

JOHN MOORE HERITAGE SERVICES

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
AT
THE ORCHARD, MOAT LANE, ASTON ABBOTTS

SP 8465 1996

On behalf of

Landcroft Developments Ltd

APRIL 2007

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Summary

The evaluation revealed the presence of three periods of activity on the site. The earliest, represented by two lithics in residual contexts, is probably dated to the earlier Neolithic. The second phase is dated probably to the Iron Age, although a late Bronze Age origin is also possible. This phase of activity is represented by boundary ditches and postholes indicating a settlement. The third phase is dated to the 11th and 12th centuries by apparent plot boundaries aligned on Moat Lane along with pits. While no evidence of buildings was forthcoming it is likely that buildings would have been present in the area.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Location (Figure 1)

The site is located on the south side of Moat Lane, to the rear of 29 The Green, Aston Abbots (NGR SP 8465 1996). The underlying geology is Glacial Sands and Gravels over Gault Clay. The site was flat pasture with occasional trees, and with no visible earthworks. The site was divided into two by a low hedge.

1.2 Planning Background

A planning application has been submitted to Aylesbury Vale District Council for the erection of three detached dwellings and alteration to existing access at The Orchard, Moat Lane, Aston Abbots (06/2236). Buckinghamshire County Archaeological Service (BCAS) advised that a programme of archaeological works should be undertaken due to the site's potential for archaeological remains. BCAS produced a *Brief* for the work.

1.3 Archaeological and Historical Background

An archaeological excavation was considered necessary for this site because it lies within the historic core of Aston Abbots. An assessment of the site was carried out through the examination of material held by the County Sites and Monuments Record and historic maps at the County Record Office.

There is no evidence for prehistoric or Roman activity in the area. The village may have developed in the Saxon period. The main interest of the village is that it was held as a single manor by St Albans' Abbey from shortly before the Norman Conquest until the Dissolution. At the time of the Domesday Survey the place was called 'Estune' and the earliest form of its current name is found in 1262 as 'Aston Abbatis' (Mawer & Stenton 1925). The Domesday Survey states: The Abbot [of St Albans] holds Aston (Abbots) himself. It answers for 10 hide. Land for 12 ploughs; in lordship 6 hides; 3 ploughs there; a further 2 possible. 7 villagers with 12 smallholdings have 6 ploughs. 1 slave; meadow for 3 ploughs. Value £10; when acquired £6; before 1066 £10 (Morris 1978).

The monastic manor (CAS 1041) lay on the west side of the village, to the north of Moat Lane. The present house, known as the Abbey, was practically re-built in the 19th century. However as some walls are exceptionally thick the core may be an older

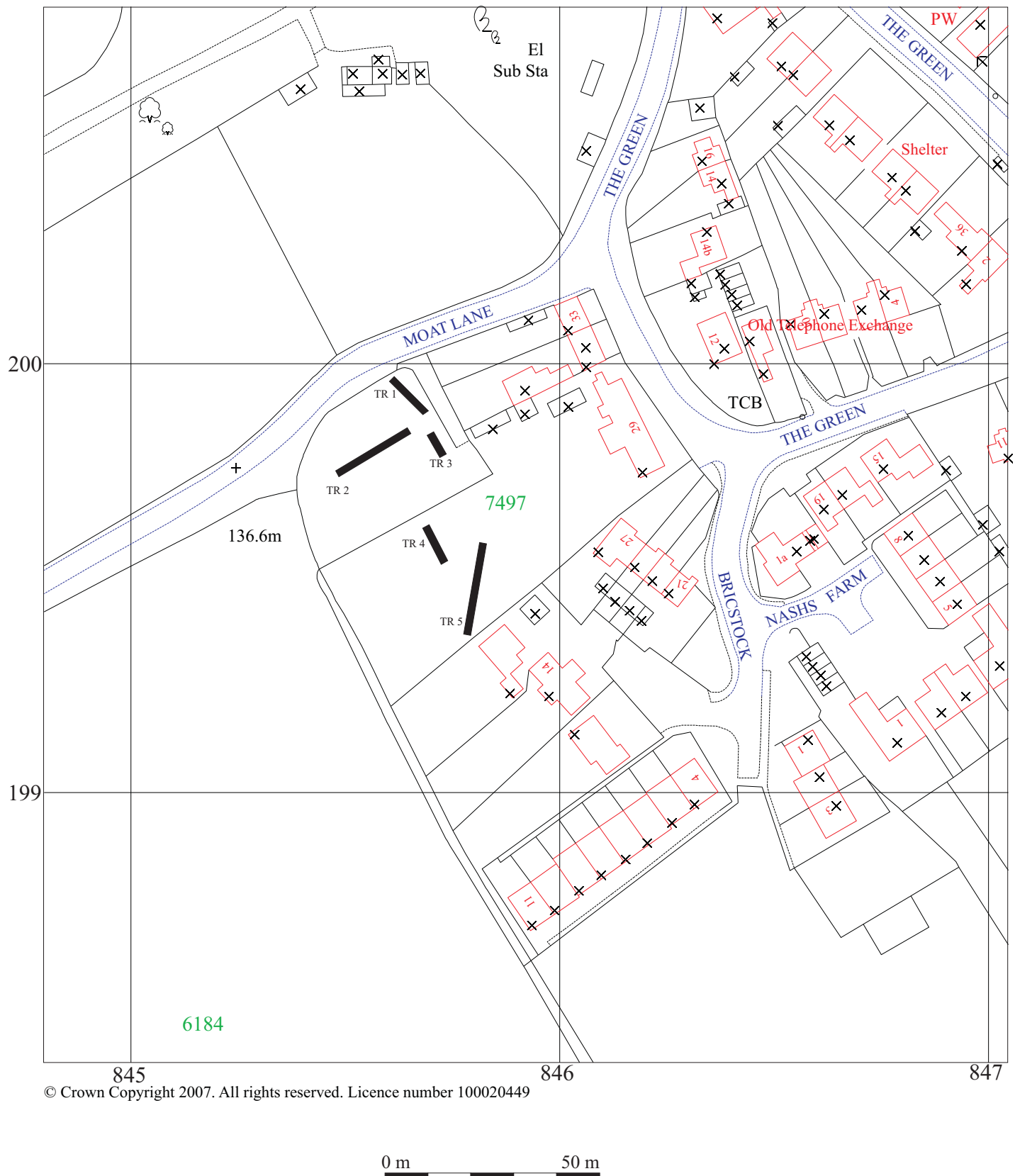


Figure 1. Site and trench location

building. The large sheet of water in the grounds may be an enlarged or adapted moat or fishpond.

The church (CAS 1049) lies in the north part of the village. This is thought to be 14th century but mostly rebuilt in 1865-6 with some 14th century work reset in the chancel. The tower is late 15th/early 16th century. Between the manor and the church is an area of deserted settlement (CAS 1987). This comprises a group of 5+ house platforms with a larger rectangular area to the west enclosed on three sides by streets. The whole area to the west is delimited by ridge and furrow cultivation. The earthworks continue to the north where they are less coherent. These do include a wet pond and a dry one. It is possible that emparkment by the abbots caused desertion. Further house platforms lie to the north-east (CAS 1988). Apparent hollow ways at right angles to a small valley give the impression of possible house platforms.

To the south-west is the deserted medieval village of Burston, now a Scheduled Monument.

An archaeological evaluation at Home Farm on the east side of the village (CAS 6682, SP 8480 2016) found land divisions at the rear of properties fronting The Green. One ditch contained early medieval pottery while the other three were undated (Oxford Archaeology 2002). A further evaluation to the rear of the Bull and Butcher (CAS 2606) found no significant features (ASC Ltd 2003).

The Jeffrey's map of 1770 shows a building on the west side of The Green and no buildings along this part of Moat Lane. No detail is visible on Byrant's map of 1825 (due to a fold in the map). The 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1885 again shows a building to the east of this proposed development site fronting The Green with a separate orchard or garden to the rear in the area of this site. Aerial photographs show ridge and furrow agriculture extending to the west side of the site.

2 AIMS OF THE INVESTIGATION

The aims of the investigation as laid out in the Written Scheme of Investigation were as follows:

- To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the site.
- To aim to gather sufficient information to generate a reliable predictive model of the extent, character, date state of preservation and depth of burial of important archaeological remains within the study area. Particular objectives were:
 - Establish whether there is evidence for Saxon or medieval activity in this area.
 - Establish whether there is evidence for occupation, property boundaries, domestic, commercial or industrial activities associated with possible Saxon or medieval settlement.

- To interpret the results in relation to the historical topography of Aston Abbots.
- To assess the ecofactual and environmental potential of the archaeological features and deposits.
- To determine the impact of the proposed development on any remains present.
- To make available to interested parties the results of the investigation subject to any confidentiality restrictions.

3 STRATEGY

3.1 Research Design

In response to a *Brief* issued by BCAS a scheme of investigation was designed by John Moore Heritage Services (JMHS) and agreed with BCAS and the applicants. The work was carried out by JMHS and involved the excavation of five trenches across the site.

Site procedures for the investigation and recording of potential archaeological deposits and features were defined in a *Written Scheme of Investigation* agreed with the BCAS. The work was carried out in accordance with the standards specified by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (1994) and the principles of MAP2 (English Heritage 1991).

3.2 Methodology

Five trenches were excavated across the site centred on proposed areas of development. All trenches were 1.65m wide and lengths were; Tr 1 – 5.5m; Tr 2 – 19.5m; Tr 3 – 6m; Tr 4 – 9.5m; Tr 5 - 21.5m. They were excavated with a JCB using a 5 foot wide grading bucket (Fig. 1). The trenches were excavated to the top of the natural. The resultant surfaces were cleaned by hand where necessary, prior to limited hand excavation of any identified archaeological features.

Standard John Moore Heritage Services techniques were employed throughout, involving the completion of a written record for each deposit encountered, with scale plans and sections drawings compiled where appropriate. A photographic record was produced. The trenches were backfilled after recording.

4 RESULTS

All deposits and features were assigned individual context numbers. Context numbers in [] indicate cut features i.e. ditches; while numbers in () show feature fills or deposits of material. Trench numbers precede context numbers e.g. (1/04) is deposit 04 in Trench 1. A general description of the feature fills is given. CBM refers to ceramic building material.

4.1 Soil Profile

The natural was consistent across the site comprising glacial sands and gravels (context 03 in all trenches). Above the natural was a ploughsoil (context 02 in all trenches) of loose dark grey-brown sandy loam with 70% gravel content in the north part of the site changing to orange-brown-grey clayey sand with 15% gravel reflecting the changes in the underlying glacial sands and gravels. The depth across the site was variable: Tr 1 – 50mm; Tr 2 – 250mm; Tr 3 – 300mm; Tr 4 – 150mm; Tr 5 – 300mm. The uppermost deposit was a topsoil of pale grey brown sandy loam (context 01 in all trenches). This varied in depth from 450mm in the northern half of the field to 640-660mm in the southern part. The upper part of the deposit, which was not easily distinguishable from the rest had been imported onto the site. This upper part contained varying amounts of demolition material, mainly in Trenches 1, 3 and the eastern half of Trench 2, although the occasional brick and tile fragment was present in the other trenches. The demolition material comprised frogged bricks, a floor tile, metal drainpipe pieces, and part of a drain. This had been dumped in the 20th century. The site and part of the gardens to the east stand c. 300mm higher than the field to the west and the land to the south.

One sherd of medieval grey sandy wares was recovered from the topsoil in Trench 1 (1/01) along with a sherd of Cotswold-type ware from the old ploughsoil in the same trench (1/02). A further sherd of Cotswold-type ware was found in the old ploughsoil in Trench 2 (2/020). A sherd of Red Earthenware dating from after the mid 16th century until the 19th century was recovered from the imported topsoil in Trench 4.

A sherd of Cotswold-type ware was recovered from the old ploughsoil (02) in each of Trenches 1, 2 and 5. Within the same deposit in Trench 2 were some pieces of roof tile. However they came from one area and the presence of modern mortar on one fragment suggests that these are intrusive probably from a pit dug through the topsoil into the top of the ploughsoil that was not noticed during machining.

All features described below are sealed by the ploughsoil (02 in all trenches). The features were seen cut into the top of the glacial sands and gravels.

4.2 Trench 1 (Figure 2)

Trench 1 contained a ditch, a pit and two postholes. The ditch [1/08] had a flat base with the eastern side at 50° from the horizontal and the western side at 30°. The latter side was beginning to curve around as it entered the north-east section of the trench suggesting that there was a terminal just outside of the trench. The ditch was 2.1m wide and 400mm deep. The ditch was filled with dark grey-brown sandy loam with 15% gravel, and some charcoal flecking (1/09). It was not at right angles to the road (Moat Lane) and appeared to be curving slightly to the north-east. A sherd of prehistoric pottery, possible Iron Age in date, along with a piece of animal bone was recovered from the ditch fill.

The pit [1/06] continued under the north-east side of the trench. It appeared to be oval in plan, with a slightly rounded base and sides at 40-60°. It was filled by dark grey-brown sandy loam with 40% small gravel with occasional charcoal flecking (1/07). The pit was c. 800mm wide, at least 1.2m long and 640mm deep. It contained a sherd

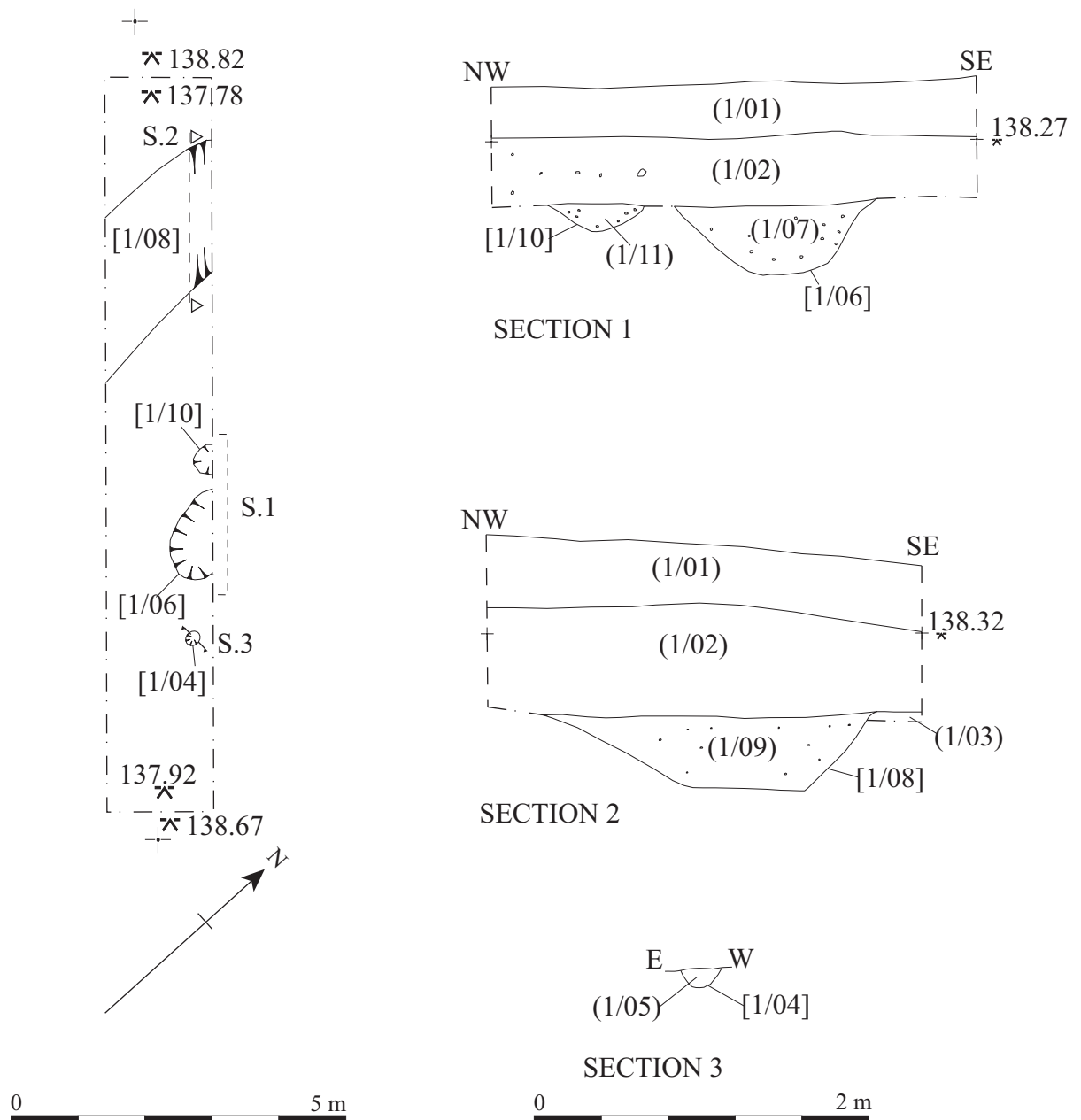


Figure 2. Trench 1 Plans and Sections

of pottery dating from the mid 11th century to 12th century and a fragment of animal bone.

Either side of the pit was a posthole. The eastern one [1/04] appeared circular although it extended under the north-east side of the trench. It was 560mm wide and 130mm deep. The posthole had a slightly rounded base and sides at 80-85°. The fill was dark grey-brown sandy loam with 15% gravel and moderate charcoal flecking. The western posthole [1/10] was sub-circular (300-400mm in diameter) with a small slightly rounded base and sides at 40°. The fill (1/11) was similar to that of the other posthole.

4.3 Trench 2 (Figure 3)

This trench contained three ditches, a gully and a ditch complex. At the north-east end of the trench was a ditch [2/04]. It was at least 1.2m wide and orientated NNW-SSE at right angles to Moat Lane. It was not excavated but the upper fill was dark grey-brown sandy loam with 70-80% gravel and moderate amounts of charcoal flecking (2/05). From the upper fill came a sherd of Cotswold-type ware of the 11th - 12th centuries.

Further to the south-west was a gully [2/06] 500mm wide. This was orientated NW/SE and intersected ditch [2/08] where the relationship was not discernible from the surface. The gully was filled by dark grey-brown sandy loam with 35-40% gravel (2/07). Ditch [2/08] was 600mm wide with a slightly rounded base and concave sides with the lower parts at 15° and the upper parts at 20-30°. It was 280mm deep. On the north-west side of the ditch was a fill of orange-brown sandy loam with occasional gravel (2/12) that may have originated from erosion of a bank on that side. Overlying this fill was a deposit of dark grey-brown sandy loam with moderate amounts of charcoal flecking and 30% gravel (2/09). The later ditch fill contained a piece of daub. Ditch [2/08] aligns with the ditch in Trench 1 and is considered to be the same (Fig. 7).

Ditch [2/10] was parallel to ditch [2/04] and the north-east side of the ditch complex [2/14]. Ditch [2/10] was 1.8m wide and filled with dark grey-brown sandy loam with occasional charcoal flecking. It was not sample excavated.

Ditch complex [2/14] was at the south-east end on the trench. The north-east side was parallel to two other ditches in the trench and perpendicular to Moat Lane on a NW/SE axis. The opposing side was at an angle indicating an intersection of a further ditch orientated N/S. This was seen by the director during machining but not recorded as such. The general fill was a dark grey-brown sandy loam with 60% gravel and occasional charcoal flecking.

4.4 Trench 3 (Figure 4)

Trench 3 contained a re-cut ditch. On the south-east side a shallow flat-based cut with a side a 70° [3/08] was cut by a larger re-cut [3/06]. Cut [3/08] survived 350mm wide and 300mm deep, filled by dark brown-grey sandy loam with 2% small gravel. The later cut [3/06] again had a flat base with sides at 45-55°. This was filled by similar material with a slightly increased gravel content (3/07). It was 1.3m wide and 580mm deep. A sherd of medieval pottery was recovered from this fill. Immediately

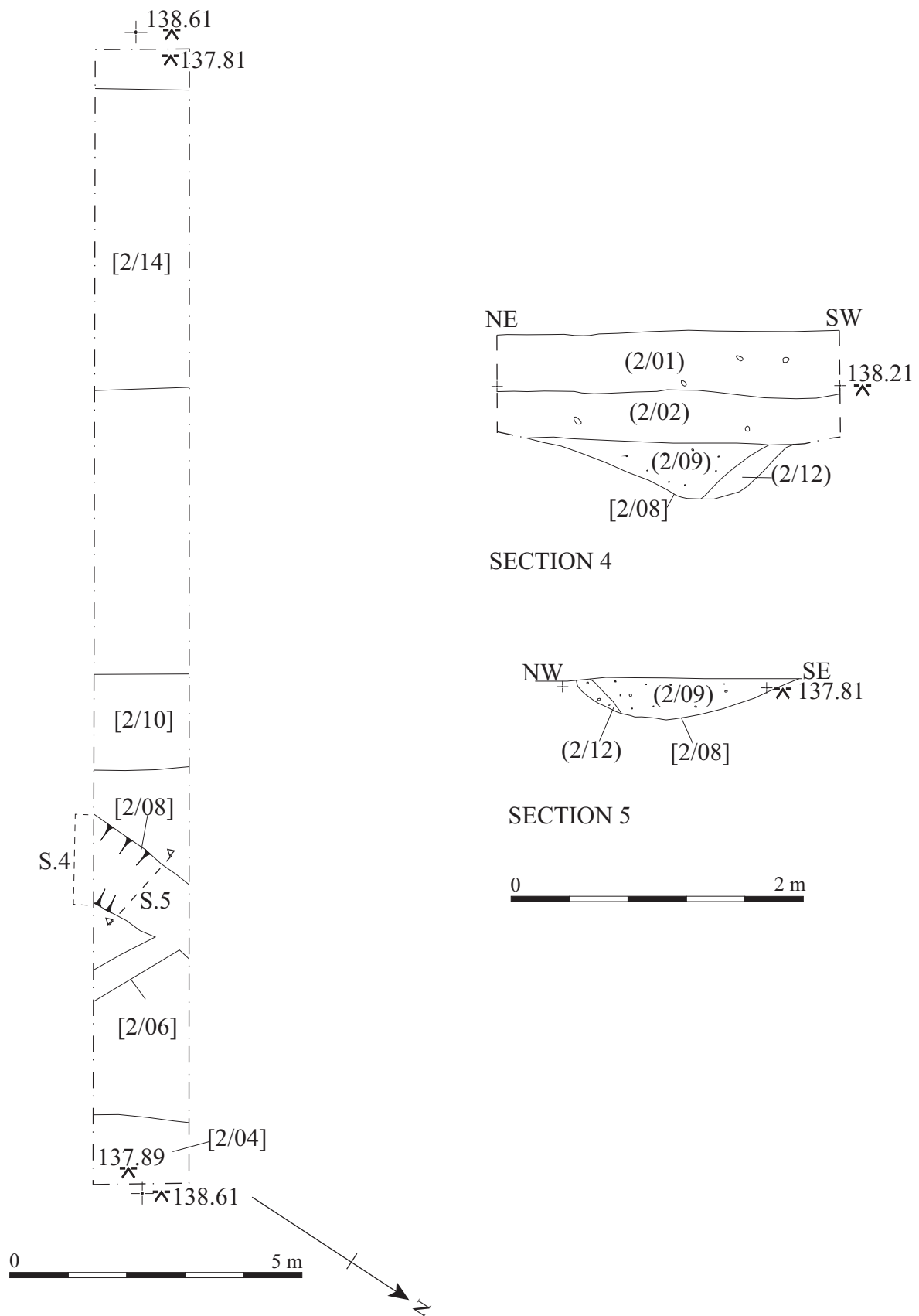


Figure 3. Trench 2 Plan and sections

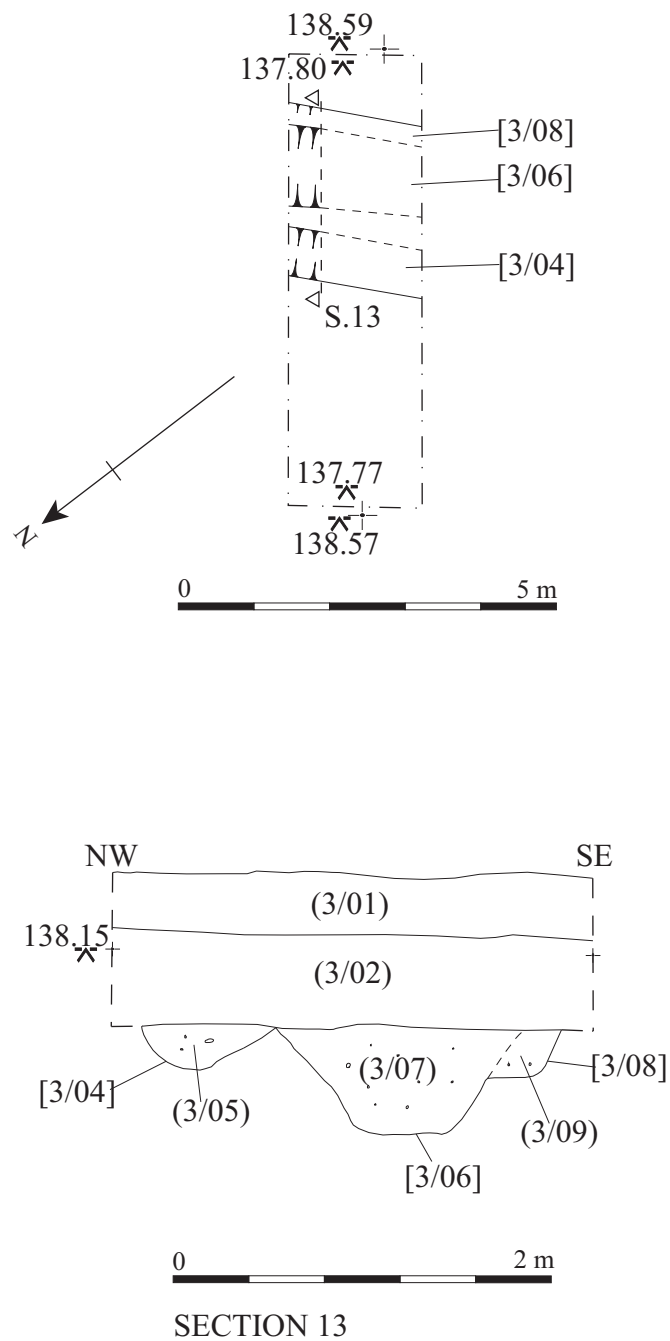


Figure 4. Trench 3 Plan and Sections

to the north-west of the last was a further cut of this boundary ditch {3/04}. This had a rounded base with the south-east side at 45° and the north-west side at 65°. It was filled with dark grey-brown sandy loam with 5% small gravel (3/05). The recut ditch was orientated ENE-WSW, parallel to the road.

4.5 Trench 4 (Figure 5)

Trench 4 contained a ditch, a re-cut posthole and what was probably a pair of intercutting pits. The ditch [4/06] was orientated NE-SW, again near parallel to the road. Again the ditch had been re-cut with the south-east cut [4/06] a shallow V-shape with sides at 25-25°, 650mm wide and 170mm deep. The other cut [4/10] was more U-shaped with sides at 40-50°, 700mm wide and 250mm deep. The relationship between the two was not discernible with both cuts having similar fills; orange grey-brown slightly clayey sand with 10-15% gravel (4/08 & 4/09). Two fragments of animal bone were recovered from fill (4/08) of cut {4/06} along with a sherd of medieval grey sandy ware..

Extending c. 450mm into the trench were what appeared to be a pair of intercutting pits. The northern most one [4/04] had a rounded north end and a slightly curving west side. It was at least 950mm long and filled by orange/brown-grey slightly clayey sand with 10-15% gravel. The other pit [4/05] appeared more circular and was at least 600mm in diameter. It was filled by grey-brown clayey sand with 5% gravel. The relationship between the two was not apparent from the surface. Pit [4/05] appeared to cut the ditch.

A recut posthole [4/07].with the southern cutting the northern one was located adjacent to the ditch. The southern one was c. 420mm E/W and 260mm N/S and 150mm deep. The lower fill was grey-brown slightly clay sand with 5% gravel with 40mm of orange sand and gravel capping it. The northern posthole cut was 460mm E/W by 260mm N/S and 130mm deep. The lower fill was orange sand while the majority of it was filled by grey-brown slightly clay sand with 5% gravel (4/11). From the upper fill of the southern cut came an iron object (see finds below).

4.6 Trench 5

Trench 5 contained five ditches, a gully, three postholes and a probable pit. The features are described mostly from north-east to south-west.

Towards the north-east end of the trench was a gully [5/17] orientated NW/SE. This survived 200-250mm wide and 10-20mm deep, which virtually disappeared when being cleaned. It was filled with pale grey-brown slightly clayey sand. An iron nail was retrieved from this feature. Virtually parallel to this and c. 200mm from it to the SW was a ditch [5/16]. This was 1.15-1.25m wide. The sides were not completely parallel, splaying slightly to the north-west indicating that it may have had a re-cut. It was filled by pale grey-brown and orange-brown silty clay 50:50 with 30% gravel content and very occasional charcoal flecks. A cow or horse tooth was recovered from the top of this feature. Approximately 2m further SW was another ditch [5/06, 5/08] again parallel to the gully and one side of the pre-mentioned ditch. This was recut although a relationship did not survive. The larger cut [5/06] was 1.04m wide and

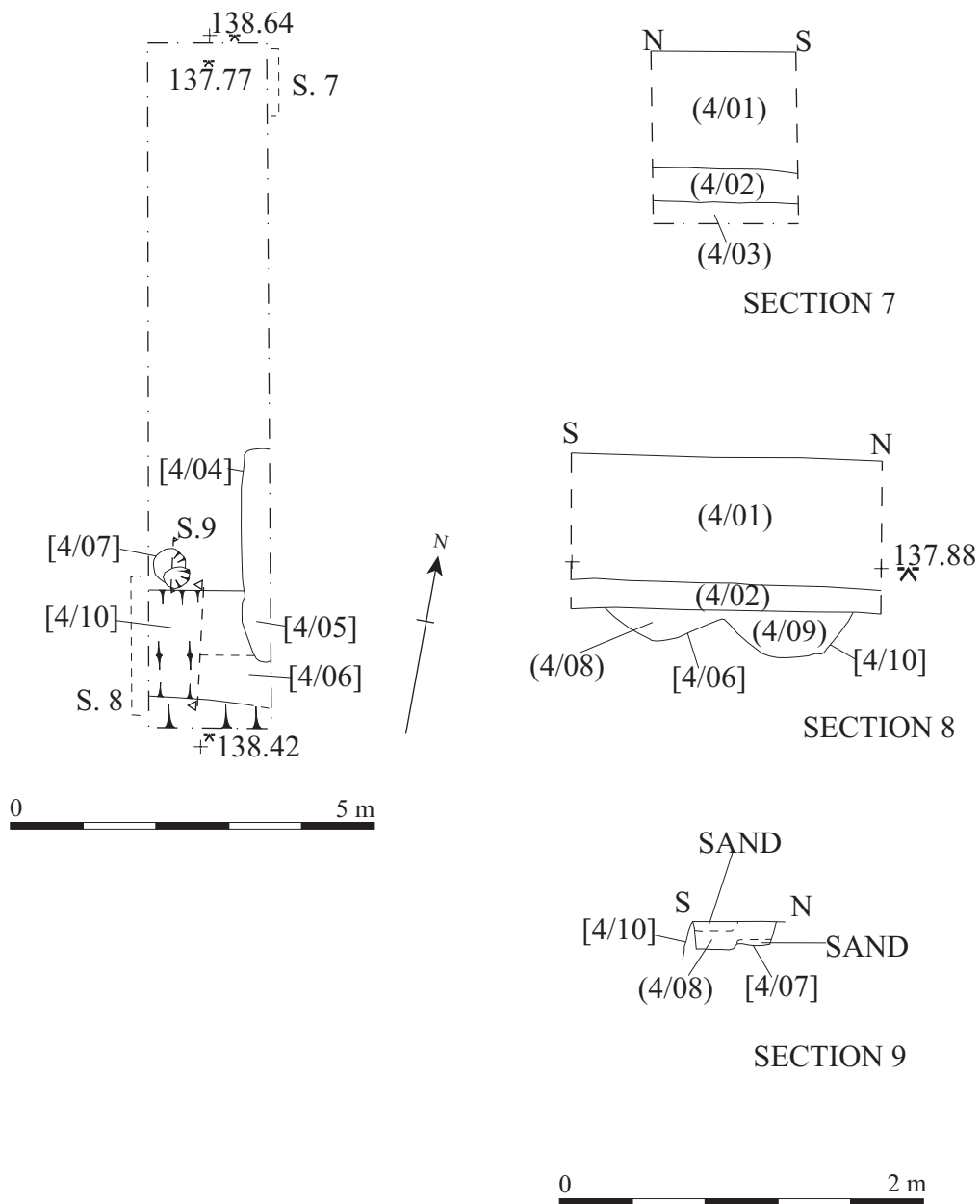


Figure 5. Trench 4 Plan and Sections

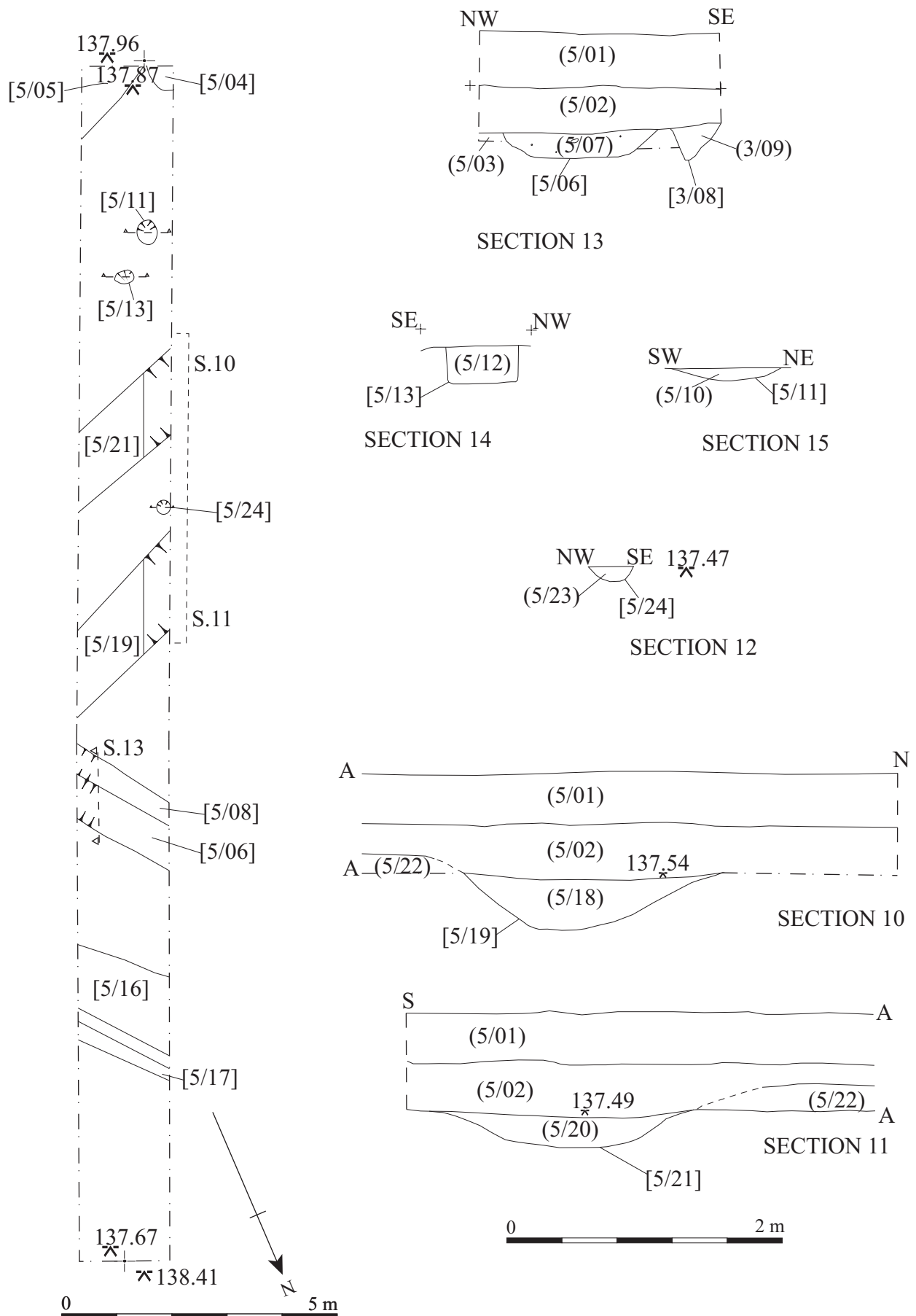


Figure 6. Trench 5 Plan and Sections

0.25m deep with a flat base and sides at c. 40°. It was filled by dark grey-brown sandy loam with 5% gravel (5/07). The smaller cut [5/08] was 360mm wide and 300mm deep with sides at 60-70° and almost a pointed base. This was filled with dark grey-brown sandy loam with 2% gravel (5/09). The fill of the latter contained a sherd of prehistoric pottery of possible Iron Age date and part of a residual flint blade.

Further to the south-west were two ditches orientated NE-SW. Ditch [5/19] was 1.10m wide and 350mm deep. The sides were slightly convex at 30-35° and the base was flat. It was filled by dark brown silty sand with 30% gravel and occasional charcoal flecks (5/18). Ditch [5/18] was again 1.10m wide and 200mm deep. The base was flat and it had sides at 25-30°. The ditch fill was dark red-brown silty sand with 30% gravel content and moderate amounts of charcoal (5/20). Seen in the top of both these ditches was a piece of animal bone too degraded to be lifted. A further piece of bone and a tooth were retrieved from fill 5/18 of ditch 5/19. A probable further ditch [5/05] on the same orientation was seen at the extreme south-west end of the trench. This was at least 700mm wide.

Three postholes were present in the SW half of the trench. Posthole [5/24] was circular with a diameter of 300mm and a depth of 100mm. It had a rounded profile and was filled by dark brown silty sand with 50% gravel (5/23). Posthole [5/13/] was oval, 250 x 350mm and 140mm deep. It had vertical sides and a flat base. The fill was mid grey-brown silty sand with occasional charcoal flecks (5/12). Posthole [5/11] was circular with a diameter of 350mm and a depth of 60mm. It had a shallow rounded profile and was filled by mid grey brown silty sand with occasional charcoal flecks (5/10).

In the south-west corner of the trench was a probable pit (5/04). This extended 500mm into the trench and was filled by pale grey-brown clayey sand with the occasional charcoal flecking.

5 THE FINDS

5.1 The Prehistoric Pottery by Frances Raymond

Two late prehistoric sherds (weighing 4 g.) from thin-walled vessels (4.0 mm.) were recovered from 1/09 and 5/09. One is a small base fragment with a burnished exterior (1/09), while the other is a featureless wall sherd (5/09) and neither can be dated according to stylistic criteria. Both are made from the same soft fabric with partially oxidised exteriors and unoxidised cores and interiors. This ware contains very common amounts of fine shell (up to 1.0 mm.) that has leached out or burnt out during firing leaving a series of voids. The character of the fabric indicates that an Iron Age date is most likely, but a late Bronze Age origin is also possible.

5.2 The Medieval Pottery by Paul Blinkhorn

The pottery assemblage comprised 10 sherds with a total weight of 143g. It comprised a range of medieval and later wares, with the range of fabrics present suggesting that there was activity at the site during the 11th – 12th centuries. The site appears to have been abandoned before the 13th century, as Brill/Boarstall ware (Milton Keynes fabric MC9), a very common find at medieval sites in the region from that time, is completely absent.

The assemblage was recorded using the coding system of the Milton Keynes Archaeological Unit type-series (e.g. Mynard and Zeepvat 1992; Zeepvat et al. 1994), as follows:

MS3: *Medieval Grey Sandy Wares*. Mid 11th – late 14th century. 3 sherds, 21g.

TLMS12: *Red Earthenware* 16th – 19th century. 1 sherd, 51g.

The following, not present in the MK type-series, was also noted:

Cotswold-type ware, 11th - mid 14th century (Mellor 1994). 6 sherds, 71g.

The pottery occurrence by number and weight of sherds per context by fabric type is shown in Table 1. Each date should be regarded as a *terminus post quem*. The assemblage is generally in good condition, although many of the limestone inclusions in the pottery have been leached out, presumably due to acidic soil conditions.

Table 1: Pottery occurrence by number and weight (in g) of sherds per context by fabric type

| | | Cotswolds | | MS3 | | TLMS12 | | |
|----|---------|-----------|----|-----|----|--------|----|--------|
| Tr | Context | No | Wt | No | Wt | No | Wt | Date |
| 1 | U/S | | | 1 | 9 | | | U/S |
| 1 | 2 | 1 | 6 | | | | | 11thC |
| 1 | 6 | | | 1 | 2 | | | M11thC |
| 1 | 11 | 1 | 1 | | | | | 11thC |
| 2 | 2 | 1 | 10 | | | | | 11thC |
| 2 | 5 | 1 | 40 | | | | | 11thC |
| 3 | 7 | 1 | 3 | | | | | 11thC |
| 4 | 1 | | | | | 1 | 51 | M16thC |
| 4 | 8 | | | 1 | 10 | | | M11thC |
| 5 | 2 | 1 | 11 | | | | | 11thC |
| | Total | 6 | 71 | 3 | 21 | 1 | 51 | |

5.3 Lithics by Dave Gilbert

Two flint artefacts were recovered. The first from context (5/02) is a primary flake/blade with approximately 15% cortex on the dorsal surface. It is 54mm long 15mm wide and 6mm thick. The dorsal surface shows some signs of previous detachment scars near the proximal end as well as signs of damage in antiquity and later. The second from context (5/09) is a portion of a broken blade, measuring 16mm long by 9mm wide and 2mm thick. It has some scarring to the dorsal surface near the striking platform as well as some microdenticulation to both edges. Both are probably of early Neolithic date.

5.4 Iron object

An iron object was recovered from the top fill of the posthole in Trench 4 (4/11). This 30mm long dumbbell-shape object comprises a shaft of c. 12mm length and

4.5mm square section with a thickening of both ends to *c.* 10 x 8mm. Measurements include corrosion. One end has a squared end while the other is partly sloping. The object may be a late Iron Age or Roman toggle fastener (Read 2005).

5.5 Environmental

Bulk samples were taken from ditches 5/07, 4/10 and 3/06. These were floated for carbonised remains. The results were disappointing in that only charcoal fragments were present. No small bones were recovered either.

5.6 Animal bone

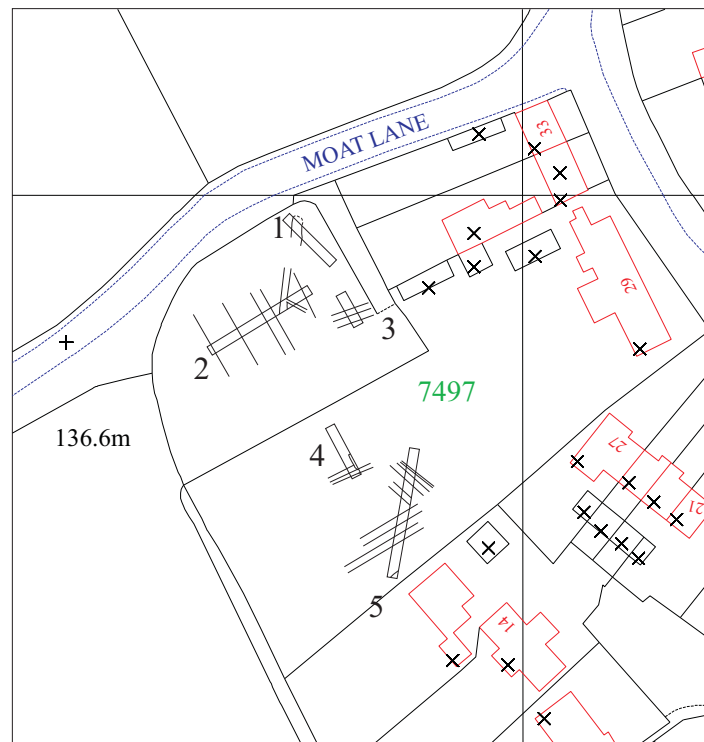
Animal bone appears to survive in good condition. The two fragments in poor condition seen in the tops of two ditches in Trench 5 may have been crushed during machining.

6 DISCUSSION

Activity from three periods appears to be present on the site. Two lithics indicate Neolithic (probably earlier) activity. One was found in a residual context while the other came from a ploughsoil. How extensive this activity was, or whether any features are associated with it, is unknown.

Two sherds indicate prehistoric activity. Both came from ditch fills in Trenches 1 and 5 indicating activity across the site. The ditch in Trench 1 continues into Trench 2. Ditches on the site are on two broadly different alignments (Fig. 7). Those parallel or perpendicular to Moat Lane are considered to be mostly medieval in date while the other alignment, at an angle to the road, is thought to be totally or mostly earlier. This view is reinforced by the ditch in Trench 1, which appears to be terminating at an odd angle to the road. The definite or probable prehistoric ditches include Trench 1 continuing into Trench 2 and the gully to the east, the NW/SE ditches in Trench 5 and probably the NE/SW ditches in the same trench.. The posthole in Trench 4 appears to be dated to the Iron Age by the possible toggle fastener. No other postholes were dated although if the ditch in Trench 4 marks the rear of the medieval plots (see below) then the postholes in Trench 5 are prehistoric in origin. The presence of a piece of daub in the prehistoric ditch in Trench 2 may be an indication of a structure of some sort.

The medieval activity on the site appears to be confined to the 11th and 12th centuries, perhaps of an even shorter duration not starting before the mid 11th century. The majority of the ditches in Trenches 2 and 3 are either parallel or perpendicular to the road and may be boundaries forming plots extending back from the road. It is possible that the re-cut ditch in Trench 4, dated from the mid 11th century, is a boundary at the rear of the plots with that in Trench 3, dated to the 11-12th century, a sub-division of a plot. However the ditch in Trench 4 appeared to have been cut by a later pit. It is possible that the pit cut the silted up earlier cut of this ditch and therefore was within the plot with the recut boundary ditch just to the south of the pit. Only one sherd of medieval pottery was found in Trench 5 suggesting that the focus of activity is further to the north.



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0 m 50 m

Figure 7. Plan showing ditches

How this apparent area of settlement relates to the village development is uncertain. The area between the Abbey and the Church was settled before becoming deserted, at least partly perhaps due to emparkment by the Abbey. If this happened early on after the founding of the abbey then it is possible that the settlement moved to the other side of the present Moat Lane. Again it is unknown when The Green formed although at least one land division boundary ditch has been dated to the early medieval period on the east side of The Green.. Equally possible, is that as the Abbey expanded this land may have been required for agricultural use by the Abbey and settlement south of Moat Lane ceased, moving eastwards around a green.

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APPENDIX – ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT INVENTORY

| Context | Type | Description | Depth (m) | Width (m) | Length (m) | Findings | Date |
|-----------------|-------|------------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Trench 1 | | | 0.68 | 11.0 | 1.6 | | |
| 1/01 | Layer | Topsoil | 0.30 | Tr. | Tr. | Metal, CBM | |
| 1/02 | Layer | Ploughsoil | 0.38 | Tr. | Tr. | Pottery, CBM | Post C12th |
| 1/03 | Layer | Natural | - | Tr. | Tr. | | |
| 1/04 | Cut | Posthole | 0.13 | 0.25 | 0.44 | | |
| 1/05 | Fill | Fill of [1/04] | 0.13 | 0.25 | 0.44 | | |
| 1/06 | Cut | Pit | 0.42 | 1.20+ | 0.64+ | | Mid 11-12th |
| 1/07 | Fill | Fill of [1/06] | 0.42 | 1.20+ | 0.64+ | Pottery, Bone | Mid 11-12th |
| 1/08 | Cut | Ditch | 0.40 | 2.10+ | 1.80+ | | ?Iron Age |
| 1/09 | Fill | Fill of [1/08] | 0.40 | 2.10+ | 1.80+ | Pottery, Bone | ?Iron Age |
| 1/10 | Cut | Posthole | 0.15 | 0.40+ | 0.30+ | | |
| 1/11 | Fill | Fill of [1/10] | 0.15 | 0.40+ | 0.30+ | Pottery | C11-12th |
| Trench 2 | | | 0.65 | 19.5 | 1.6 | | |
| 2/01 | Layer | Topsoil | 0.45 | - | - | | |
| 2/02 | Layer | Ploughsoil | 0.25 | - | - | Pottery | Post C12th |
| 2/03 | Layer | Natural | - | Tr. | Tr. | | |
| 2/04 | Cut | Ditch | - | 1.20+ | 1.80+ | | C11-12th |
| 2/05 | Fill | Fill of [2/04] | - | 1.20+ | 1.80+ | Pottery | C11-12th |
| 2/06 | Cut | Ditch | - | 0.50+ | 1.40+ | | |
| 2/07 | Fill | Fill of [2/06] | - | 0.50+ | 1.40+ | | |
| 2/08 | Cut | Ditch | 0.28 | 1.60+ | 1.70+ | | |
| 2/09 | Fill | Fill of [2/08] | 0.28 | 1.45+ | 1.70+ | Daub | ?Iron Age |
| 2/10 | Cut | Ditch | - | 1.80+ | 1.70+ | | |
| 2/11 | Fill | Fill of [2/10] | - | 1.80+ | 1.70+ | | |
| 2/12 | Fill | Fill of [2/08] | 0.20 | 0.15+ | 1.70+ | | |
| 2/13 | Cut | Ditches | - | 5.50+ | 1.70+ | | |
| 2/14 | Fill | Fill of [2/13] | - | 5.50+ | 1.70+ | | |
| Trench 3 | | | 0.75 | 6.0 | 1.80 | | |
| 3/01 | Layer | Topsoil | 0.45 | Tr. | Tr. | | |
| 3/02 | Layer | Ploughsoil | 0.30 | Tr. | Tr. | | Post C12th |
| 3/03 | Layer | Natural | - | Tr. | Tr. | | |
| 3/04 | Cut | Ditch | 0.30 | 0.75+ | 1.80+ | | |
| 3/05 | Fill | Fill of [3/04] | 0.30 | 0.75+ | 1.80+ | | |
| 3/06 | Cut | Ditch | 0.60 | 1.30+ | 1.80+ | | C11-12th |
| 3/07 | Fill | Fill of [3/06] | 0.60 | 1.30+ | 1.80+ | Pottery, Bone | C11-12th |
| 3/08 | Cut | Ditch re-cut of [3/06] | 0.30 | 0.30+ | 1.80+ | | |
| 3/09 | Fill | Fill of [3/08] | 0.30 | 0.30+ | 1.80+ | | |
| Trench 4 | | | 0.80 | 9.5 | 1.70 | | |
| 4/01 | Layer | Topsoil | 0.64 | Tr. | Tr. | Bone, Glass, Pottery, Tile | Post 16 th century |
| 4/02 | Layer | Ploughsoil | 0.16 | Tr. | Tr. | | Post C12th |
| 4/03 | Layer | Natural | - | Tr. | Tr. | | |

| Context | Type | Description | Depth (m) | Width (m) | Length (m) | Find | Date |
|-----------------|------------|--------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|---------------------|-------------|
| 4/04 | Cut & Fill | Pit | - | 0.95+ | 0.25-0.45+ | | |
| 4/05 | Cut & Fill | Pit | - | 0.60+ | 0.25+ | | |
| 4/06 | Cut | Ditch | 0.20 | 1.35+ | 1.70+ | | Mid 11-12th |
| 4/07 | Cut | Pit | 0.15 | 0.49 | 0.46 | | ?Iron Age |
| 4/08 | Fill | Fill of [4/06] | 0.20 | 1.35+ | 1.70+ | Pottery, Bone | Mid 11-12th |
| 4/09 | Fill | Fill of [4/10] | 0.26 | 1.80+ | 1.70+ | | |
| 4/10 | Cut | Ditch | 0.26 | 1.80+ | 1.70+ | | |
| 4/11 | Fill | Fill of [4/07] | 0.15 | 0.49 | 0.46 | Metal | ?Iron Age |
| Trench 5 | | | 0.84 | 19.0 | 1.60 | | |
| 5/01 | Layer | Topsoil | 0.66 | Tr. | Tr. | | |
| 5/02 | Layer | Ploughsoil | 0.16 | Tr. | Tr. | Bone, Flint Pottery | Post C12th |
| 5/03 | Layer | Natural | - | Tr. | Tr. | | |
| 5/04 | Cut & Fill | Pit | - | 0.30+ | 0.30+ | | |
| 5/05 | Cut & Fill | Ditch | - | 0.70+ | 1.60+ | | |
| 5/06 | Cut | Ditch | 0.25 | 1.04+ | 1.60+ | | |
| 5/07 | Fill | Fill of [5/06] | 0.25 | 1.04+ | 1.60+ | | |
| 5/08 | Cut | Ditch | 0.30 | 0.36+ | 1.70+ | | ?Iron Age |
| 5/09 | Fill | Fill of [5/08] | 0.30 | 0.36+ | 1.70+ | Pottery, Flint | ?Iron Age |
| 5/10 | Fill | Fill of [5/11] | 0.06 | 0.35 | 0.35 | | |
| 5/11 | Cut | Posthole | 0.06 | 0.35 | 0.35 | | |
| 5/12 | Fill | Fill of [5/13] | | | | | |
| 5/13 | Cut | Posthole | 0.14 | 0.25 | 0.30 | | |
| 5/14 | Cut | Ditch same as 5/21 | - | 1.00+ | 1.60+ | | |
| 5/15 | Cut | Ditch same as 5/19 | - | 0.90+ | 1.60+ | | |
| 5/16 | Cut | Ditch | - | 1.15+ | 1.60+ | Bone | |
| 5/17 | Cut | Gully | 0.10+ | 0.20+ | 1.60+ | Nail | |
| 5/18 | Fill | Fill of [5/19] | 0.35 | 1.80+ | 1.60+ | Bone | |
| 5/19 | Cut | Ditch | 0.35 | 1.80+ | 1.60+ | | |
| 5/20 | Fill | Fill of [15/21] | 0.20 | 1.40+ | 1.60+ | Bone | |
| 5/21 | Cut | Ditch | 0.20 | 1.40+ | 1.60+ | | |
| 5/22 | Layer | Bank? | 0.15 | 1.60+ | 1.60+ | | |
| 5/23 | Fill | Fill of [5/24] | 0.10 | 0.30 | 0.30 | | |
| 5/24 | Cut | Posthole | 0.10 | 0.30 | 0.30 | | |
| 5/25 | Fill | Fill of [5/17] | 0.10+ | 0.20+ | 1.60+ | | |