Central Bedfordshire College Kingsway Dunstable

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Archaeological Evaluation Report

Central Bedfordshire College, Kingsway, Dunstable, Bedfordshire

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Archaeological Evaluation Report

Summary

Oxford Archaeology South was commissioned by ADAS UK Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation of the site of a proposed new housing development at the Central Bedfordshire College, Kingsway, Dunstable, Bedfordshire.

The work was undertaken in March 2015. Eight evaluation trenches were excavated, each measuring 50 x 1.8m. No archaeological features were identified and the only artefactual material comprised one sherd of 20th century pottery and post-medieval tile which were recovered from the topsoil.

The site lies at the periphery of the core of the Roman settlement within Dunstable and just east of a possible late 1st Century Roman routeway that runs along the edge of the site, before joining Watling Street. The lack of any features recorded within the trenches would suggest that this area was not heavily settled and may have been used as fields or woodland. Based on the lack of any archaeological features recorded in the evaluation the area is considered to have low potential.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project details

1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) was commissioned by ADAS UK Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation of the site of proposed housing development. The site comprises fields and car parking areas that are located adjacent to the Kingsway, with a large area of former sports pitches and open ground to the north-east. The site is centred at TL 0197 2242 (Fig. 1).

1.1.2 The work was undertaken as a condition of Planning Permission (CB/10/0206/REN) which renews with a time extension the original outline consent (SB/04/00166). The archaeology condition was number 24. A brief was issued by Martin Oake, Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeologist, which outlines requirements for work necessary to inform the planning process and discharge the planning condition (CBCA 2014); A brief setting out the requirements for the first stage of the investigation (evaluation) was prepared in discussion with Central Bedfordshire Council and the work was undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (OA 2014) that set out the proposed methodology for the archaeological field evaluation.

1.1.3 All work was undertaken in accordance with the chartered Institute for Archaeologists' '*Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation*' (revised 2008) and local and national planning policies (National Planning Policy Framework Section 12 and Managing Development Delivery Local Plan policy TB25. 2014).

1.2 Location, geology and topography

1.2.1 The site lies at the foot of the Chilterns chalk ridge within the north-east quadrant of Dunstable town centre. Originally the natural slope of the site dipped down from south-

west to north-east, but this has been removed by the terracing for the College building and the levelling of the former playing area. The height of the centre of the site is at approximately 138m AOD.

1.2.2 The underlying geology of the site is mapped by the British Geological Survey as Middle Chalk (sheet number 220), although local shallow deposits of clay are encountered overlying the chalk.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

1.3.1 The archaeological and historical background to the site has been described in detail in the Desk-based Assessment carried out in 2008 (CgMs 2008), and is only summarised here:

Prehistoric

Prehistoric evidence within the centre of Dunstable is sparse. One round and one long barrow are thought to have existed beneath Edward Street. Evidence for Romano-British transitional evidence would be expected near the prehistoric route of the Icknield Way and the Roman route of Watling Street. This is more likely to be located closer to the historic town centre, therefore the potential for encountering late Iron Age remains was considered low to moderate.

Roman

1.3.2 The site lies on the edge of the Roman (HER 135) and medieval (HER 16986) towns of Dunstable. The historic core of the town contains both large Roman and Medieval components. In Roman times Dunstable (*Dvrocobrivis)* developed into a reasonably sized settlement at the crossing of the major routeways of Watling Street and the Icknield Way. These routeways continued in use through to the medieval period when a more linear road-side settlement was established.

1.3.3 *Durocobrivis* may have been one of a series of *mansios* (stopping points/staging posts) along Watling Street. Numerous small archaeological investigations (many undertaken prior to PPG16: *Archaeology and Planning* by the Manshead Archaeological Society) have revealed evidence for cobbled road surfaces, wells, timber buildings, boundary features, industrial activity and a large late Roman cemetery (HER 11284). The core of the Roman town seems to have radiated out from the Icknield Way/Watling Street crossroads (underlying West Street-Church Street and High Street North-High Street South). Roman features including ditches, pits and wells have been found in the north east quadrant of the town (HER 11270, HAT 2000 and OA 2006).

1.3.4 Roman material has been found in all four quadrants of Dunstable suggesting the Roman town covered an area of about 14ha (EUS, 2005). Evidence for Watling Street was apparently encountered during drainage works in 1901 beneath the High Street. Archaeological investigations in advance of development found evidence of Roman occupation to the south-west (Mudd 2004) and to the west an early Roman cemetery (Edwards 2010). An early Roman ditch was found to the north-west (HER 19617).

1.3.5 South-west of the site an enclosure system with associated pits was found at the Queensway Hall (Northamptonshire Archaeology 2000). Although no direct evidence for settlement was present the quantity of finds indicate that there may be settlement at the site or very nearby. The enclosure was also shown to have gone out of use in the early part of the 2nd century possible suggesting a change of land use for the area.

1.3.6 South of the site ditches and pits of Roman date were uncovered (HAT 2000, Oxford Archaeology 2004). To the south-east, a Roman gully with associated pottery was also found (BCAS 1981).

1.3.7 During a watching brief to the north-west of the site (east of Northview Road) a number of ditches were seen, including one that contained early Roman pottery (Albion Archaeology 2012).

1.3.8 More recently an archaeological evaluation undertaken as a consequence of the College redevelopment identified a number of linear features dated to the Roman period (Albion 2014). The ditches appeared to form part of a possible 1st Century Roman routeway that was identified just to the west of the site. The alignment of the routeway may suggest it could well have served the settlement of the former Queensway Hall to the south-west, on its way to joining Watling Street.

Saxon/Early Medieval

1.3.9 Activity in and around Dunstable in the post-Roman period remains limited until Medieval times. An absence of evidence may relate to Medieval scarping destroying much of the evidence (EUS, 2005, pp25).

1.3.10 Two SFB's (Sunken-Featured Buildings) were found during developments in the north-east quadrant of the town in 1963. One of the buildings contained Roman grey wares (pottery) and other late Roman finds (Matthews 1964).

Medieval

1.3.11 Henry I founded the medieval town of Dunstable (HER 16986) in approximately 1119 AD and in similarity to the Roman settlement, this was focussed upon the Icknield Way/Watling Street crossroads. Henry built himself a residence at 'Kingsbury' which comprised nine acres of land on the north side of Church Street, just south of the site. This development also saw the foundation of the Augustinian Priory of St Peter and burgage plots within the reordering of the town evidence of which was seen at Ashton St Peter's Lower School (Oxford Archaeology 2004).

1.3.12 Around 1131/32 AD Henry established the Augustinian Priory of St Peter (HER 131). The Priory and its precinct were located on the opposite site of Church Street to his residence. The upstanding remains of the Priory buildings include the nave of the Church of St Peter (HER 132), part of the Gatehouse (HER 6329) and the undercroft at Priory House (HER 6311). Other buildings within the precinct would have included claustral ranges; an infirmary, barns, a buttery, workshops, a bakehouse and brewhouse. Among the Priory's properties in the surrounding area were the Totternhoe stone quarries and in addition to the ecclesiastical buildings many of the Priory's domestic properties were built from Totternhoe stone (clunch). A number of archaeological investigations have been undertaken within the precinct of the Priory by the Manshead Archaeological Society and further details on specific interventions is held by the Central Bedfordshire and Luton Historic Environment Record (HER).

1.3.13 The town was laid out in burgage plots, some of which may be preserved in the surviving property boundaries today, particularly along High Street South. Medieval features including kilns, pits and ditches dating to this period have been recorded at a number of locations (Albion Archaeology 2003).

1.3.14 The site itself is located some way from the Medieval core of the town and activity representing agricultural activity could potentially be present.

Post-Medieval

1.3.15 Site specific activity for the period can be best traced by cartographic map regression. The earliest depiction of Dunstable shows the town built up along the two main

routeways. The earlier 18th century mapping shows that the site lies in a rural location within open land.

1.3.16 The site is shown in the 19th century as being within the former Dunstable Park, where the College now sits, and by 1880 a pond within the location of the modern College buildings is shown.

1.3.17 By 1924 the OS mapping shows that the pond at the centre of the park is no longer visible and a garden area, possibly associated with Ashton Grammar School, has encroached into the park area. The specific area of the site is still shown as park land with occasional trees. The situation remains static until 1962.

1.3.18 The 1962/3 Ordnance Survey shows Dunstable College comprising two main buildings with three smaller ancillary structures located to the south. The site is shown to have a boundary separating it from the remaining park area.

1.3.19 By 1980 the College has been extensively extended in buildings and in area. The building layout is much as is known today. The map also shows four temporary huts to the west that are no longer present. The College boundary is also the same as today but is extended towards the railway line west of the site.

1.3.20 An aerial photograph from *c*. 1980 shows the College site with 10 temporary huts. The huts stand on the higher ground at the back of the site and steps can be seen leading up from the car park area. This would suggest the area around the main buildings has been terraced during the construction of the site in the 1960s where the grass area to the east represents the previous ground height. Further evidence of this is evident in the large mound shown in the photo at the south of the site. The mound exists as a road now that links the car parks, but would have either been indicative of the previous ground height or remnant spoil from the grading of the land prior to construction.

Undated Evidence

1.3.21 Skeletal remains were found during the construction of a house extension at 21 Kingsway (200m south of the site). The remains had been disturbed both by the builders and the householder's children. The graves were aligned east-west, finds of nails suggest they were in coffins, no dating evidence was present.

1.3.22 East of Portland Rise and undated pit containing animal bones including a partial cattle skeleton was found (Albion Archaeology 2012).

Negative Evidence

1.3.23 A number of excavations carried out in the vicinity of the site have produced negative evidence. An evaluation at the Magistrates Court, Kingsway (35m west of the College) report concludes that groundwork's involved in the construction of the court buildings had truncated the site. It also states that this had reduced the archaeological potential of the area and may have resulted in the removal of any archaeological features which might otherwise have been observed (Albion Archaeology 2004).

1.3.24 Large areas of the New Venue investigations (AOC 2004), *c*. 175m west of the study site revealed evidence of previous development impacts. After works for sports pitches at the site the report concluded that despite the potential for significant archaeological deposits, it became clear that modern terracing on the site had severely truncated the upper layers of the natural chalk deposits, subsequently removing any archaeological deposits that may have once been present.

1.3.25 An archaeological watching brief undertaken at Ashton Middle School (*c*. 200m west of the study site) (Northamptonshire Archaeology 2006) concluded that the watching brief showed evidence of clear modern truncation of the natural substratum had taken place

across the whole of the development area. No archaeological deposits were present and no artefacts were recovered.

1.3.26 An archaeological watching brief at 36 Kingsway in 1998 (Manshead Society 1998) revealed no definite cut features. Pottery was recovered from the overburden. Two watching briefs undertaken at either end of the High Street (20 High Street, High Street North, BCAS within the EUS) revealed no significant remains.

1.3.27 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at 40-50 Edward Street, located on the opposite side of the High Street. The evaluation concluded that ground disturbance had occurred across the proposed development area, and no significant archaeological remains were encountered (ASC 2006).

1.4 Acknowledgements

1.4.1 Oxford Archaeology were appointed to undertake the evaluation by ADAS Ltd who commissioned the project. Martin Oake, the Archaeological Officer for Bedfordshire County Council, monitored the work. The fieldwork was conducted by Peter Vellet assisted by Sophie Bojadziev and Andrew Williams. The report was written and managed by Carl Champness.

2 Evaluation Aims and Methodology

2.1 General aims

2.1.1 The general aims and objectives of the evaluation, as laid down in the WSI, were:

(i) To determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any archaeological remains within the development;

(ii) To assess vulnerability/sensitivity of any exposed remains;

(iii) To determine the potential of the site to provide palaeoenvironmental and/or economic evidence;

(iv) To provide sufficient information on the archaeological potential of the site to enable the archaeological implications of any proposed developments to be assessed;

(v) To assess the impact of previous land-use on the site;

(vi) To inform a strategy to avoid or mitigate impacts of any proposed development on surviving archaeological remains;

(vii) To disseminate the results through the production of a site archive for deposition with an appropriate museum and to provide information for accession to the Berkshire HER.

2.2 Methodology

2.2.1 An array of eight trenches, each 50m x 1.8m, was excavated across the site, representing a 4% sample of the area (Fig. 2). The trenches were positioned across the site to investigate the potential impacts of the proposed new buildings and their foundations and to provide a good general coverage of the site. Some of the trenches needed to be re-positioned in the field in order to avoid services. Due to the presence of large numbers of buried live services, trenches 7 and 8 were excavated in segments with the agreement of Martin Oake.

2.2.2 The evaluation trenches were located to avoid known services, both below ground and overhead. All trenches were excavated using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket under the supervision of an experienced archaeologist.

2.2.3 All fieldwork was undertaken in accordance with standard OAS practice (Wilkinson 1992).

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction and presentation of results

3.1.1 This section present the results of the evaluation, comprising a summary of the stratigraphic sequence revealed by each trench as well as a summary of the artefactual assemblage. Full details of all trenches, including the dimensions and depths of all deposits, can be found in Appendix A.

3.2 General soils and ground conditions

3.2.1 The underlying geology consisted of chalk which varied slightly across the site with signs of periglacial patterning. In places this was overlain by greyish brown to a mid orange clay subsoil and topsoil. To the north, a series of levelling deposits were identified overlying this sequence.

3.2.2 A significant number of both mapped and un-mapped services were encountered during the trenching. This limited the coverage in some areas of the site as trenches had to be re-located and within the car park area, dug in segments to avoid services and dense vegetation.

3.3 Trenches 1 and 2 (Plates 1 and 2)

3.3.1 Trench 1 was aligned NE-SW and was located at the north-western corner of the site. The Trench was devoid of archaeology. The stratigraphic sequence consisted of a natural chalk (104/105) at 0.83m depth, overlain by a subsoil (103), and a buried topsoil (102). This was sealed by a levelling deposit of redeposited chalk (101) and modern topsoil (100). The bedrock was located at greater depth towards the north of the trench.

3.3.2 An irregular features (108) was investigated in the south of the trench and recorded as a tree-throw. Its fill (109) was a mid brownish grey clayey silt and produced no finds.

3.3.3 Trench 2 was located just to the south and was orientated broadly east-west. The chalk bedrock (204) was encountered at a depth between 0.51-0.90m at the base of the trench. This was overlain by a chalky mid greyish brown subsoil (201) and sealed by modern topsoil (200). Four irregular features were identified within the trench, the most promising of these were excavated and proved to be a tree-throw (202).

3.4 Trenches 3 and 4 (Plates 3 and 4)

3.4.1 Trench 3 was aligned NE-SW and was located on the eastern side of the site, adjacent to the college car park. The trench was devoid of archaeology. The stratigraphic sequence consisted of natural chalk (302) at 0.57m in depth, overlain by a thick subsoil (301), above which lay topsoil and turf (300), see Figure 3. One three-throw/root disturbance (303) was identified through excavation and at least two service running E-W across the trench.

3.4.2 Trench 4 was located NW-SE adjacent to the college. The trench was relocated 5m to the south-west in order to avoid an unmapped service recorded in the field and at least four additional services were found running perpendicular to the trench. Natural chalk (402) was identified at the base of the trench at 0.40m depth, overlain by subsoil (401), above which lay topsoil and turf (400). Two areas of root disturbance were identified and one was investigated (403; Figure 3).

3.5 Trenches 5 and 6 (Plates 5 and 6)

3.5.1 Trench 5 was aligned E-W and was located towards the centre of the site. The trench was devoid of archaeology, although it was crossed towards its northern end by what was initially thought to be two inter-cutting ditches. On excavation these features were identified to be root disturbances (506 and 509) possibly along a hedgerow due to their irregular sides and undercutting nature (Figure 3). The trench stratigraphic sequence consisted of the natural chalk (502), overlain by subsoil (501), above which lay topsoil and turf (500).

3.5.2 Trench 6 was orientated NW-SE in the north-eastern part of the site. The trench was devoid of archaeology. The sequence consisted of a natural chalk (604) at 0.89m in depth, overlain by subsoil (602), and a buried topsoil (603). This was sealed by a levelling deposit of redeposited chalk (601) and modern topsoil (600). Two areas of root disturbance were investigated within the trench, no finds were recovered.

3.6 Trenches 7 and 8 (Plates 7-10)

Trench 7 was aligned NE-SW and was located on the southern side of the site, partially within the college car park. The trench was devoid of archaeology, although it was crossed by several modern services which meant that it had to be excavated in segments. The presence of buried electricity cables and drainage pipes meant that it was not possible to fit in Trench 7 in the proposed location. Trench 7 was excavated in segments in between the known services with the agreement of Martin Oake. The stratigraphic sequence within this part of Trench 7a to the south of the car park consisted of the natural chalk (702), overlain by subsoil (701), above which lay topsoil and turf (700). This part of the trench was also found to contain buried services.

3.6.1 Within Trench 7b, a sequence similar to Trenches 1 and 6 were encountered. This consisted of natural chalk (702) at 0.77m in depth, overlain by subsoil (701), and a buried topsoil (706). This was sealed by a levelling deposit of redeposited chalk (705), road foundation deposits (704) and tarmac (703).

3.6.2 Similar issues were encountered during the excavation of Trench 8, which was located in the north-east corner of the development. Due to the presence of drainage, services and vegetation within the car park, the trench had to be again be dug in segments (Trench 8a, 8b and 8c). In the northern end, away from the car park, the trench sequence consisted chalk bedrock (805) at 1.05m in depth, overlain by subsoil deposits (803 and 804) and a buried topsoil (802). Within the car park area (trenches 8a and 8b), a similar sequence of chalk (805), overlain by colluvial subsoils (803 and 804) and a buried topsoil (802). This was sealed by made-ground and foundation deposits (801, 807, 808) and tarmac (806).

3.7 Finds summary

3.7.1 A small quantity of artefactual material was recovered from the topsoil of Trenches 2 and 6. The material included one sherd of 20th century pottery and a fragment of post-medieval ridge tile. A complete description of the finds can be found in Appendix B.

4 Discussion

4.1 Reliability of field the investigation

4.1.1 The trenches were excavated in changeable weather conditions, but there was sufficiently good conditions to allow confidence in the identification of the presence or absence of archaeological features in all of the trenches.

4.1.2 A significant number of mapped and unmapped services were encountered during the course of the evaluation (Figure 2). This did significantly hinder the trenching across the site, especially in the car park area within Trenches 7 and 8. However, the evaluation achieved sufficient spatial and sample coverage of the development area to be deemed to be representative of the archaeological potential of the site.

4.2 Evaluation objectives and results

4.2.1 The main objectives were to determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any archaeological remains within the development. The evaluation clearly demonstrated that there were no archaeological features in any of the trenches.

4.2.2 The features identified and investigated within the evaluation all turned out to be root disturbance from former hedgerows or trees at the site, possible when it was used a park. Based on the results of the evaluation the area does not appear to have been heavily settled in the past and was predominantly used for agriculture or woodland prior to the construction of the college.

4.2.3 Artefactual evidence was restricted to a very small assemblage of 20th century pottery, recovered from the topsoil, and no features or deposits with potential for palaeo-environmental evidence were present.

4.2.4 The levelling deposits identified in Trenches 1, 6, 7 and 8 indicate significant ground raising activity associated with the construction of the college during the mid 20th century. This however did not truncate any of the natural sequence and so if archaeology was present it would be preserved.

4.3 Interpretation

4.3.1 The lack of recorded archaeology within the trenches is interesting in that the site lies on the periphery of the Roman town. The results of the evaluation suggest that the site has limited potential to address the research themes associated with the characterisation of the settlement or its peripheral landscape (Oake, 2014). The work has demonstrated that not all areas of the Roman town periphery were heavily settled and that the town was potentially surrounded by a landscape of open fields and woodlands.

4.3.2 The results of the evaluation suggest that there is a very low potential for any archaeological remains to be present on the site. This is consistent with the evidence from historic mapping, which indicates that the area was open ground prior to the construction of the first college buildings at the site.

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Appendix A. Trench Descriptions and Context Inventory

Trench 1						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.79
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
Context no	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Thickness (m)**	**Comment**	**Finds**	**Date**
100	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil: dark greyish brown silty clay, soft to tacky		Modern
101	Layer	-	0.26	Made-ground: mixed chalk with dark grey clayey silt.	-	Modern
102	Layer	-	0.14	Buried topsoil: mid brownish orange silty clay, <5% small flint pebbles	-	-
103	Layer	-	0.18	Buried topsoil: soft mid reddish brown clayey silt with frequent stones	-	-
104	Layer	-	0.32	Mixed chalk with clayey silt and frequent stones	-	-
105	Layer	-	0.05	Chalk: soft reddish white	-	-
106	Layer	-	0.37	Subsoil: friable mid reddish brown clayey silt	-	-
107	Layer	-	0.10	Subsoil; friable mid reddish-brown clayey silt with frequent sub-angular inclusions	-	-
108	Cut	1.15	0.20	Cut of three-throw hole	-	-
109	Fill	1.15	0..2	Fill of three-three hole	-	-

Trench 2						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.62
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						

Context no	Type	Width (m)	Thickness (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
200	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil: dark greyish brown silty clay, soft to tacky	-	-
201	Layer	-	0.26	Subsoil: mid grey brown silty clay, friable	-	Late medieval - early post medieval tile
202	Cut	0.75	0.08	Cut of a three throw hole	-	-
203	Fill	0.75	0.08	Fill of a tree throw	-	-
204	Layer	-	0.16	Chalk: Light greyish white with light reddish white patches, chalky patches.	-	-

Trench 3		
General description	**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.48
	Width (m)	1.8
	Length (m)	50

Contexts

Context no	Type	Width (m)	Thickness (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
300	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil: dark greyish brown silty clay, soft to tacky	-	-
301	Layer	-	0.29	Subsoil: mid greyish brown clayey silt, friable	-	-
302	Layer	-	0.17	Chalk	-	-
303	Layer	1.0	0.80	Cut of three throw hole	-	-
304	Layer	1.0	0.80	Fill of the three throw	-	-

Trench 4		
General description	**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.40
	Width (m)	1.8
	Length (m)	50

Contexts

Context no	Type	Width (m)	Thickness (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
400	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil: dark grey brown silty clay, soft	-	-

				to tacky		
401	Layer	-	0.14	Subsoil: mid grey brown silty clay, friable frequent stone inclusions	-	-
402	Layer	-	0.16	Chalk	-	-
403	Cut	2.00	0.36	Cut three throw hole	-	-
404	Layer	2.00	0.36	Fill of three throws	-	-

Trench 5						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.75
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
Context no	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Thickness (m)**	**Comment**	**Finds**	**Date**
500	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil: dark grey brown silty clay, soft to tacky	-	-
501	Layer	-	0.20	Subsoil: mid greyish brown silty clay, friable	-	-
502	Layer	-	0.19	Subsoil: mid greyish brown silty clay, friable	-	-
503	Layer	-	0.18	Mixed light reddish brown chalk with stone inclusions	-	Modern
504	Layer	-	0.06	Natural Chalk	-	-
505	Layer	-	0.20	Made-ground – Mixed Chalk	-	Modern
506	Cut	2.30	0.80	Cut of three-throw hole	-	-
507	Fill	-	0.40	Fill of three-throw hole	-	-
508	Fill	-	0.40	Fill of three-throw hole	-	-

Trench 6		
General description	**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.64
	Width (m)	1.8
	Length (m)	50
Contexts		

Context no	Type	Width (m)	Thickness (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
600	Layer	-	0.20	Topsoil: dark grey brown silty clay, soft to tacky	Pottery	20th century
601	Layer	-	0.10	Made-ground: mid grey brown silty clay, friable	-	Modern
602	Layer	-	0.08	Subsoil – Soft mid reddish brown clayey silt	-	-
603	Layer	-	0.04	Buried topsoil – friable dark greyish brown clayey silt	-	-
604	Layer	-	0.10	Natural Chalk	-	-
605	Cut	1.17	0.18	Cut of a three-throw hole	-	-
606	Fill	1.17	0.18	Fill of a three-throw hole	-	-

Trench 7

General description	Orientation	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology.	Avg. depth (m)	0.66
	Width (m)	1.8
	Length (m)	50

Contexts

Context no	Type	Width (m)	Thickness (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
700	Layer	-	0.20	Topsoil: dark greyish brown silty clay, soft to tacky	-	-
701	Layer	-	0.0.16	Subsoil: mid grey brown silty clay, friable	-	-
702	Layer	-	0.34	Natural: Chalk	-	-
703	Layer	-	0.11	Tarmac		Modern
704	Layer	-	0.26	Car park foundation material	-	Modern
705	Layer	-	0.18	Made-ground – Very compact mid brown coarse clayey sand	-	Modern
706	Layer	-	0.06	Buried topsoil – Compact dark greyish brown clayey silt	-	-

Trench 8

General description		Orientation	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology.		Avg. depth (m)	1.05
		Width (m)	1.8
		Length (m)	50

Contexts

Context no	Type	Width (m)	Thickness (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
800	Layer	-	0.31	Topsoil: dark grey brown silty clay, soft to tacky	-	-
801	Layer	-	0.24	Subsoil: mid grey brown silty clay, friable	-	-
802	Layer	-	0.16	Natural: mid brownish orange silty clay, <5% small flint pebbles	-	-
803	Layer	-	0.10	Buried topsoil	-	-
804	Layer	-	0.24	Made-ground – Mixed Chalk and clay	-	Modern
805	Layer	-	0.06	Natural Chalk	-	-
806	Layer	-	0.13	Tarmac	-	Modern
807	Layer	-	0.18	Car park foundation material	-	Modern
808	Layer	-	0.26	Made-ground – Firm greyish brown clayey sand with frequent brick	-	Modern

APPENDIX B. FINDS REPORTS

B.1 CBM

Identified by John Cotter
compiled by Geraldine Crann

Context	Description	Date
201	Sherd of very worn ridge tile, 48g	Late medieval - early post medieval

5.1.1 Discussion and recommendations.

5.1.2 The assemblage is of low potential and requires no further work.

B.2 Pottery

Identified by John Cotter
compiled by Geraldine Crann

Context	Description	Date
601	1 refined white ware (REFW) solid Art Deco-type mug handle, 57g	1930 -1940s

5.1.3 Discussion and recommendations.

The assemblage is of low potential and requires no further work.

Appendix C. Summary of Site Details

Site name:	Central Bedfordshire College, Kingsway, Dunstable, Bedfordshire
Site code:	DUBC15
Grid reference:	TL 0197 2242
Type:	Evaluation
Date and duration:	April 2015
Area of site:	1.57 ha
Summary of results:	Eight evaluation trenches were excavated, each measuring 50 x 1.8m. No archaeological features were identified and the only artefactual material comprised one sherd of 20th century pottery and post-medieval roof tile which were recovered from the topsoil.
Location of archive:	The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES and will be deposited with the Luton Museum in due course, under the following accession number: DUBC15

X:\d\Dunstable College, Bedfordshire\010Geomatics\03 GIS Projects\Figure1_081214.mxd*gary.jones*08/12/2014

Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2014
Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS

Figure 1: Site location

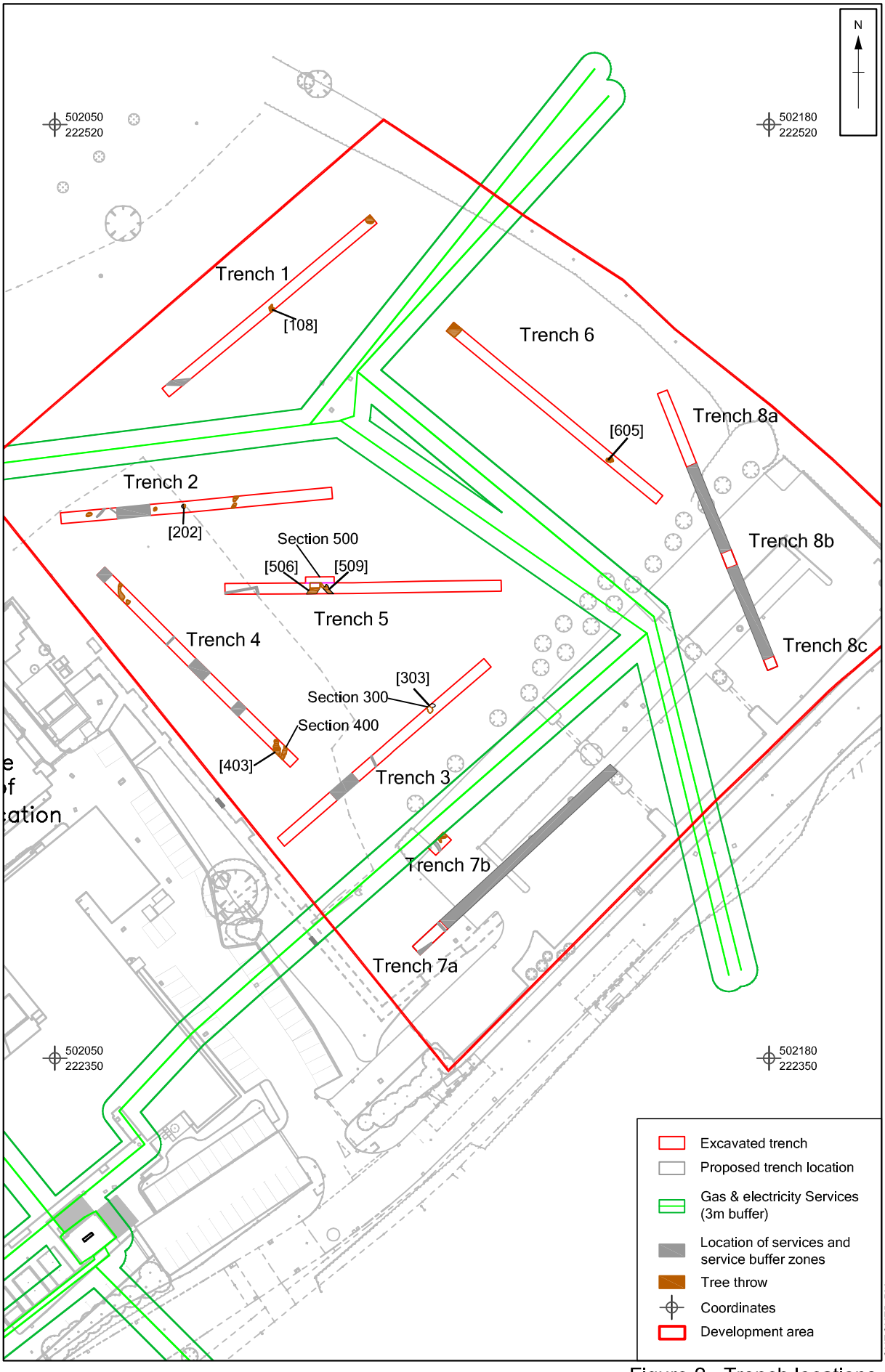

Figure 2. Trench locations

Basemap Survey Data supplied by :
Kempston Surveys Ltd

\\SERVER10\invoice codes a thru h\D_invoice codes\DUBCEV*Central Bedfordshire College, Dunstable*mw*21.04.15

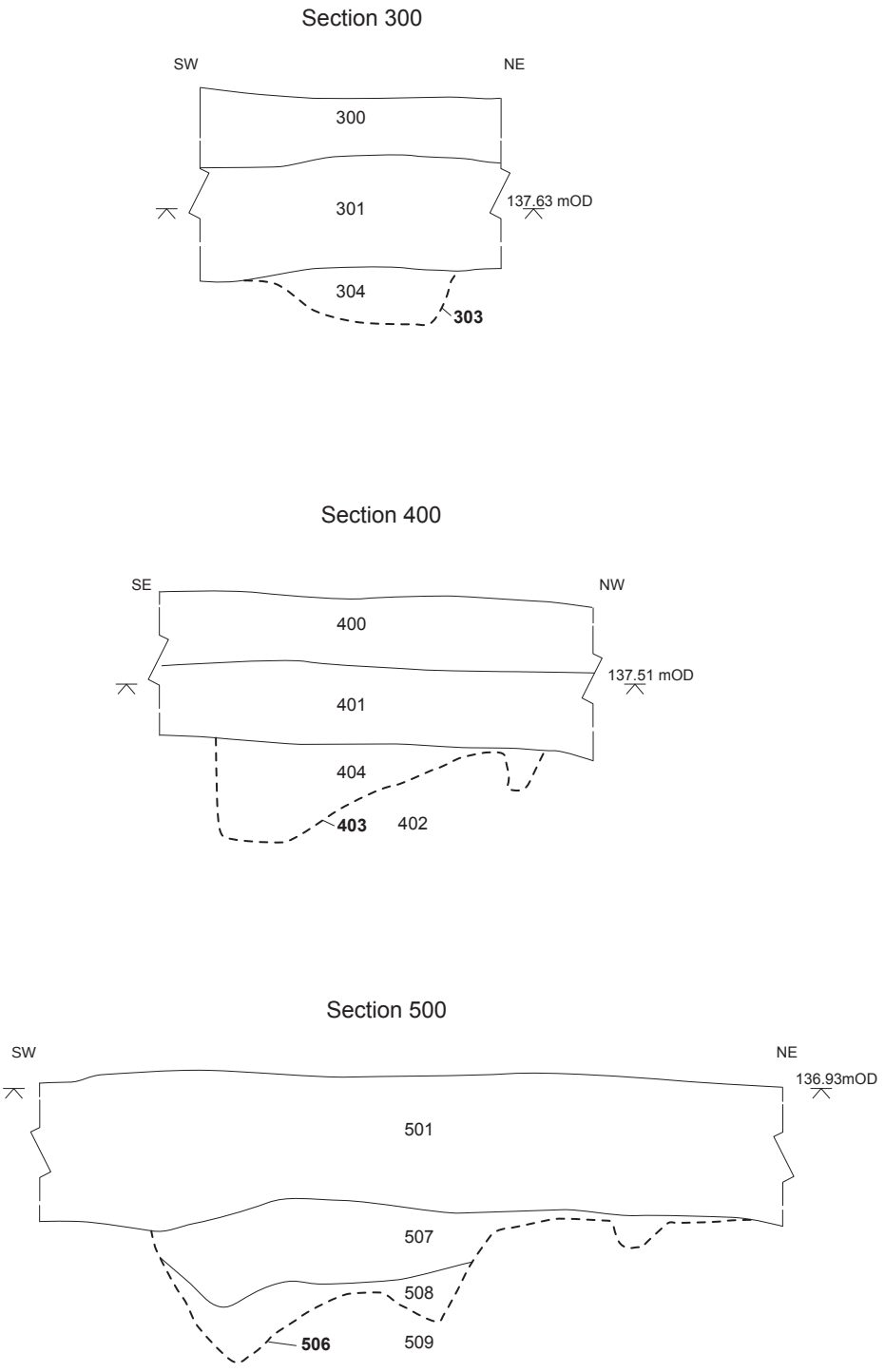

Figure 3: Representative sections 300, 400 and 500

Plate 1: Trench 1 looking SW (1x2m and 1x1m scale)

Plate 2: Trench 2 looking NW (1x2m and 1x1m scale)

Plate 3: Trench 3 looking SW (1x2m and 1x1m scale)

Plate 4: Trench 4 looking NW (1x2m and 1x1m scale)

Plate 5: Trench 5 looking W (1x2m and 1x1m scale)

Plate 6: Trench 6 looking NW (1x2m and 1x1m scale)

Plate 7: Trench 7a looking NE (1x2m and 1x1m scale)

Plate 8: Trench 7b looking NE (1x2m and 1x1m scale)

Plate 9: Trench 8a looking NW (1x2m and 1x1m scale)

Plate 10: Trench 8b looking NW (1x2m and 1x1m scale)

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