



Archaeological Field Unit

**Land at Wooton Village, Bedfordshire:
An Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment**

N Shepherd and M Wilson

1999

Cambridgeshire County Council

Report No. N009

Commissioned by Martin Grant Homes UK Ltd

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Editor William Wall BA

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Summary

This desk-based assessment examined three tracts of land in the immediate vicinity of Wootton Village, Bedfordshire. It was carried out in order to identify and map archaeological information derived from documentary sources and thereby to assess the archaeological potential of the study areas.

The assessment indicates that there are few known archaeological sites within the three areas studied.

A medieval moat probably survives beneath the more recent building at Keeley Farm in the north. This may represent the site of Culy Manor.

Aerial photographs in the south show cropmarks that may mark the site of a rectangular enclosure, apparently sub-divided internally. Its form suggests a settlement or possible stock enclosure of late Iron Age or Roman date.

Cropmarks also indicate extensive medieval cultivation across the whole of the study area. Map evidence confirms that the major part of the study area lies within the medieval common fields.

The relative lack of evidence for archaeological survival should not be taken as conclusive. Until recently very few archaeological sites of pre-medieval date had been located within the Vale of Bedford. Recent pre-development trial trenching and sample excavation, close by at Stewartby and Marston Moretaine, has, however, located sites of prehistoric and Saxon date. None of these were previously known from existing sources. The Wootton study area comprises over 116 hectares and it is likely that a number of archaeological sites do survive, as yet undetected, and will only be located by fieldwork. This conclusion is strengthened by the recent discovery of Roman remains just to the west of the Study Area in Keeley Green.

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

The Archaeological Field Unit of Cambridgeshire County Council (AFU) was commissioned by Martin Grant Homes UK Ltd to undertake a desk-based assessment of three areas of land at Wootton, Bedfordshire, in order to assess their archaeological potential in advance of development. The work was undertaken according to a specification drawn up by William Wall of the AFU, and was carried out in consultation with locally-based archaeologists in Bedfordshire County Archaeological Service. The work mainly involved reviewing the known archaeological data for the study areas, although site visits were made (on 22/3/99 and 14/4/99) by AFU staff to all study areas, in order to assess current landuse, topography, possible sources of ground disturbance and possible constraints to further archaeological work.

1.2 Location of Study Area

The village of Wootton lies 6km south-west of Bedford within the modern parish of Kempston Rural. This assessment concerns approximately 116ha of farmland to the west, north, east and south-east of the village centred at TL010450 (OS 1:50000 sheet 153) (Figs 1 and 2). For ease of description, the study area has been divided into three parcels A, B, and C:

Area A comprises 3.5ha and is located on the west edge of the modern village. It is bounded by post-enclosure field boundaries which may fossilise medieval or earlier field divisions. Its southern and eastern sides abut modern residential areas.

Area B comprises 10.3ha and is located on the north edge of the Village. This area is bounded to the north by an ancient track/lane marked as the boundary of the former Kempston and Wootton parishes. To the west and south-west it is bounded by Keeley Green and the village road. For the most part the south boundary abuts modern residential development.

Area C comprises a large (102ha) tract of land to the west and south-west of the village. The north boundary of the site comprises a post-enclosure field boundary. The west boundary is marked by the A421. The eastern boundary runs along the residential fringe of the modern village. The southern boundary comprises a post-enclosure property boundary to the east and a medieval field division to the west, its central section drawing a new division within a modern field.

1.3 Geology, Topography and Soils

Wootton lies within the Vale of Bedford which extends south-west from the River Great Ouse. The solid geology is Oxford Clay. There are two small areas of masking boulder clay around Keeley Green and Keeley Lane, and a strip astride the parish boundary to the extreme north-west. The soils are moderate to imperfectly draining non-calcareous gleys of the Rowsham Association (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983).

The majority of land within the study areas is flat, lying at about 40m OD, with a very gentle slope away to the south-east. North-west of Wootton, the land rises gently to about 70m OD.

1.4 Modern Land Use

The majority of the land within the Study Areas is taken up by arable farmland (largely Grade 3, MAFF soil classification 1971) fringing residential development. Area A, however, is entirely pasture; Area B is pasture in the north-western part, except for the site of Keeley Farm, which is already built up; the south-eastern part of Area B is presently under a cereal crop. Area C is almost all arable, with large areas of oilseed rape north of the Wootton road; south of the road, there is a large area of grassland bordering the present village, and there are also several large blocks of land recently planted with trees.

2. REVIEW OF KNOWN DATA

2.1 Summary of Main Sources

This assessment comprises a review of data drawn from six main archive sources:

- the Historic Environment Record of Bedfordshire County Council,
- the excavation archives of Bedfordshire County Archaeology Service (BCAS),
- the National Library of Air Photographs (NLAP) at the National Monument Record in Swindon,
- Bedfordshire Borough Council Planning Department: Aerial Photograph Collection.
- cartographic evidence and parish survey documents held by Bedfordshire and Luton Archives and Record Service, Bedford.
- Victoria History of the County of Bedfordshire

Together these provide a comprehensive database for the archaeology and history of the Wootton Village area. They collate all known archaeological

investigations and finds across the study area, and provide access to primary and secondary documentary sources, including aerial photographs and cartographic evidence.

2.2 The Historic Environment Record (HER)

Bedfordshire County Council's catalogue of known archaeological sites and historic buildings was consulted. All of the entries that concern this study are tabulated below.

HER No.	Location	Description	Survey Area
3435	TL009461	Moated site and earthworks at Keeley Farm, Keeley Green, Wootton. Now mostly infilled and farm building situated on top; western circuit remains as a drain alongside Bedford Road. Extent of moat shown on map of 1838. Place names indicate that this was Culy Manor. (See also BCAS projects 223 and 438)	B
5157	TL007460 and TL006457	Gravel Pits , south of Keeley Green. Rectangular depression (TL 007 460) up to 2m deep with hedge running through it, the latter not marked on 1838 map. An irregular depression (TL 006 457). Gravel metalling visible along FP towards Keeley Green; gravel spread in north-east corner of wood.	A
8276	TL009462	Moated site , (157, Bedford Road); one element of a double moated site marked on the map of 1838; partly infilled, only the eastern circuit extant and water-filled. Towards north-west is crossed by an earthen causeway.	north-west/ Adjacent to B
8519	TL009460	Keeley Farmhouse. C17th timber-framed farmhouse, refaced C19th. Grade II	B
11532	TL009462 to TL011460	Lane marked as Kempston/Wootton Boundary. Earthworks, some ridge and furrow and sunken way. Lane runs from Wootton Keeley, opposite moat of HER3435, to Pot Cross (HER 11533). Shown on Kempston Enclosure Map 1804.	north boundary of B
11533	TL014458	Pot Cross. Adjoins open field called Potty Cross Field. Name derived from <i>Porteway</i> .	north-east boundary of B
11538	TL010461	Dovecote , Keeley Green. A dove house, associated with Culy Manor is thought to have been situated in the Keeley farm area (i.e. within Dove House Close.	B
15804	TL008461	Roman Occupation , 2 Keeley Lane Wootton. Limited excavation revealed settlement related	Adjacent to B

		features and a quantity of first to early second century finds.	
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2.2.1 Results

Archaeologically significant HER records relate only to Study Area B or its immediate environs. The extensive area covered by HER 11538 reflects uncertainty over the location of the dovecote rather than the significance of the entire designated area.

The gravel-pits (HER 5157) in Area A suggest any archaeological remains there will have been destroyed.

No HER records relate to Area C.

2.3 Aerial Photographs

2.3.1 Sources

The collections held at Bedfordshire County Council, within the Historic Environment Record (HER), Bedford Borough Council Planning Department, and at the National Library of Air Photographs (NLAP) at the National Monument Record in Swindon were consulted for vertical and oblique photographs. No relevant photographs are held at Cambridge University Committee for Archaeological Photography (CUCAP). A list of photographs is contained in Appendix 1.

2.3.2 Assessment methodology

Only photographs from the BCC and BBC collections were viewed. A cover search was carried out of the NLAP collection although this was not viewed. Photographs were available for the period 1946-1996 at a variety of scales, both vertical and oblique.

Survey was targeted towards identifying possible archaeological sites only. Features considered to be of natural or modern origin have been excluded. Ridge and furrow was noted but was not mapped except where it impinged on other archaeological data.

Where archaeological data was identified photographs were scanned and geo-referenced using GIS software (GSYS 2.8) against a digital copy of the Ordnance Survey map (Fig 4).

2.3.3 Results

Land use

Throughout the period covered by aerial survey the dominant land-use within the study area has been arable farming. Many of the soil and cropmarks were due to recent cultivation, drainage and access across the fields.

Archaeology

Archaeological features appear within the study area as earthworks, soil marks or slight crop marks. Predominantly these relate to areas of ridge and furrow, once part of the medieval common fields.

One possible archaeological site has been located (on HSL/UK/7442/6/2677) c500m north-east of Berry Farm, within the area of proposed Community Forest (TL 0090 4325) (Fig.4). This appears as a rectangular enclosure open to the west (although this may be due to masking by ridge and furrow). The enclosure measures approximately 120m by 75m with internal circular enclosures or sub-divisions. The marks are not clear and may alternately be due to geological anomalies. However, the size and form of the cropmark is similar to examples of recently excavated Iron Age and Romano-British sites close by at Stagsden (BCAS 1998/65) and Biddenham (BCAS 1998/08).

2.4 BCAS Projects Database

Bedfordshire County Archaeology Service (BCAS) maintains a database recording all watching briefs, evaluations and excavations carried out by the Service since its inception in 1972. Summary information on most projects is available through the HER although more recent projects will only be listed at BCAS. The database is available for enquiries and a search was undertaken centred on the study area. All listings were assessed.

BCAS has undertaken 2 relevant archaeological investigations, both located over the moated site at Keeley Farm in Area B of the Study Area.

BCAS Project Number: 223, 30.10.94, Report 94/30, (see also HER3435)

Location: Keeley Farm, Wootton

Description: Archaeological Evaluation in response to residential development. Two trenches placed over the site of the purported western circuit of the moat. No archaeological deposits located. Both trenches revealed evidence of modern back-filling to a depth of 1.2 -1.8m.

BCAS Project Number: 438, 12.11.96, (see also HER 3435)

Location: Keeley Farm, Wootton

Description: Watching brief during excavation of wall footings cut through purported location of moat. No archaeological material recovered.

Neither of these two projects add significantly to archaeological knowledge beyond suggesting that the Keeley Farm Moat has been backfilled in modern times.

2.5 Historic Map Study

2.5.1 Sources

The historic maps for this area held by the Bedfordshire and Luton Archives and Record Service were consulted and are tabulated below. Modern OS survey maps at 1:50000 and 1:25000 were consulted for recent features and topography.

CRO number	Description	Comments
MA.67	Map accompanying Parliamentary Enclosure Award 1838	
MAT.53	Titheable lands in the parish of Wootton, 1845	
OS 9.8.10	1st Ed. OS Beds sheet XVI Surveyed 1881.82	
P. 3/283	London Brick Comp. Estate c. 1907	Gives names of occupiers of land
BMB8/17/34-39	Various estate maps 1897-1912	Plans of house and estate allotments, etc.
W2/15	Whitbread Estate Atlas 1827-70	Details of property and tenancies
Z.832/1	Plan of an estate in the parish of Wootton, c.1850	

2.5.2 Results

No maps survive for the period prior to the early nineteenth century. The majority represent estate maps of limited value, covering small parts of the parish, mostly outside of the study area. The enclosure map of 1838, and the 1st edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1881 provide the most useful information, both sources preserving elements of the medieval (and arguably earlier) pattern of settlement and land division. Both indicate that the Study Area lies substantially within the medieval common fields. The enclosure map clearly shows the position of the moat at Keeley Farm.

2.6 Other Documentary Sources

2.6.1 Sources

Victoria History of the County of Bedfordshire, 1912 (reprinted 1972), vol i, 174.

Gadd, D, *Wootton and Stewartby Parish Survey*, 3, 1977, Bedfordshire County Council Planning Department (unpublished).

2.6.2 Results

Both sources can be used to compile an outline of the manorial history of Wootton. This has enabled a better characterisation of the medieval landscape including some indication of the location of the manorial sites. They add little to the picture for earlier periods.

3. SUMMARY OF THE RESULTS AND DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL

3.1 The Pre-Roman Period

The earliest evidence of activity within the parish, comes in the form of an unprovenanced, uninscribed, Gallo-Belgic gold stater¹. It is, however, "*now generally accepted that the distribution pattern [of pre-'Belgic' and 'Belgic' settlement in the Vale of Bedford] has been skewed both by modern land use and by the differing susceptibility of soil types to aerial photography. While it is clear that the favoured occupation areas were the lighter soils of the Great Ouse catchment and the chalk uplands to the south of the county, the true settlement pattern is likely to have been more complex*"². Recent excavations by BCAS to the south and east at Marston Moretaine³ and Stewartby⁴ have identified sites of early, middle and late Iron Age date on heavier soils. None of these were previously known from surface finds or from crop or soil marks visible on aerial photographs. This suggests the negative evidence in this survey for Wootton should not be taken as conclusive. Given the extent of the study area it is therefore highly likely that one or more sites of pre-Roman date survive.

The rectangular enclosure surviving as a cropmark on aerial photographs within the southern part of Area C at (TL012445) (Fig.4) may mark the location of a settlement or activity focus of Iron Age or later date. Similar isolated forms have been located throughout the Ouse valley with recent examples excavated at Biddenham⁵ and Stagsden⁶ to the north.

¹ Gadd, D., Wootton and Stewartby Parish Survey, 3, 1977, Bedford Planning Department; *c.f.* Victoria Histories of the County, Bedfordshire, 1912 (reprinted 1972), vol i, 174

² Shotliff, D and Crick, JM, 1998, "Iron Age Settlement within the Oxford Clay Vale at Beacroft Road, Marston Moretaine", *Beds Arch* 23,

³ *Ibid*

⁴ BCAS, 1998, *Archaeological Investigation at The proposed Stewartby "Millenium" Country Park, Marston Moretaine, Bedfordshire*, BCAS Report No. 98/33

⁵ BCAS, 1998, *Biddenham Loop Post Fieldwork Project Design*, BCAS Report 98/8

⁶ BCAS, 1998, *Stagsden Golf Course, Archaeological Field Evaluation*, BCAS Report 98/65

3.2 The Roman Period (AD43 - AD410)

Until very recently, there was nothing to substantiate suggestions of Romano-British activity in the parish of Wootton, which were based largely on the place names of Causeway End and Cause End Road. In 1995, settlement related features and a quantity of first - early second century finds were revealed, during the excavation of footings for a house extension at Keeley Lane (TL 00854610). The site (HER 15804) is located c.25metres west of the south-west corner of Survey Area B. Artefacts included fired clay objects which are believed to be kiln furniture⁷. Archaeological features and deposits of this period were observed to continue beyond the area of excavation, thus indicating the potential for further discoveries within the west part of Survey Area B.

That the Keeley Lane material was previously unknown is probably due to similar factors operating to mask the identification of pre-Roman sites (see above). As with sites of the earlier period it should be expected that in addition to the Keeley lane focus other Roman period sites should survive, as yet undetected, within the study area (note that the cropmark enclosure could be of Roman date). Existing evidence cannot help to locate these.

3.3 The Saxon Period (5th century AD to 11th Century AD)

No archaeological evidence of this period has been located, but pre-conquest settlement was certainly in existence, for the name Wootton derives from the Old English *wudu tun*, or wood farm.

The modern village of Wootton comprises an agglomeration of a number of previously separate settlements or 'Ends' and these foci, including that at Keeley Farm may preserve the sites of Saxon settlements. Early to middle Saxon settlements in particular appear to have been small, dispersed and extremely mobile and so again, as with the earlier prehistoric and Roman period remains, one might expect remains of this date to survive at almost any location within the Study Area.

3.4 The Medieval Period (11th century AD - 16th Century AD)

3.4.1 Manors

In 1086 the manor of Otone (Wootton)⁸, was a single manor parish and had been held by Aelmar, a man of Earl Tosti.⁹ before passing to Albert of Lorraine¹⁰. The last mention of overlordship occurred in 1612. The manorial

⁷ Pollard, J, Roman Settlement at Keeley Lane, Wootton: an interim statement, 1995 (HER 15804)

⁸ *vide* Mawer, A and Stenton, F.M, Bedfordshire Place Names, English Place Name Society vol.III, 'The Place-Names of Bedfordshire and Huntingdon (Camb.)', 1926.

⁹ Morris, Domesday Book, Vol.20, Bedfordshire, Phillimore

¹⁰ Victoria Histories of the County, Bedfordshire, 1912 (reprinted 1972), vol iii, 329

rights were divided twice in the 13th century, resulting in the creation of five separate manors¹¹. There is uncertainty as to the location of the 'capital messuages'¹². Two of these ancient manors are believed to be situated either within, or in close proximity to the survey area - the manor of Culy to the north of Wootton village (Area B) and the manor of Wootton Hoo to the south-east (Area C).

The manor of Culy in Wootton is mentioned for the first time in 1474¹³, derived from the family name of the mid-13th century occupant, John of Culee¹⁴. The manor is last mentioned in 1813¹⁵. The site, which equates to Keeley Farm (HER 8276), was in the mid-17th century, referred to as 'Le Moteyard and 'Le Culu house'¹⁶, and in 1660, the 'Coloner house'¹⁷.

The moated site of Keeley Farm (HER 3435) is of particular significance. The exact location of the moat has not been determined on the ground (despite limited excavation) and is only indicated by the 1st edition OS map. Certainly backfilled it is likely, however, that the moat survives in some form below ground. Associated deposits may survive within the circuit of the moat in the area occupied by the present house (HER 8519) and beyond it to the east and north.

The field that abuts the moat to the north and east was, in 1838, called Dove House Close¹⁸. Despite the medieval name of 'Culy', it has been suggested that the 'dove house' connection may have been the result of confusion in the 17th century, with the Latin word *columbare*.

The manor house of Wootton Hoo is thought to have been situated 'in the neighbourhood of Hoo Farm'¹⁹. It is noted that the present day site of Berry Farm, located c. 500m south-west of Survey Area C (Fig. 5), was in the late 19th century known as Hoo Farm.

3.4.2 Settlement Location (Fig. 5)

The village of Wootton comprises a dispersed nucleation of separate settlements now barely distinguishable within the single modern agglomeration. These separate parts can be made out on the 1st edition of the Ordnance Survey map and include Tag's End, Causeway End, Church End, Keeley Green, Bott End and Hall End and appear to represent common-edge settlement similar to Cranfield and Kempston West End (Lewis et al 1997). There appears to have been an outlying hamlet, Wootton Green, which is

¹¹ *ibid*, pp.329-333

¹² *c.f.* Gadd. D, 1977, 3

¹³ *ibid*, 4.; VCH, iii, 331

¹⁴ VCH, iii, 331; CRO TW 525

¹⁵ *ibid*, iii, 331.

¹⁶ CRO PE 466/9

¹⁷ Wood. J, (pers. comm 5/82, see HER Secondary Record Sheet).

¹⁸ CRO MA 67, Wootton Enclosure Map, 1838.

¹⁹ VCH, iii, 329

located approximately 500m to the south-east of Area C, and is believed to have been the manor of Wootton Shelton or Upper Shelton²⁰.

3.4.3 Field Systems

Elements of the medieval field system were located within the Survey Areas. In Area A, low upstanding ridge and furrow is clearly visible on aerial photographic data (Aerofilms/Beds/91/COL/125/8/5354-5355). In Survey Area C, which spans the former common fields of Potty Cross Field, Middle Field and Hoo Field, shown on the 19th century Enclosure Map, the remnants of ploughed-out ridge and furrow are visible as cropmarks (Aerofilms/Beds/91/COL/125/8/5354-5355).

The ridge and furrow was plotted from aerial photographs in the course of the parish survey, undertaken by D Gadd of the Bedfordshire Planning Department in 1977.

3.4.4 Roads and trackways.

The northern extent of Survey Area B is marked by a lane on the former boundaries between the parishes of Kempston and Wootton. This survives in places as a sunken way and rubble scatter. The lane runs from Wootton Keeley, opposite northern moat at Keeley farm (HER 3435), to Pot Cross (HER 11533); the latter's name derives from *porteway*, a road which led to a market town.

3.5 The Post-Medieval and Modern period

From the cartographic and aerial photographic evidence it seems likely that land-use within the study area has altered very little from the post-medieval period through to the present day. Except for the common fields a great deal of the parish had been enclosed by 1838 and to a large extent later enclosures appear to have largely respected pre-existing furlong boundaries.

Elements of the moat which surrounds the farm at Keeley Green, were clearly extant in the early-19th century, but are now obscured by the modern farm. Keeley Farmhouse (HER 8519) is a 17th century timber-framed structure, which was refaced in the 19th century, and is a now Grade II listed building. Gravel extraction pits (HER 5157) are located within Survey Area A, south of Keeley Green. These are seen to disturb the upstanding ridge and furrow (Aerofilms/Beds/91/ COL/125/8/5354-5355) and are not visible on either the 1838 Enclosure Map (CRO MA 67) or the First Edition Ordnance Survey of 1881 (1885).

²⁰ Gadd, D, 1977, 3

4. CONCLUSIONS

4.1 Potential for Archaeological Remains within the Study Area

- No known sites lie within Area A. Much of this area may already be disturbed by post-medieval gravel workings, although the exact extent of this is unknown.
- The north-western part of Area B has high potential to contain: a) remains associated with a medieval moated site, possibly Culy Manor; b) parts of Romano-British settlement revealed 40m to the west at HER15804.
- There are no known archaeological sites in the south-eastern part of Area B.
- There are no known sites in Area C, except a possible Iron Age/Romano-British enclosure, noted on aerial photographs at TL012445.
- There is low to moderate potential for remains of early to middle Anglo-Saxon date, whilst late Saxon or early medieval features may exist in the vicinity of the main foci of settlement at Wootton. It is noted, however, that the moated site of Keeley Farm probably dates only to the 13th-14th century.
- Medieval settlement features are likely to exist in Areas A and B, and may be present along the peripheries of the common fields in Survey Area C.
-
- Recent work at Stewartby/Marston Moretaine revealed previously unknown sites of all dates within a similar study area.

4.2 Limitations of the Evidence

4.2.1 Aerial photographs

- Aerial photographs provide a good record for the form and limits of medieval settlement and agriculture at the time at which these areas were abandoned to grassland. They allow us to map with some certainty the location of areas of significant medieval activity such as the moated sites and areas of ridge and furrow cultivation.
- On suitable soils sub-surface archaeological features are often visible as marks in ripening crops or as soil marks in ploughed ground. However, the permeable, water retentive soils of the study area do not always reveal crop marks. Study of aerial photographs from the Clay Vale in general suggests that many of the recently identified cropmarks are forming on a localised basis on soils that are relatively gravel-rich (pers. comm. Stephen Coleman). Each of the present study areas, however, is situated on heavy clay soil types.

- Earlier medieval, Roman and prehistoric features may survive buried beneath earthworks (*e.g.* ridge and furrow), but cropmarks rarely develop in areas that are under grass. In addition, both the upstanding earthworks themselves, (from which shadows are cast), and the variable depth of topsoil beneath them restricts archaeological visibility. Area A, as noted above (Modern Land Use, p.2) is pasture; ridge and furrow earthworks are also present. The north-western field parcel in Area B is pasture. Parts of Area C are grassland, with some areas of fairly recent tree planting. These factors could explain why any archaeological features present within these areas did not show on aerial photographs.
- Most aerial photographs available were not taken for archaeological purposes and were not therefore taken under optimum conditions for research.

4.2.2 HER entries

- The HER entries largely focus on the major earthwork remains of medieval date. The record is governed by the lack of archaeological survey and other fieldwork in an area until recently thought to be largely devoid of pre-medieval settlement. Some indication of the potential of the area is provided by the recently discovered Romano-British remains close to Keeley Farm.

4.2.3 Cartographic sources

- Cartographic sources are extant from the early nineteenth century and are useful in projecting backwards into the later medieval period only. In general they confirm the pattern of medieval fields visible from air photographs and serve to inform our understanding of the morphology and development of the later medieval and modern settlement in general terms. For information of earlier periods, however, they contribute little.

4.2.4 Recent excavated evidence

- Recent development within the historic village and its environs has instigated few archaeological investigations. Along with the evidence of aerial photographs these would normally provide the best indicators of the likely archaeological potential of the study area.
- Sites excavated elsewhere in the Clay Vale suggest archaeological features should be expected beneath ridge and furrow. For example: observations at Beancroft Road, Marston Moretaine.

4.3 Levels of Ground Disturbance

- Ground disturbance within the Study Area comprises medieval and modern ploughing, tree planting, localised mineral extraction and recent building work

at Keeley Farm. Plough truncation, both during antiquity and more recently, represents the major cause of disturbance. Recent tree planting within Area C may also have damaged or disturbed archaeological features. Some post-medieval quarrying can be expected in Area A. The condition of the moat at Keeley farm is unknown, but buildings associated with the modern farm will have caused localised disturbance. Excavations within areas of ridge and furrow at Marston Moretaine suggest only dug features will survive, although headlands may protect archaeological features to a greater degree.



Fig.1 Location of Wootton, scale 1:50,000

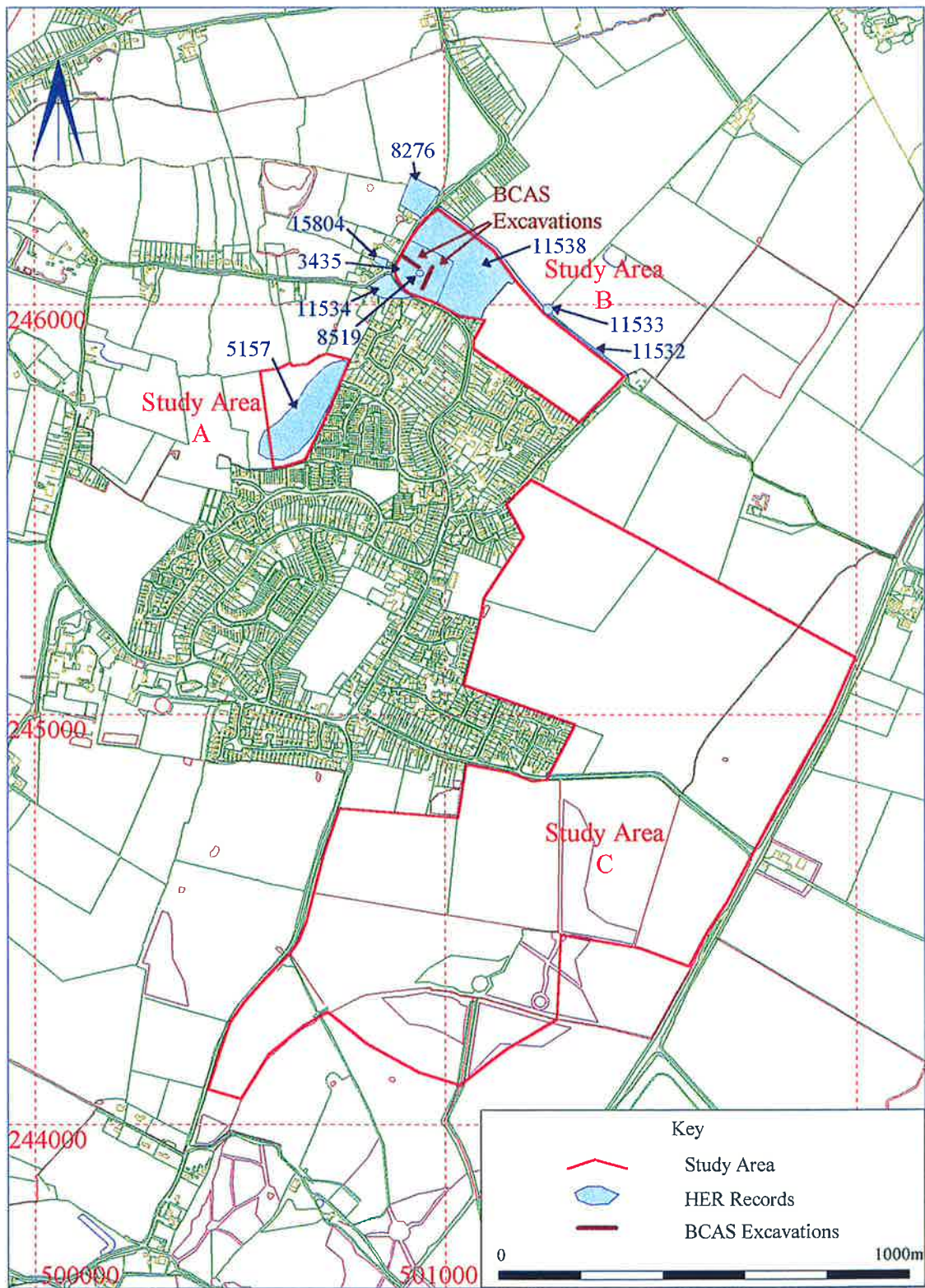


Fig. 2 Location of Study Areas (A) to (C), showing HER and BCAS sites

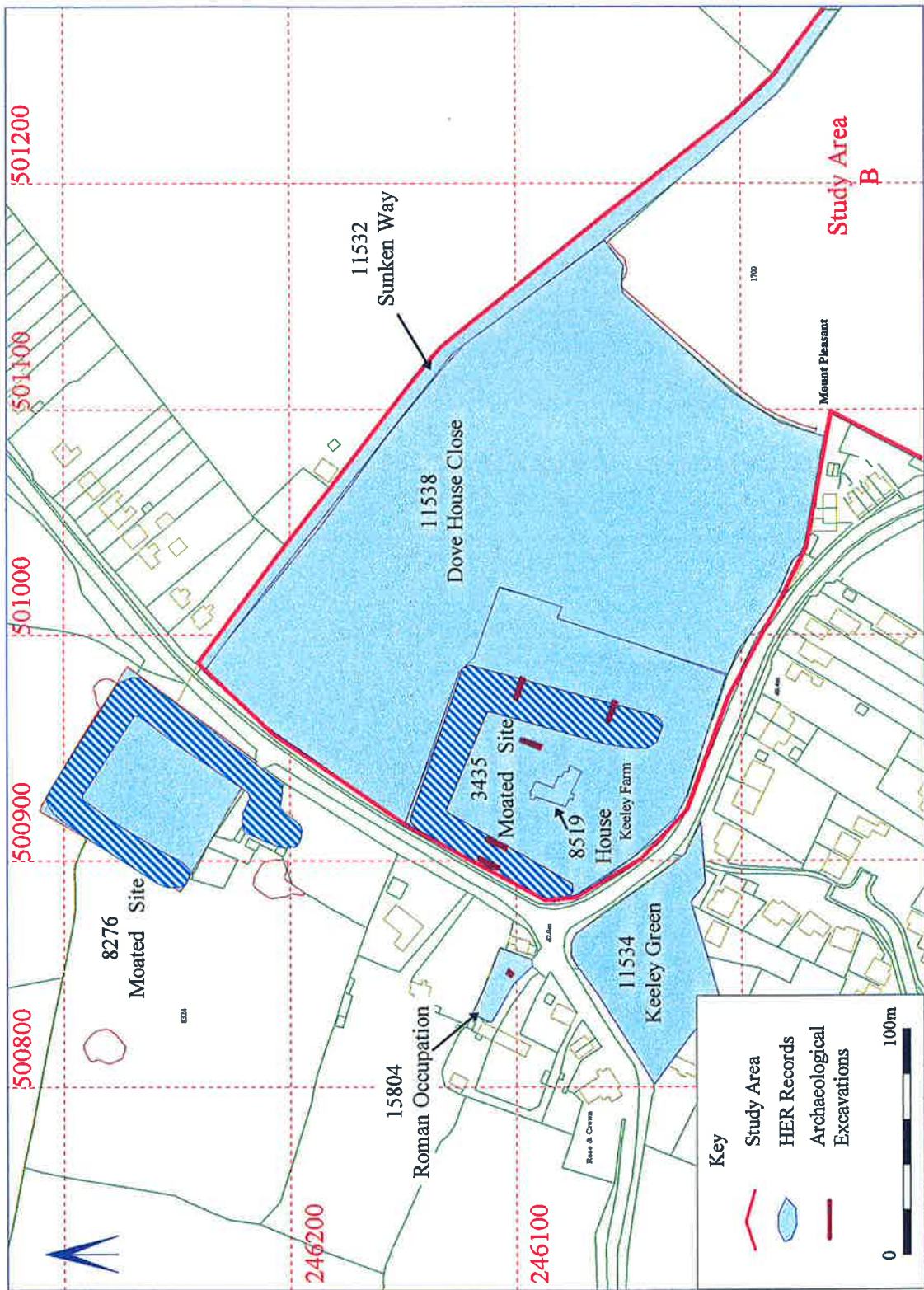


Fig. 3 Study Area (B): detail of moated sites and other HER and BCAS data

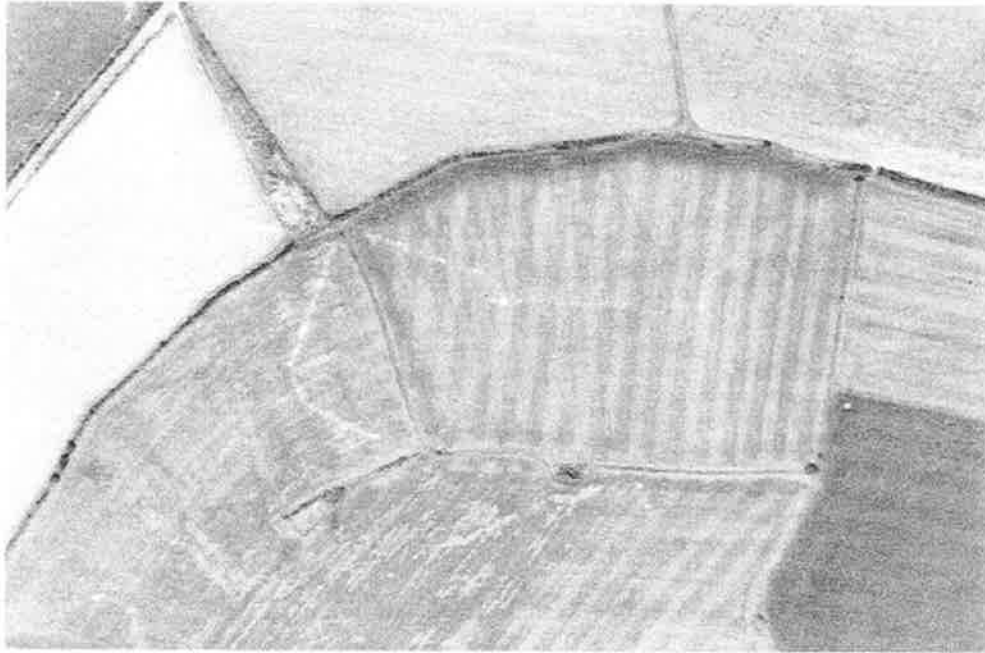


Fig. 4a Study Area (C): Air photo HSL/UK/42/6 showing cropmark site, centre right

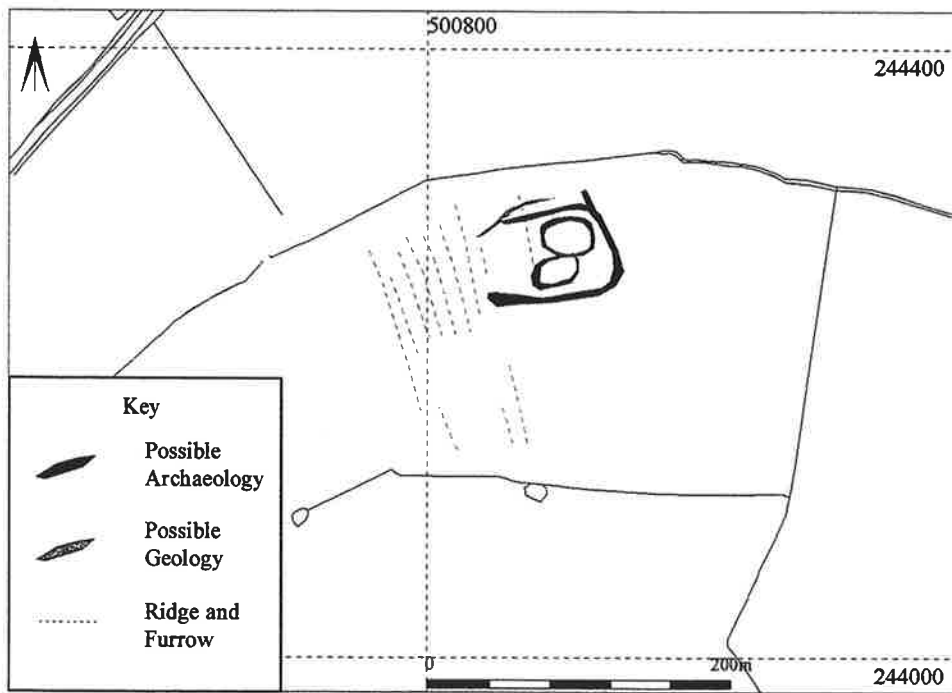


Fig. 4b Study Area (C): Interpretative plot of cropmark site



Fig. 5 Main settlements identified on the 1838 Enclosure Map.

Appendix 1

Air photographs consulted - BCC Historic Environment Record / BCC Planning Department

Sortie Number	Camera pos.	Frame nos.	Date
106G/UK/1562	O	3196-3199	07 JUN 1946
		4197-4199	
HSL/UKBED/68780/7	V	8128	01 JUL 1968
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