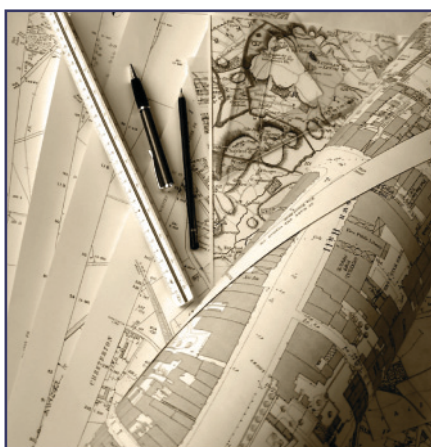


Old Stratford to Kiln Farm Reinforcement Water Main Milton Keynes Section



Desk-Based Assessment



August 2013

**Client: BSP Associates on behalf
of Anglian Water**

OA East Report No: 1482

OASIS No: oxfordar3-154083

NGR: SP 7875 3964 to SP 8029 3917

Old Stratford to Kiln Farm Reinforcement Water Main, Milton Keynes Section

Desk-Based Assessment

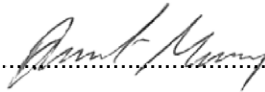
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Report Date: August 2013

Report Number: 1482
Site Name: Old Stratford to Kiln Farm Reinforcement Water Main, Milton Keynes Section
HER Event No: n/a
Date of Works: August 2013
Client Name: BSP Associates on behalf of Anglian Water
Client Ref: n/a
Planning Ref: n/a
Grid Ref: SP 7875 3964 to SP 7960 3962
Site Code:
Finance Code: XNNOSK13
Receiving Body: n/a
Accession No: n/a
Prepared by: Graeme Clarke
Position: Supervisor
Date: August 2013
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Position: Project Manager
Date: August 2013
Signed:



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Summary

In August 2013 Oxford Archaeology East undertook a desktop assessment to examine the available historical and archaeological resources relating to the Milton Keynes section of the proposed Old Stratford to Kiln Farm route of a reinforcement water main. The work was commissioned by BSP Associates on behalf of Anglian Water.

The site has a high level of archaeological potential. The most likely date of any remains is either Roman or medieval with a moderate level of potential for prehistoric remains. Preserved ridge and furrow cultivation survives along the proposed pipe route and this will be impacted by the construction works associated with the pipeline. Remains from other periods should not be ruled out as undated cropmarks are present to the north east of the site and a Saxon origin to Manor Farm are documented to the south.

Extensive remains have been uncovered on the western expansion of Milton Keynes by Gallaghers estates and the pipeline runs along the northern edge of this development.

The site has been undeveloped agricultural land from at least the medieval period to the present day. If remains of any date exist on the site the chance or degree of survival should be high.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Planning Background

- 1.1.1 BSP Associates on behalf of Anglian Water commissioned a limited desktop study (DBA) from Oxford Archaeology East in advance of a reinforcement water main, Milton Keynes (between SP 7875 3964 and SP 8029 3917) (Fig. 1). The aim of this DBA is to determine the archaeological potential of the site, the impact of the development works upon the archaeological resource and normally determine the appropriate mitigation measures to be designed into the scheme. However these have already been agreed in the form of the Brief issued by Northamptonshire County Council Planning Services in November 2012 for the stretch of the pipeline in that County and the brief issued in February 2013 by the Archaeological Officer of Milton Keynes Council for that relevant section.

1.2 Location, Geology and Topography

- 1.2.1 The site is located on the south side of the village of Stony Stratford, Milton Keynes at approximately 75m above ordnance datum (OD). The underlying geology comprises a series of sedimentary bedrock formations comprising from west to east of: Blisworth Limestone formation, Cornbrash formation and Kellaways formation (sandstone, siltstone and mudstone). Superficial deposits of Mid Pleistocene Till overlie the Kellaways formation in the easternmost part of the site (<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>).
- 1.2.2 The site currently comprises open fields with level topography on the southern edge of Stony Stratford. A modern housing estate bounds the site to the north, Calverton Road and the River Ouse lie to the west and further agricultural fields bound the site to the east and south. In the western part of the site a public footpath runs south from Gorricks Road across the site towards Calverton.

1.3 Acknowledgements

- 1.3.1 The author would like to thank BSP Associates on behalf of Anglian Water for commissioning and funding the report. Thanks are also due to Nick Crank at the Conservation and Archaeology department of Milton Keynes Council. The author carried out all background research. Severine Bezie produced the report figures. The project was managed by James Drummond-Murray.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOURCES

2.1 Historical Sources

- 2.1.1 The site is located within Calverton Parish in the Borough of Milton Keynes. This general summary is taken instead from secondary sources that are referenced below.
- 2.1.2 The Victoria County History: A history of the County of Buckingham: Volume 4 (VCH) accessed on the British History Online website (<http://www.british-history.ac.uk>) gives an overall description of Calverton parish. The current village of Calverton is located approximately 700m to the south of the site. All Saints Church and Manor farm (formerly the manor house) are described as dating back to the 14th and 15th centuries respectively, and are located 400m to the south of the site. The history of Calverton dates back to the Saxon period when it was held by Bisi, a thegn of the King. In AD 1086 it was held among the lands of Hugh de Bolebec and continued to be in the Barony of Bolebec to 1631. There is reference to a policy in the 17th century in the manor of Calverton cum Stony Stratford 'of inclosing arable land in the common fields and converting it into pasture ground, and was defendant in lawsuits to recover tithes therefrom in 1686 and 1692'. The management of the lordship of Calverton at this time by Grace Bennett was such that 'in her owne hands laid down and untilld so that the parish is almost depopulated and the fields look like a wilderness little being mowed and that which was generally so late and kept so long till it was spoiled'. The act for inclosing lands in the parish of Calverton is dated AD1782. A Roman camp is mentioned to the west of the church on which a rectory building now stands.
- 2.1.3 The VCH also describes the historical borough of Stony Stratford, which bounds the northern boundary of the site, and once partly lay within Calverton parish. It is described an ancient borough and market town situated on the old Roman road of Watling Street, an important bridging point on the River Ouse and therefore a place of considerable importance. This importance grew to its height in the 16th and 17th centuries when 'several good inns' are mentioned. The borough on the west side of Watlington Street formerly lay within the parish of Calverton. After the common land was subject to an Inclosure Act in AD 1782 the west side of Stony Stratford was separated from Calverton to constitute the new borough. Numerous Roman remains are described as being found in the locality. Two churches are present in the centre of the town: St. Giles and St. Mary Magdalen, both dated from the 15th century, the latter described as ruined at the time of writing. It is surmised from historical references to clerics and a priest in the town that an older church dating back to at least the 13th century must have once been present at a now unknown location. Further historical buildings in the town are described dating from the 13th to 19th centuries. Stony Stratford is not mentioned in the Domesday survey as the west side of Watling Street then lay within the parish of Calverton. A manor in Stony Stratford is first mentioned in AD 1257 subinfeudated by the Earls of Oxford to Robert Broughton. A fishery on the River Ouse is associated with this manor from the 16th century.
- 2.1.4 The domesday book dated to AD 1086 records the following records from the parish of Calverton. 'Hugh of Bolbeck holds CALVERTON himself. It answers for 10 hides. Land for 10 ploughs; in lordship 3 hides; 3 ploughs there. 18 villagers with 8 smallholders have 7 ploughs; a ninth possible. 9 slaves. 1 mill at 13s 4d; meadow for 5 ploughs. The total value is and was £10; before 1066 £12. Bisi, a thand of King Edward's, held this manor. There a man of Queen Edith's had 2 hides as one manor; he could sell' (morris, 1978).

2.2 The Historic Environment Record (HER)

- 2.2.1 For the purpose of this interim statement a search was carried out of the Borough of Milton Keynes Historic Environment Record (HER) via the Heritage Gateway website (<http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk>).
- 2.2.2 All Historic Environment Record (HER) entries discussed below are listed in section 2.2.8 Table 1 and can be seen in Fig. 2. The HER record search examined an area of 500m radius from the centre of the site; hereafter this will be referred to as the study area.
- 2.2.3 Two cropmarks are listed within the study area. Both were identified from aerial photographs in the field immediately to the east of the site (Monument no. 342912) comprises a ring ditch and central pit which probably represent a round barrow of the Bronze Age period. The other feature was identified as 'Reservoir Field Cropmark', an undated rectangular feature, probably representing a ditched enclosure.
- 2.2.4 There are three Roman findspots listed and located between the site and the Roman Road of Watling Street approximately 400m to the north east. A Denarius of the emperor Hadrian was found in the garden of 58 Calverton Road (Monument no. 343141) describes 2nd to 3rd century Roman pottery sherds found during the digging of house foundations at 73 Chestnut Avenue. A Roman pot was discovered with cremated bone in it to the west of Watling Street.
- 2.2.5 Two findspot entries are recorded to the south of the site, around Calverton, that date from the medieval period. Spurs, coins, arrowheads, pottery and spearhead were found in 19th century. Originally they were attributed to Roman origin but are now thought to be early medieval in date. Metal detecting has also recovered a 'Norman' type horseshoe, a trade token and a medieval button with 'Bucks Yoeman' inscribed. One medieval findspot is recorded to the north of the site describes the finding of a silver halfpenny of Henry VI (AD1435-1438) and a complete medieval ampulla (glass bottle).
- 2.2.6 Manor Farm in Calverton, approximately 400m to the south of the site, is described of probable late medieval origin with later construction through the 15th and 16th centuries. The adjacent All Hallows church was completely rebuilt between AD1818-1824 in a 12th to 14th century style. There are further records within the 500m search area relating to buildings in Calverton, to the south of the site, which date from a post-medieval to modern date.
- 2.2.7 In addition an old post-medieval gravel quarry pit is described immediately to the north of the site in AD1880.
- 2.2.8 Table 1. Selected HER entries.

Fig. 2 Ref	HER Ref	RecordType	Description	Co-ordinate
1	Manor Farm	Building	Manor House of probable late medieval origin.	SP 7903 3909
2	All Hallows Church	Building	Church rebuilt between AD1818-1824 in the 12th-14 th Century Style.	SP 7903 3901
3	Architectural Survey	Building	'Post Medieval House' and cottages described at Manor Farm Cottages.	SP 7870 3900
4	Gravel Pit	Quarry	Old post medieval gravel pit shown on old OS map from AD1880.	SP 7890 3960

Fig. 2 Ref	HER Ref	RecordType	Description	Co-ordinate
5	Monument no. 342912	Cropmark	Ploughed out Bronze Age round barrow on aerial photographs.	SP 7950 3968
6	Reservoir Field Cropmark	Cropmark	Rectangular feature on aerial photographs.	SP 7978 3951
7	Watling Street	National Monument	Watling Street Roman Road.	SP 7900 3900
8	West of Watling St.	Findspot	Roman pot found with cremated bone in it.	SP 7930 3980
9	58 Calverton Road	Findspot	Denarius of Hadrian found in garden	SP 7887 3987
10	Calverton Road	Findspot	Silver halfpenny of Henry VI (AD1435-1438) found and a complete medieval ampulla	SP 7885 3970
11	Stony Stratford	Findspot	Spurs, coins, arrowheads, pottery and spearhead found in 19 th century. Originally attributed to Roman origin but now thought to be early medieval in date.	SP 7879 3984
12	Calverton	Findspot	Metal detector found 'Norman' type horseshoe, a trade token and a medieval button with 'Bucks Yoeman' inscribed.	SP 7885 3925
13	Monument no. 973422	Findspot	Perforated whetstone and grooved weight found in 1976 when River Ouse dredged (undated).	SP 7855 4001
14	Monument no. 343141	Findspot	2 nd to 3 rd century Roman pot sherds found when digging house foundations at 73 Chestnut Avenue.	SP 7883 4000
15	Calverton fishpond	Earthwork	Medieval fishpond	SP 7886 3923
16	Fullers Slade, Calverton	Findspot	Metal detecting find of a Bronze fob seal, dating to the Medieval period.	SP 7990 3930
17	Gibbet stone	Documentary research	Stone with date of AD1693 on face, recording the murder of Grace Bennet	SP 7910 3900

2.3 Cartographic Evidence

2.3.1 A search of past Ordnance Survey (OS) maps of the site at <http://old-maps.co.uk> was carried out to determine the more recent use of the site. The first map on which the subject site appears is the First Edition Ordnance Survey of 1881. It shows the subject area lying in enclosed, agricultural land. The subsequent editions of the Ordnance Survey maps show little change to the overall layout of the development site, other than a gradual encroachment towards the site of housing from the north due to the growth of Stony Stratford.

2.4 Aerial Photographs

2.4.1 Aerial photographs were viewed of the site at <http://magic.defra.gov.uk/MagicMap.aspx> as part of the assessment. These showed that well preserved ridge and furrow cultivation was in evidence within the eastern fields of the proposed route of the

scheme. The ridge and furrow are aligned roughly east to west. No additional archaeological features or earthworks were identified.

2.5 Earthworks

- 2.5.1 Preserved ridge and furrow cultivation was in evidence from aerial photographs within the larger eastern field of the proposed route of the scheme.
- 2.5.2 One HER entry describes an earthwork within the 500m radius study area. This refers to a medieval fishpond located approximately 300m to the south of the site.

2.6 Archaeological Excavations and Surveys

- 2.6.1 The HER search detailed one excavation entry describing monitoring of ground works for flood alleviation at Calverton House to the south of the site. A post-medieval bridge was mentioned but no archaeological remains were encountered. Architectural surveys are also mentioned of a house and row of three cottages, all of post-medieval date, at Manor Farm in Calverton.
- 2.6.2 However recent archaeological work has taken place to the south-east as part of Milton Keynes Western Expansion (Areas 10 and 11; Milton Keynes 2013; Keir and Gregson 2008).

Area 11 is immediately adjacent to the proposed pipeline and excavations on Area A have revealed Iron Age and Romano-British field systems and early Saxon cemetery. A Late Iron Age and Romano British settlement was uncovered in Area B.

More extensive work has taken place on Area 10 to the south-east of Area 11. In Area A a series of Iron Age roundhouses were revealed along with enclosure ditches and pits. In Area B contained Iron Age pits whilst in Area C several Iron Age pits and ditches were excavated as well as Roman enclosures.

3 DEPOSIT MAPPING

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 In this section, an attempt has been made to map all local monuments and finds and, based on this mapping, to predict the existence of further remains, specifically within the study area.

3.2 Prehistoric

3.2.1 A prehistoric round barrow of probable Bronze Age date has been identified approximately 200m to the north east of the eastern end of the site. This lies on the rising ground towards Watling Street and therefore an area with potential for further round barrows to be discovered. The undated reservoir field cropmark also lies on the rising ground beyond the eastern end of the site. However, no prehistoric artefacts have been discovered within the study area. As a result, the likelihood of finding prehistoric remains is deemed moderate.

3.3 Roman

3.3.1 The presence of the Watlington Street and findspots of pottery, a coin and cremation within the study area indicate much Roman activity within the immediate surroundings. There is a high probability of encountering further Roman remains on the site.

3.4 Anglo-Saxon

3.4.1 No Saxon finds are recorded in the locality suggesting that the probability of encountering Saxon features is low. However, the settlement of Calverton to the south of the site does have pre-medieval origins and this should be taken into consideration.

3.5 Medieval and post-medieval

3.5.1 The proposed water main route lies between the periphery of the historic medieval core of Stony Stratford to the north and the medieval manor of Calverton (Manor Farm) to the south. In addition, the archaeological findspots in the vicinity of the site suggest that the probability of encountering medieval and post-medieval remains on the site is high.

3.6 Post-medieval and modern

3.6.1 Historical evidence suggests the land on which the site lies lay on arable land that may have been converted to pasture in the 17th century. The land would probably have been enclosed in AD1782 with the Inclosure Act for Calverton. The site continued in use as two enclosed fields through to the present day as evidenced by OS maps dating back to AD1881. The post-medieval period saw much development in Calverton to the south with the construction of a rectory and other dwellings including the reconstruction of the church. The modern period saw the continued expansion of Stony Stratford to the northern boundary of the site. The built heritage does not encroach on the site and so the probability of encountering further post-medieval and modern remains is low.

4 DEGREE OF SURVIVAL

- 4.1.1 This section broadly assesses the degree of survival of archaeological remains in the study area or in other words, what actions (either natural or man-made) may have affected any potential buried remains. For much of its history the study area has been agricultural land, meaning that apart from the effects of ploughing, the preservation of buried archaeological remains should be good.
- 4.1.2 As summarised above (section 3) Roman and medieval remains are most likely to be present on the current site, with a moderate likelihood of prehistoric remains present. Later medieval ridge and furrow cultivation, extant in the larger eastern field of the site, may have led to a truncation of any deposits but it is unlikely that these activities will have severely damaged or entirely truncated earlier remains

5 DISCUSSION AND IMPACT ASSESSMENT

5.1 Discussion

- 5.1.1 The objective of this limited desktop study was to give a preliminary assessment of the archaeological potential of the Old Stratford to Kiln Farm Reinforcement Water Main, Milton Keynes Section by drawing together all known documentary, cartographic and archaeological evidence from the surrounding area.
- 5.1.2 The pipeline runs through a landscape with high archaeological potential. The most likely date of any remains is either Iron Age or Roman from the immediately adjacent excavations in Milton Keynes Western Expansion Area 11 with a moderate level of potential for earlier prehistoric and medieval remains. Remains from other periods should not be ruled out as undated cropmarks are present to the north east of the site and a Saxon origin to Manor Farm to the south is documented and a Saxon cemetery uncovered in Milton Keynes Western Expansion Area 11.
- 5.1.3 The site has been undeveloped agricultural land from at least the medieval period to the present day. If remains of any date exist on the site the chance or degree of survival should be high.

5.2 Impact Assessment

- 5.2.1 The excavations for the pipe trench comprise approximately 2km of trenching to lay a water main. This section of the scheme lies on undeveloped land to the south of Stony Stratford. On this section of the route a 25m wide easement will be stripped, this will require the removal of the topsoil deposits.

Below-Ground Archaeological Remains

- 5.2.2 The below ground works at the site will impact on any archaeological features present within the study area. The greatest impact is likely to be from the excavation of the pipe trench.

Above-Ground Archaeological Remains

- 5.2.3 Preserved ridge and furrow cultivation survive along the proposed pipe route and these will be impacted by the construction works associated with the pipeline.

APPENDIX A. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>

<http://magic.defra.gov.uk/MagicMap.aspx>

<http://www.british-history.ac.uk>

APPENDIX B. OASIS REPORT FORM

All fields are required unless they are not applicable.

Project Details

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Previous Work (by OA East)	<input type="text" value="No"/>	Future Work	<input type="text" value="Unknown"/>

Project Reference Codes

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HER No.	<input type="text"/>	Related HER/OASIS No.	<input type="text"/>

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Development Type	<input type="text" value="Pipelines/Cables"/>

Please select all techniques used:

DBA

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photography - interpretation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Documentary Search
<input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photography - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Visual Inspection (Site Visit)

Monument Types & Period

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<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="Select period..."/>
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District	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Parish	<input type="text" value="Stony Stratford"/>	
HER	<input type="text"/>	
Study Area	<input type="text"/>	National Grid Reference <input type="text" value="SP78753964 to SP80293917"/>

Project Originators

Organisation	OA EAST
Project Brief Originator	N. A. Crank of Milton, Milton Keynes Council
Project Design Originator	
Project Manager	James Drummond Murray
Supervisor	Graeme Clarke

Project Archives

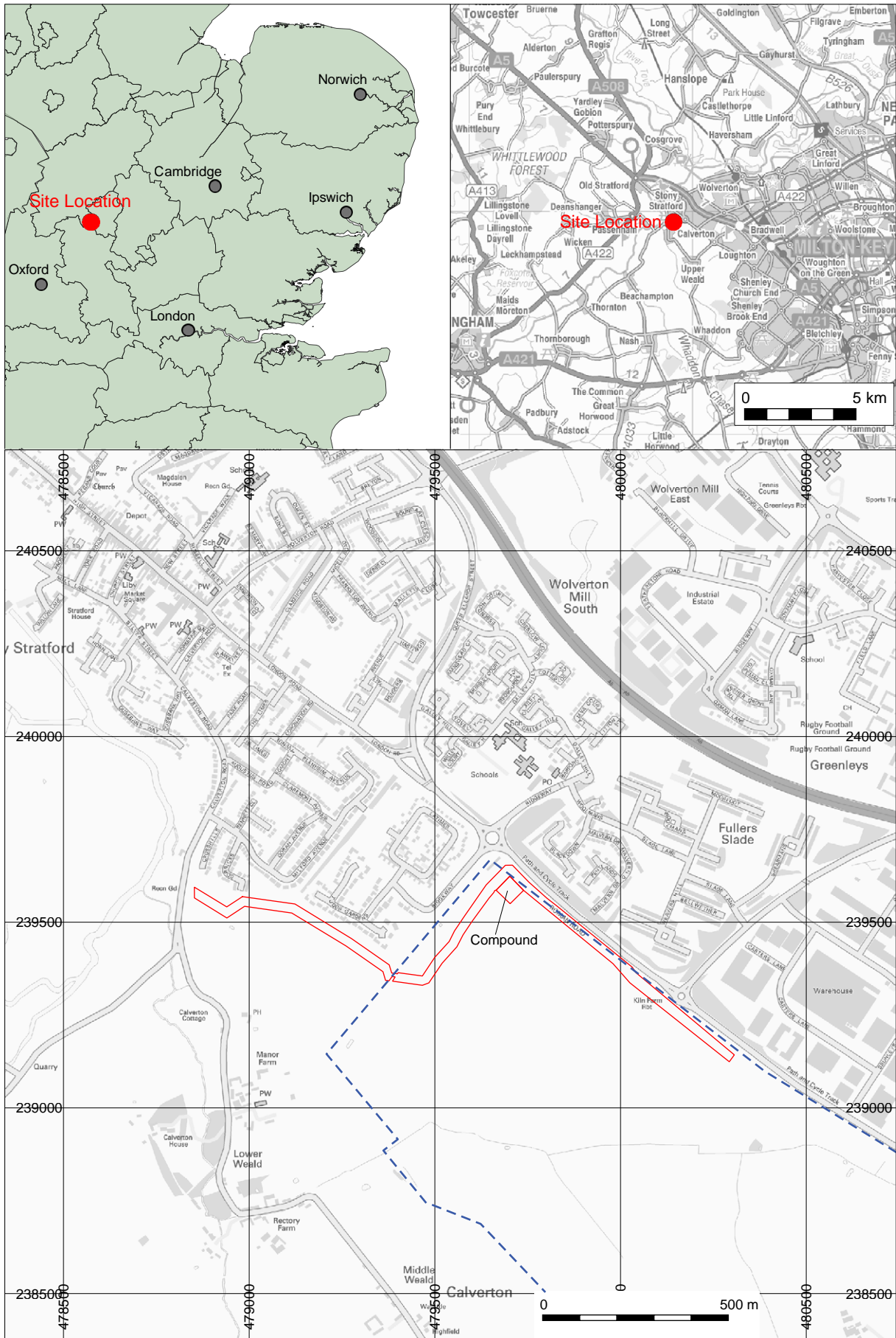
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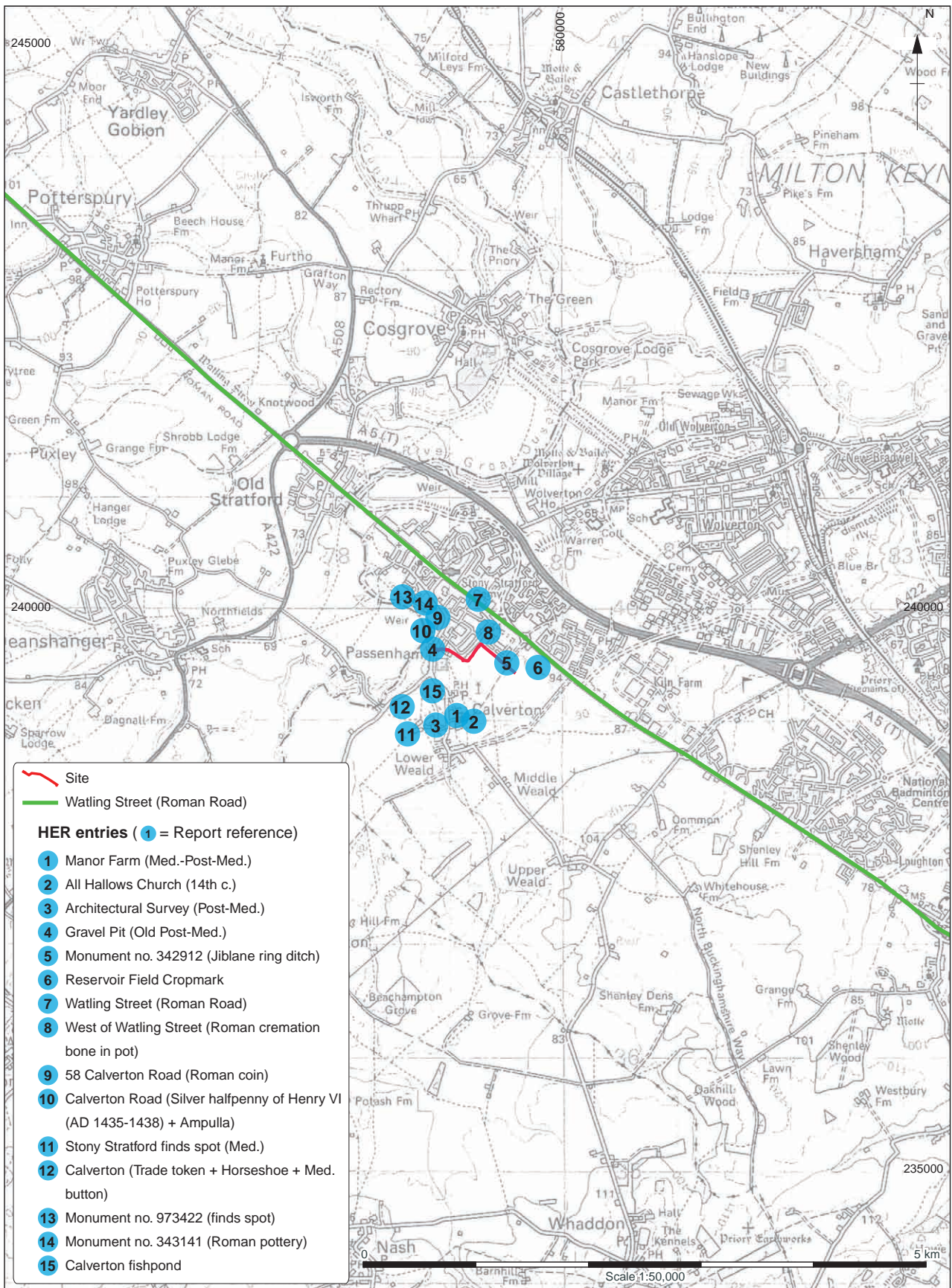
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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Report
	<input type="checkbox"/> Sections
	<input type="checkbox"/> Survey

Notes:



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Figure 1: Site location showing working area (red) in relation to Milton Keynes Western Expansion Area 11 (blue)



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Figure 2: Selected entries from Milton Keynes Historic Environment Record



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