DD NN AVG ET CAE reverse; minted at Amiens, AD 350 - 353. Ref.: RIC Vol. VIII, p. 122-123, nos. 14, 16 or 27. Dimensions: 22mm diameter, 1.4mm thick. Weight: 4.56g	Roman (350AD - 353AD)
MBB19321	Roman coin	A copper-alloy nummus of Constantine II as Caesar; GLORIA EXERCITVS (two standards) reverse; minted at Trier, AD 333 - 334. Ref.: RIC Vol. VII, p. 218, no. 550. Dimensions: 17.5mm diameter, 1.3mm thick. Weight: 2.01g	Roman (333AD - 334AD)
MBB19369	Roman coin of honorius (ad 408 - 420)	A gold solidus of Honorius (AD 393-423) dating to the period AD 408 to 420. CONCORDIA AVGG theta reverse, minted at Constantinople. RIC X, p. 253, no. 201. This coin has been deliberately defaced on the reverse. There is an N shaped scratch in the right hand field	Roman (408AD - 420AD)
MBB19750	Roman coin	A copper-alloy nummus of Licinius II as Caesar; PROVIDENTIAE CAESS reverse, minted at Heraclea in AD 317. RIC no. 19 variant*. The coin is slightly worn but has little corrosion. It measures 18.5mm in diameter, 1.7mm thick and weighs 2.8g.	Roman (317AD - 399AD)
MBB19751	Roman coin	A copper-alloy nummus of Constantine I (AD 306-337); GLORIA EXERCITVS (two standards) reverse, minted at Cyzicus, AD 331 or 333-334; RIC no. 76. The coin has a blueish-green patina and little wear or corrosion. It measures 17.4mm in diameter, 1.7mm thick and weighs 2.85g	Roman (331AD - 334AD)
MBB19753	Roman coin	A copper-alloy nummus of Constantine II as Caesar; GLORIA EXERCITVS (two standards) reverse, minted at Arles, AD 330- 335 (see RIC Vol VII, p. 270-276). The coin is worn. It measures 17.2mm in diameter, 1.6mm thick and weighs 2.33g	Roman (330AD - 335AD)
MBB21230	Medieval mount	A copper-alloy mount, probably from a harness strap or a casket, dating from the 13th or 14th century AD (N. Griffiths; 1989; pp. 1)	Medieval (1475AD - 1550AD)
MBB21231	Roman coin	An incomplete silver Denarius of Marcus Aurelius. Measures 18mm diameter, by 2.2mm thick and weighs 2.22g	Roman (156AD - 157AD)
MBB21258	Medieval seal	A lead seal matrix of probable early 13th century AD date	Medieval (1200AD - 1250AD)
MBB21264	Medieval thimble	A copper-alloy pierced top thimble of mid 14th century AD date	Medieval (1325AD - 1375AD)
MBB21265	Medieval mount	A copper-alloy mount of probable medieval (14th-15th century AD) date	Medieval (1300AD - 1500AD)
MBB21266	Anglo saxon brooch	An incomplete copper-alloy annular brooch of early Anglo-saxon date	Anglo Saxon (450AD - 600AD)
MBB21334	Medieval coin	A hammered silver coin of medieval date. Penny of Henry V, York mint, local dies, Class F, North 1403 (1413-1422). The coin is heavily worn, corroded and incomplete. It measures 17mm diameter by 0.3mm thick	Medieval (1413AD - 1422AD)
MBB21335	Medieval mount	A slightly bent and corroded medieval copper-alloy mount	Medieval (1230AD - 1260AD)
MBB21535	Roman finger ring	A silver finger ring with a tapering hoop, angled shoulders and a flat rectangular bezel 'plate', in the centre of which is an integrally cast transverse oval bezel with inset engraved gem stone of dark orangey red colour with some white mottling	Roman (175AD - 250AD)

Table 4: Buildings

Ref	Name	Description	Period
MBD5555	40, 41 & 42 High Street, Bletsoe	17th century former grade III listed building in Bletsoe Conservation Area, demolished in the 1960s	Post medieval (1600AD – 1965AD)
MBD5559	34, The Avenue (formerly 22 High Street)	Former grade III listed building in Bletsoe Conservation Area, demolished in 1972	Post medieval (1500AD to 1699AD)
MBD7738	11 – 13 Memorial Lane	19th century building with modern alterations	Post medieval (1800AD to modern)
MBD7740	Haydons, Milton Road	18th/19th century building with later renovation	Post medieval (1700AD to modern)
MBD7741	OUTBUILDINGS to Bletsoe Cottage	19th century converted stable	Post medieval (1540AD to modern)
MBD7744	STABLES to Old Rectory	19th century converted stable	Post medieval (1800AD to modern)
MBD 9649	BRICK KILN (between High Street & A6)	Site of demolished 17th century Brickworks	Post medieval (1600AD to 1699AD)
MBD9872	BARN, Castle Farm	18th century limestone rubble barn	Post medieval (1700AD to modern)
MBD9994	WAR MEMORIAL	20th century war memorial	Post medieval (1900AD – 1999AD)
MBD12132	MEDIEVAL WATERMILL (site of), West of The Falcon Inn	Island in River Ouse has produced evidence of limestone footings in area where Bletsoe Mill recorded in 1862. Domesday mill site	Medieval to Victorian 1066AD to 1900AD

Table 5: Listed buildings

Ref	Name	Description	Period
MBD231	BLETSOE CASTLE, Coplowe Lane	A 16th century house, with 19th and 20th century alterations.	Post Medieval (1500 – 1599AD)
MBD903	BLETSOE SCHOOL & SCHOOL HOUSE	Built as a National School, dated 1852, and now converted into a house.	Victorian – Unknown (1852AD – unknown)
MBD1023	ST MARY'S CHURCH	Medieval parish church, much restored in 19th century.	Medieval (1066AD – 1539AD)
MBD5558	36 THE AVENUE (Formerly 23 Village Street)	16th or 17th century grade II listed building in Bletsoe Conservation Area, formerly grade III listed.	Post Medieval (1500AD – 1699AD)
MBD5560	PIXIE COTTAGE, 9 Memorial Lane	17th century grade II listed building in Bletsoe Conservation Area, formerly grade III listed.	Post Medieval (1600AD – 1699AD)
MBD5561	15-17 (Well Cottage) MEMORIAL LANE	17th or 18th century grade II listed building in Bletsoe Conservation Area, formerly grade III listed.	Post Medieval (1600AD-1799AD)

MBD5562	1-6 TOP ROW	18th century grade II listed estate cottages in Bletsoe Conservation Area.	Post Medieval (1700AD – 1799AD)
MBD5563	OLD PEAR TREE COTTAGE (No 15), The Avenue	17th or 18th century grade II listed building in Bletsoe Conservation Area, formerly grade III listed.	Post Medieval (1600AD - 1799AD)
MBD5564	2 & 3 OLDWAY	16th century grade II listed building in Bletsoe Conservation Area, formerly grade III listed.	Post Medieval (1500AD – 1699AD)
MBD5565	BRIDGE over Bletsoe Castle Moat	17th century grade II listed bridge in Bletsoe Conservation Area.	Post Medieval (1500AD – 1599AD)
MBD5567	BLETSOE COTTAGE, Rushden Road (formerly Milton Road)	late 17th or early 18th century grade II listed building, formerly grade III listed.	Post Medieval (1600AD – 1799AD)
MBD6517	46, 48, 50 & 52 THE AVENUE	Grade II listed terrace of 19th century cottages.	Post Medieval – Modern (1800AD – 2050AD)
MBD7739	1 OLDWAY	Grade II listed 18th century cottage.	Post Medieval – Modern (1700AD – 2050AD)
MBD7743	OLD RECTORY, 70 The Avenue	Grade II listed Rectory dated 1833	Post Medieval – Modern (1833AD – 2050AD)
MBD7745	BARN at Bletsoe Castle Farm, adjacent to drive	Grade II listed 17th century Threshing Barn.	Post Medieval – Modern (1600AD – 2050AD)
MBD9870	44 THE AVENUE, formerly 27 High Street	Grade II listed 17th century cottage.	Post Medieval – Modern (1600AD – 2050AD)

Table 6: Events within a 500m radius of the PDA

Ref	Name	Description	Contractor
EBB623	THE GRANGE (formerly "BEDDGELERT"), Rushden Road, Bletsoe; Watching Brief	Bedfordshire County Archaeological Services	North Bedfordshire Archaeological Society, 2000
EBB858	COPLOWE BARN, BLETSOE; Archaeological Evaluation	Trenching works revealed remains of modern activity associated with the 19th century farm complex, of which Coplowe Barn is the only building to survive. The remains of a stone courtyard surface or an access track leading to it were revealed in Trench 1. Layers of stones in Trenches 2 and 3 were not as elaborate and are more likely to represent a spread of demolition debris, which may, as a result of use / trampling, have become a mediocre yard surface outside the farm complex. These deposits seem to have been laid on top of layer of former subsoil. The only artefacts recovered from the trenches were fragments of modern (post-1750) brick and tile	Albion Archaeology, 2014
EBB914	CHURCH OF ST MARY, BLETSO Trial trenches	Four trial trenches were excavated at the church of St Mary Bletsoe, to the north of the chancel and in its attached roofless vestry.	Historic Environment Conservation , 2014 - 2015
EBB932	Waiting for the Sun, Rushden Road, Bletsoe, Archaeological Watching Brief	No archaeological features were observed during the excavation for the sewerage tank.	Northamptonshire Archaeology, 2010
EBB938	Land at Waiting for the Sun, Rushden Road, Bletsoe, Bedfordshire	The archaeological monitoring of the groundworks was undertaken on 17th November 2015 and revealed no archaeological remains. The findings of the archaeological monitoring indicate that neither the Roman settlement (MBD307) nor the medieval settlement (MBD17007) in the vicinity extend into the area of the stable building.	Albion Archaeology, 2015
EBB991	WEST OF VILLAGE, BLETSOE; Excavation	Archaeological excavation carried out under the auspices of F. W. Kuhlicke.	F. W. Kuhlicke 1936
EBB992	WEST OF VILLAGE, BLETSOE; Archaeological Excavation	Archaeological excavations by D. Hall and D. Sturdy of the North Bedfordshire Archaeological Society located early medieval and Roman activity.	North Bedfordshire Archaeological Society 1968 - 1969
EBB993	CASTLE FARM, BLETSOE; Archaeological Watching Brief	Monitoring of the excavation of wall footings & service trenches revealed the possible remains of the eastern arm of the moat below the northwest range of barns at Castle Farm.	Bedfordshire County Archaeological Services 1993
EBB1121	WEST OF VILLAGE; 1970 Excavation	No description	1970
EBB1122	ST. MARY'S CHURCH, BLETSOE; Excavation	No description	Bedfordshire County Archaeological Services, 1983
EBB1123	ST. MARY'S CHURCH, BLETSOE; Watching brief	Watching brief on the installation of a new French drain confirmed that St. John's chapel is indeed a later addition to the 13th century nave	Albion Archaeology, 1993

EBB1124	BLETSOE CASTLE; Watching Brief	<p>A replacement extension to the truncated remains of the 16th or 17th century mansion gave the opportunity to examine the interior of the moated enclosure. Of the features recorded, three are of note:</p> <p>A post, or late medieval wall which appears to predate the present house. - A substantial ditch some 3m wide which appeared to run parallel to the line of the moat on the NW side.</p> <p>A substantial L-shaped robber trench full of large limestone blocks and coarse yellow mortar. The SW length was 2m wide and had some dressed stone at its base. The NW length was only half the width, but was an outside rather than partition wall.</p> <p>A single sherd of medieval pottery came from the junction of walls forming the robber trench. The substantial nature of the building make it a candidate for a masonry structure.</p>	Bedfordshire County Archaeological Services, 1986
EBB1125	BLETSOE CASTLE BARNS; Watching Brief	Monitoring of groundworks at the site. Results not yet reported.	Bedfordshire County Archaeological Services, 1998
EBB1126	HERDSMAN FARM, BLETSOE; Watching Brief	Monitoring of development groundworks recorded no significant archaeological remains.	Bedfordshire County Archaeological Services, 1999
EBB1336	LAND SOUTH OF NORTH END FARM, BLETSOE; Evaluation	Excavation of the test pit revealed that the object in question was not in fact of archaeological significance, but merely a layer of concrete over a modern pipe, presumably helping to protect a repair to the pipe that had included metallic components (thereby causing a reading on the metal-detector). No further archaeological investigation was therefore required.	Albion Archaeology 2018
EBB1405	CHURCH OF ST. MARY, BLETSOE; Excavation and Building Survey	A project was devised by the Friends of St Mary's Church Bletsoe for the Bletsoe Parochial Church Council (PCC) to restore the derelict chancel and vestry and to bring them back into use. The planning permission contained a condition requiring historic building recording and archaeological works. Albion Archaeology was commissioned to undertake the building recording and archaeological works.	Albion Archaeology 2018 - 2019
EBD058	An archaeological watching brief At The Hayloft, Bletsoe	An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during groundworks connected with the construction of a single garage on land at The Hayloft, Bletsoe. The foundation trenches were excavated to a maximum depth of 450mm and revealed a hard-standing or driveway of relatively modern date. No archaeological deposits were present and no artefacts were recovered.	Northamptonshire Archaeology, 2005

EBD244	The Tree-Ring dating of 2-3 Old Way, Bletsoe	Several phases of construction were assessed in this multiphase building but not all had timbers with sufficient numbers of rings to justify further investigation. The cross-wing extension was sampled, but failed to date. The remaining bay of the original hall yielded four timbers that dates, one retained complete sapwood as was found to have been felled in the winter of 1459/60, with the others having likely felling date ranges encompassing this date. The original hall was therefore most likely constructed in 1460, or within a few years thereafter. The main floor beam of the inserted floor retained complete sapwood and was found to have come from a tree felled in winter 1643/4, suggesting that the floor was inserted in 1644 or within a year or so thereafter.	Oxford Dendrochronology Laboratory 2006
EBD273	North End, Bletsoe, Bedfordshire, Archaeological Field Evaluation	The survey of 2 ponds showed that both ponds are located within the main body of the earthworks but show characteristics consistent with later quarrying.	1996
EBD309	Summary for Bletsoe Castle Barns Watching Brief	A watching brief was carried out during conversion of a large stone barn (17th/18th century) to domestic use. The digging of internal footings and external drains was observed. The natural comprised buff brickearth type clays and no archaeological features or deposits were seen.	1998
EBD438	Archaeological Investigation at Bletsoe Castle Farm	The programme of archaeological investigation and recording at Bletsoe Castle Farm did not reveal any deposits or structures which appeared to be contemporary with Bletsoe castle. Some residual medieval finds were made, however.	1993



#### Appendix 4: Significance and Impact Criteria

<b>Significance</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<i>International or very high</i>	A designated World Heritage Site or place of equivalent 'outstanding universal value' and international significance
<i>Regional to national or high</i>	Designated heritage assets (scheduled monuments, Grade I or Grade II* listed buildings, registered Park or Gardens or battlefields) of national significance. Or: Undesignated heritage assets and archaeological remains of potentially equivalent value. This includes assets which are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• rare in the heritage environment record or</li> <li>• are a good example of a type site or</li> <li>• have a high potential to add to regional and national research criteria</li> </ul>
<i>Local to district and/or regional or moderate</i>	Designated heritage assets of regional significance (Grade II listed buildings, Conservation Areas, Registered Park or Garden or battlefield not associated with events of national significance). Or: Undesignated heritage assets and archaeological remains of potentially equivalent value. This includes assets which are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• more commonly found in the heritage environment record or</li> <li>• have particular regional associations or may have important associations on a local or parish level (e.g. they have meaning to local population or embody something of the special identity of a locality)</li> <li>• have moderate potential to add to local and regional research criteria</li> </ul>
<i>Local or low</i>	Assets which are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• are relatively poorly preserved or</li> <li>• have limited significance on a local level</li> <li>• have a low potential to add to local and regional research criteria</li> </ul>
<i>Uncertain</i>	Sites where there is evidence that a heritage asset may exist, but where there is insufficient information to determine its nature, extent and degree of survival given current knowledge (e.g. cropmarks untested by fieldwork or random finds spots).
<i>Negligible</i>	Where there is very authoritative evidence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• usually backed up field evaluation</li> <li>• that there is no possibility that anything of archaeological or historical significance exists or where any potential surviving remains have no value within the context of the current study.</li> </ul>

<b>Magnitude of Impact</b>	<b>Effect of Impact</b>
High	Causes total destruction of or permanent change to most key elements of the asset that results in major loss of integrity and reduction in significance. Substantial change to the setting of the asset. Any such change would almost certainly considerably reduce the significance of the asset and would not normally be reversible.
Moderate	Either: causes permanent change to or loss of many key elements of the asset that lead to a moderate loss of its overall integrity and reduction in significance. Moderate change to the setting of the asset. Or: temporarily causes major loss of integrity and significance, e.g. through restricting accessibility and visibility, or by altering its setting.
Low	Either: causes permanent change to some key or peripheral elements of the asset, or changes to the setting of the asset, that lead to a slight loss of its overall integrity or significance. Or: temporarily causes moderate loss of integrity and significance, e.g. through restricting accessibility and visibility, or by altering its setting.
Negligible	Minor permanent or temporary changes to the asset that have no appreciable direct or indirect effect on the asset or its setting and do not affect its significance
No change	No change to the asset or its setting.

Appendix 5: Significance of effects matrix

<b>Value / sensitivity</b>	<b>Very high</b>	Neutral	Slight	Moderate / large	Large or very large	Very large
	<b>High</b>	Neutral	Slight	Moderate	Moderate / large	Large or very large
	<b>Moderate</b>	Neutral	Neutral / slight	Slight	Moderate	Moderate / large
	<b>Low</b>	Neutral	Neutral / slight	Neutral / slight	Slight	Slight / moderate
	<b>Negligible</b>	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral / slight	Neutral / slight	Slight
		<b>No change</b>	<b>Negligible</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>High</b>
	<b><i>Magnitude of impact</i></b>					