

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR WATCHING BRIEF

BMX Pump Track at Land Off Martin Dalby Way Berryfields,
Buckinghamshire (22/02515/APP)

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Archaeological Watching
Brief - BMX Pump Track at
Land Off Martin Dalby Way
Berryfields, Buckinghamshire
(22/02515/APP)

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Prepared by:

RPS Group (part of Tetra Tech)

Rob Masefield
Archaeology Director

20 Farringdon Street
London,
EC4A 4AB

T +44 07796338079

E masefieldr@rpsgroup.com

Prepared for:

Taylor Wimpey
Martin Grant Homes
Tilia Homes Eastern Ltd

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 This document sets out a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by RPS on behalf of Taylor Wimpey, Martin Grant Homes, and Tilia Homes Eastern Ltd. for archaeological watching brief on topsoil removal for a new BMX 'Pump Track' at Land Off Martin Dalby Way Berryfields, Buckinghamshire (22/02515/APP), within the administrative area of the Buckinghamshire Council (Aylesbury Vale Area) (centred SP79489 15881) (Fig. 1).

1.2 The Design & Access Statement in support of the application stated that the proposals (Blackwood Architects, March 2023) (and as shown at Appendix 3 of this WSI) are to:

“...to install a new Pump Track for use by BMXs and other bicycles.

The site forms part of the Berryfields Major Development Area (MDA) which includes 3,372 new dwellings, employment, a district centre, schools, transport infrastructure and open space and community facilities.

The application seeks approval for relocating the use of the approved BMX pump track situated at the Roman Park (18/02680/APP) to the greenfield land off Martin Dalby Way and adjacent to the existing skate park. The proposed site is more suitable for its size, proximity to the residential area and shares similar sport use with the existing skate park to contribute to delivery of Aylesbury Garden Town.”

1.3 Buckinghamshire Council (Aylesbury Vale Area) consulted Buckinghamshire County Archaeology Service (BCAS) regarding the scheme and 22 August 2022, who noted the following Historic Environment Records as relevant:

- HER 0056000000 – Scheduled Monument (SAM) / Panning Notification Area (PLN) – ‘QUARRENDON II: Scheduled Medieval hollow-ways, house platforms and enclosure earthworks recorded in field surveys and on aerial photographs, some salvage recording and metal detecting finds;
- HER 0660400000 – PLN - Berryfields: Roman roadside settlement recorded in geophysical survey and fieldwalking and confirmed by trial trenching;
- HER MBC39887 - Portable Antiquities Scheme: 1st Century Roman Brooch; and
- HER MBC41115 - Portable Antiquities Scheme: 15th – 16th Century Jetton

1.4 The advice note stated:

“The proposed development is within an Archaeological Planning Notification Area for the Scheduled Quarrendon site and is within Zone A Preservation in Situ area included in Condition 21 of Application 03/02386/AOP for the Berryfields MDA. This condition states:

No ground disturbance or any other construction or landscaping works shall take place within the archaeological areas to be preserved in situ as shown on plan no. 1480/286 BS/LS 08/07 without the prior written consent of the Local Planning Authority. Archaeological areas to be preserved in situ within or adjoining each phase or sub-phase of the development shall be physically demarcated in a manner agreed by the Local Planning Authority for the duration of the works with that phase or subphase.

Details submitted to the Local Planning Authority shall include location, depth and working method and provision for archaeological mitigation.

Reason: To secure the preservation in situ of important archaeological remains in accordance with Aylesbury Vale District Plan Policies GP59 and AY13.

The Berryfields MDA Archaeological Mitigation Strategy produced by Waterman CPM April 2008 includes Section 4 Mitigation of Development Impacts which outlines works within the preservation in situ areas:

4.1 Mitigation of potential development impacts is based on advice by PPG16 Archaeology and Planning, PPG15 Planning and the Historic Environment and local plan policies. Where nationally important archaeology has been identified it will be preserved in situ. Preservation in situ has also been sought where remains of lesser importance have been identified. Four areas will be preserved in situ.

- Two areas of Roman activity (Areas A and C) to the south and north of the A41 will be preserved under open space and especially engineered sports pitches respectively.*

4.2 In order to ensure the long-term preservation of these sites, preservation in situ will need to be proved and the future use of the land will need to be guaranteed. In each case, the relevant reserve matters application will require suitable drawings and a method statement as to the approach being taken to preserve the areas in situ. This method statement and related documents will also have to confirm the preservation in situ area's inclusion within a landscape management plan for all open space areas within the development which will confirm activities which cannot occur and ensure that non-damaging ground cover is maintained.

We welcome the Planning Design and Access Statement included with the application documents.

Section 3.2 The proposed BMX Pump Track includes:

The proposed track layout is indicative, and it establishes a guideline for the track specialist to configure a circuit where beginners and intermediate riders can develop their skills. The track will be built over the existing ground with open textured bitmac and potentially some section with compacted crushed limestone. These surfaces are widely considered to be the best construction of this type of recreational facility.

The proposed track layout shown will minimise disturbance to the existing high pressure gas line and allowance for the track to drain towards the existing west/south ditch to avoid any risk of surface water pooling in the centre.

We would expect the tuck shop and any landscaping to also be constructed in a similar ‘no dig’ manner. These could be undertaken by condition which would require the construction methodology to be agreed.”

- 1.5 The tuck shop was removed from the scheme. The advice also recommended consultation with Historic England. To that end the 2023 Design & Access Statement includes consultation with David Wilkinson, Inspector of Ancient Monuments at Historic England who commented as follows:

“The proposed bike track lies west of the scheduled monument known as Deserted Villages and Civil War Earthwork, HA no. 1013416. The medieval villages (streets and house platforms) and the Civil War earthwork are visible as earthwork features under pasture. The ruins of St Peter’s Church are part of the scheduled monument but are much further to the east, away from the development site.

The scheduled monument does draw some of its significance from the remaining areas of rural setting, as the original setting would have been rural and agricultural.”

- 1.6 On non-designated archaeology the 2023 Design & Access Statement included that:

“3.4 Archaeology

No significant archaeology is expected in this greenfield, the area will be largely undisturbed. The entire track will be built above the ground level and excavations to remove the top soil will be minimal. The impact on the scheduled monument located to the west of the site will be negligible and the site is well screened with trees and separated by cycleway and a skatepark.”

The Buckinghamshire Council (Aylesbury Vale Area) Decision Notice for of for application 22/02515/APP of 04/05/2023 stated:

“The Council’s Archaeological Officer welcomes the information contained within the Planning Design and Access Statement which supports the application. It is noted that the proposed track and landscaping is to be constructed in a ‘no dig’ manner and this would be controlled by a condition requiring the construction methodology to be agreed prior to commencement of works.

The proposal would not harm any identified heritage asset and would accord with policy BE1 of the VALP and the guidance site out in the NPPF.”

- 1.7 Therefore, there were no specific archaeological conditions. Although the planning permission for application 22/02515/APP did not include an archaeological condition as at that time it was considered that the proposals would not require ground penetration and impacts would be negated via sensitive construction methodology. However, detailed design work and discussions with BCAS

have led to the conclusion that the topsoil layer will require removal for to maintain the structural integrity of the BMX pump track.

- 1.8 In an email correspondence with construction project manager on the 10th May 2023 BCAS stated:
- “We have had no dig for some cycle paths, but considering the proposed use and the soil/sub soil condition you describe these probably aren’t suitable. I think your proposed topsoil strip and construct on top of the top surface of the subsoil is probably the most long term appropriate. This approach is different to that suggested in the Design and Access Statement and would require archaeological monitoring...”
- 1.9 It was also advised that the approach be communicated in writing to the LPA.
- 1.10 BCAS have therefore confirmed that a precautionary archaeological watching brief will be required, although as no subsoil will be penetrated (ie the deposit of reworked natural or earlier buried ploughsoil that usually seals archaeology cut into the geology), and construction plant will not operate direct on the exposed surface, which will be raised gain first, no impacts to archaeology are anticipated.
- 1.11 The watching brief is a precaution to ensure the subsoil is retained and in the unlikely event that any archaeology is disturbed the features/ deposits are excavated and recorded, or if finds from the topsoil are present, that these are collected, stored, reported on and archived.
- 1.12 All elements of the detailed fieldwork and post-excavation project will be undertaken by the nominated archaeological contractor who will be a Registered Archaeological Organisation with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.
- 1.13 All work will be undertaken in accordance with this document, the relevant BCAS Generic brief for an archaeological watching brief or small-scale investigation (Last updated: 1 July 2023) and the relevant standards and guidance of ClfA for watching brief (2014, updated 2020).
- 1.14 The nominated archaeological contractor (yet to be appointed) will adhere to the contents of this WSI as part of their appointment and will provide their own specification method statement with full adherence to this WSI. The nominated sub-contractor will obtain the required site code for inclusion.

2 HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT POLICY

CONSIDERATIONS

The National Planning Policy Framework (Conserving and enhancing the historic environment)

- 2.1 Section 16 of the NPPF, entitled Conserving and enhancing the historic environment provides guidance for planning authorities, property owners, developers and others on the conservation and investigation of heritage assets. Overall, the objectives of Section 16 of the NPPF can be summarised as seeking the:
- Delivery of sustainable development;
 - Understanding the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits brought by the conservation of the historic environment;
 - Conservation of England's heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance; and
 - Recognition that heritage makes to our knowledge and understanding of the past.
- 2.2 Section 16 of the NPPF recognises that intelligently managed change may sometimes be necessary if heritage assets are to be maintained for the long term. Paragraph 194 states that planning decisions should be based on the significance of the heritage asset and that level of detail supplied by an applicant should be proportionate to the importance of the asset and should be no more than sufficient to review the potential impact of the proposal upon the significance of that asset.
- 2.3 Under 'Considering potential impacts' the NPPF emphasises that 'great weight' should be given to the conservation of designated heritage assets, irrespective of whether any potential impact equates to total loss, substantial harm or less than substantial harm to the significance of the heritage assets.
- 2.4 Paragraph 201 states that where a development will result in substantial harm to, or total loss of, the significance of a designated heritage asset, permission should be refused, unless this harm is necessary to achieve substantial public benefits, or a number of criteria are met. Where less than substantial harm is identified paragraph 202 requires this harm to be weighed against the public benefits of the proposed development.
- 2.5 Heritage Assets are defined in Annex 2 of the NPPF as: a building, monument, site, place, area or landscape positively identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions. They include designated heritage assets (as defined in the NPPF) and assets identified by the local planning authority during the process of decision-making or through the plan-making process.

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- 2.6 Annex 2 also defines Archaeological Interest as a heritage asset which holds or potentially could hold evidence of past human activity worthy of expert investigation at some point.
- 2.7 A Designated Heritage Asset comprises a: World Heritage Site, Scheduled Monument, Listed Building, Protected Wreck Site, Registered Park and Garden, Registered Battlefield or Conservation Area.
- 2.8 Significance (for Heritage Policy) is defined as: The value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. This interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting.
- 2.9 Setting is defined as: The surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the significance of an asset, may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral.
- 2.10 In short, government policy provides a framework which:
- Protects nationally important designated Heritage Assets;
 - Protects the settings of such designations;
 - In appropriate circumstances seeks adequate information (from desk based assessment and field evaluation where necessary) to enable informed decisions;
 - Provides for the excavation and investigation of sites not significant enough to merit in-situ preservation.
- 2.11 Section 16 relates to development proposals that may have an effect upon the historic environment and the conservation of heritage assets in the production of local plans and decision taking. It emphasises that heritage assets are 'an irreplaceable resource, and should be conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance'.

National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG), (2014)

- 2.12 This guidance supports the NPPF. It reiterates that conservation of heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance is a core planning principle.
- 2.13 It also states, conservation is an active process of maintenance and managing change, requiring a flexible and thoughtful approach. Furthermore, it highlights that neglect and decay of heritage assets is best addressed through ensuring they remain in active use that is consistent with their conservation.
- 2.14 Importantly, the guidance states that if complete, or partial loss of a heritage asset is justified, the aim should then be to capture and record the evidence of the asset's significance, and make the interpretation publicly available.

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- 2.15 Key elements of the guidance relate to assessing harm. It states, an important consideration should be whether the proposed works adversely affect a key element of the heritage asset's special architectural or historic interest.
- 2.16 Adding, it is the degree of harm, rather than the scale of development that is to be assessed. The level of 'substantial harm' is stated to be a high bar that may not arise in many cases. Essentially, whether a proposal causes substantial harm will be a judgment for the decision taker, having regard to the circumstances of the case and the NPPF.
- 2.17 Importantly, it is stated harm may arise from works to the asset or from development within its setting. Setting is defined as the surroundings in which an asset is experienced, and may be more extensive than the curtilage. A thorough assessment of the impact of proposals upon setting needs to take into account, and be proportionate to, the significance of the heritage asset and the degree to which proposed changes enhance or detract from that significance and the ability to appreciate it.

Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning

- 2.18 In March 2015 Historic England (formerly English Heritage) withdrew the PPS5 Practice Guide document and replaced it with three Good Practice Advice in Planning Notes (GPAs): 'GPA1: Local Plan Making', 'GPA2: Managing significance in Decision-Taking in the historic Environment', and 'GPA3: The Setting of Heritage Assets (updated 2017).
- 2.19 These GPAs provide supporting guidance relating to good conservation practice. The documents particularly focus on how good practice can be achieved through the principles included within national policy and guidance. As such, the GPAs provide information on good practice to assist LPAs, planning and other consultants, owners, applicants and other interested parties when implementing policy found within the NPPF and PPG relating to the historic environment.

Local Plan

- 2.20 The Local Plan formerly comprised the Adopted Aylesbury Vale District Local Plan (2004) and includes policies saved in September 2007. Saved Policy GP 59 deals with Archaeology and Ancient Monuments and stated that:

'in dealing with development proposals affecting a site of archaeological importance the Council will protect, enhance and preserve the historic interest and its setting. Where research suggests that historic remains may be present on a development site planning applications should be supported by details of an archaeological field evaluation. In such cases the Council will expect proposals to preserve the historic interest without substantial change.'

Where permission is granted for development involving sites containing archaeological remains the Council will impose conditions or seek planning obligations to secure the excavation and recording of the remains and publication of the results’.

Buckinghamshire Council (Aylesbury Vale Area)

- 2.21 The site is now located within the administrative area of Buckinghamshire Council (Aylesbury Vale Area), which was formed in 2020 through the merger of various previous local authorities including Aylesbury Vale, Chiltern, South Bucks, and Wycombe. The site was formerly located within the Aylesbury Vale administrative area and the Aylesbury Vale local planning policy remains relevant to the site until such time as a new Buckinghamshire Council Local Plan is produced.
- 2.22 The Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan 2013-33 was adopted in September 2021 and contains the following policy relating to the historic environment:

BE1 Heritage assets

The historic environment, unique in its character, quality and diversity across the Vale is important and will be preserved or enhanced. All development, including new buildings, alterations, extensions, changes of use and demolitions, should seek to conserve heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance, including their setting, and seek enhancement wherever possible.

Proposals for development shall contribute to heritage values and local distinctiveness. Where a development proposal is likely to affect a designated heritage asset and/or its setting negatively, the significance of the heritage asset must be fully assessed and supported in the submission of an application. The impact of the proposal must be assessed in proportion to the significance of the heritage asset and supported in the submission of an application. Heritage statements and/or archaeological evaluations will be required for any proposals related to or impacting on a heritage asset and/or possible archaeological site.

Proposals which affect the significance of a non-designated heritage asset should be properly considered, weighing the direct and indirect impacts upon the asset and its setting. There will be a presumption in favour of retaining heritage assets wherever practical, including archaeological remains in situ, unless it can be demonstrated that the harm will be outweighed by the benefits of the development. Heritage statements and/or archaeological evaluations may be required to assess the significance of any heritage assets and the impact on these by the development proposal.

The council will:

- a. Support development proposals that do not cause harm to, or which better reveal the significance of heritage assets
- b. Require development proposals that would cause substantial harm to, or loss of a designated heritage asset and its significance, including its setting, to provide a thorough heritage assessment

setting out a clear and convincing justification as to why that harm is considered acceptable on the basis of public benefits that outweigh that harm or the four circumstances in paragraph 133 of the NPPF all apply. Where that justification cannot be demonstrated proposals will not be supported, and

c. Require development proposals that cause less than substantial harm to a designated heritage asset to weigh the level of harm against the public benefits that may be gained by the proposal, including securing its optimum viable use.

Development affecting a heritage asset should achieve a high quality design in accordance with the Aylesbury Vale Design SPD and the council will encourage modern, innovative design which respects and complements the heritage context in terms of scale, massing, design, detailing and use.

2.23 In terms of Designated Heritage Assets the Environmental Statement provided for the application site confirmed that there are no Scheduled Monuments (SMs) or Listed Buildings within the site. The Quarrendon SM (HE: 1013416) is located from c.80m to the south-east of the site.

3 TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

Geology

- 3.1 The proposal site is situated on solid geology of Kimmeridge Clay Formation - Mudstone. Sedimentary bedrock formed between 157.3 and 152.1 million years ago during the Jurassic period overlaid by River Terrace Deposits, 1 - Sand and gravel. Sedimentary superficial deposit formed between 2.588 million years ago and the present during the Quaternary period (BGS online 2023).

Topography

- 3.2 The site is a small a part of the wider 'Quarrendon Leas' which comprises fields, riverside meadows and footpaths (OA 2021). The River Thames passes to the south.
- 3.3 The northern extent of the site is at c.72.99 m AOD, with level falling gently to the south at 72.86 central northern, 72.45 central southern and 72.26 south-east.
- 3.4 The site is a greenfield situated to the east edge of Martin Dalby Way and to the west of the Berryfields Skate Park. It is located c.2km north-west of the town centre. Modern housing estates surround the area on its eastern side.
- 3.5 The area is circled by footpaths/cycleways. The ground has a gentle slope to the west and south where a ditch is channelling the overflow surface water from the pond located outside the north side of the site (Blackwood Architects 2023). Oxford Archaeology (2021) further note that:

"Quarrendon Leas is mainly an area of low-lying ground at 70-75m above OD along the northern bank of the River Thames. The far eastern part of Quarrendon Leas occupies higher ground at 80-90m above OD, comprising the north-west flank of a ridgeline forming part of Weedon Hill. This may explain the incorporation of the generic element of dun in the place name, meaning 'hill' (Everson 2001, 3). The River Thames flows in an east-to-west direction immediately to the south of the area. An unnamed tributary stream runs in a north-to-south direction through the central part of the site, between the site of the country house and gardens and Quarrendon II. The tributary consists of two parallel watercourses, the larger one forming the stream course, the other a field drain."

4 ARCHAEOLOGY BACKGROUND

4.1 The periods discussed in this section are as follows;

Prehistoric

Palaeolithic	900,000 to 10,000 BC
Late Glacial/Mesolithic	10,000 to 4,000 BC
Neolithic/Early Bronze Age	4,000 to 1,600 BC
Middle to Late Bronze Age	1,600 to 800 BC
Iron Age/Roman Transition	800 to AD 43

Historic

Roman	AD 43 to 410
Saxon	AD 410 to 1066
Medieval	AD 1066 to mid-C16th
Post-Medieval	circa AD 1550 to present

4.2 Plots of Buckinghamshire HER data with respect to Monuments, Events and Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC) for a 750m radius study area around the site are provided as Figures 2a, 2b and 2c respectively. A table containing a summary of the Buckinghamshire HER is provided as Appendix 1 which should be referred to for HERs not stated in the following text.

4.3 The site lies within the western edge of a locally designated Archaeological Notification Areas (DBC9396) relating to 'Earthwork complex of Medieval deserted village, church and manor and Tudor mansion and gardens' associated with the associated Scheduled Monuments of Quarrendon I (HER 0660400000) and Quarrendon II (HER 0056000000) (see Fig. 2a and below). Quarrendon II is located from only c.80m to the south-east of the site and Quarrendon I from c.400m to the east.

Recent Archaeological archaeological work in the area

4.4 As shown by Figure 2b, a large amount of archaeological work has been undertaken within the study area. Much of this has been by Oxford Archaeology between 2007 and 2016 for the recently constructed Berryfields Major Development Area residential development. Their associated publication monograph entitled 'Berryfields Iron Age settlement and a Roman bridge, field system and settlement along Akeman Street near Fleet Marston, Buckinghamshire' was completed in 2019 (Biddulph et al., 2019). The project was largely to the west and north-west of the present site and uncounted early Neolithic activity, with significant middle Iron Age phases of settlement, along with farmland around the Fleet Marston Roman nucleated settlement located on the axial Roman road of Akeman Street (ibid).

4.5 The evaluation work within the plot to the immediate west of the site comprised:

- EBC16155 – 2002 Trial trenching via 81 trenches (accession code AYBCM 2002.33) in the plot to the west of the site (locating Roman features);

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- EBC17820 – a 1999 geophysical survey at Berryfields Quarrendon undertaken by GSB Prospection (areas A-E) to the west of and including the site area; and
 - EBC18107 – 2016 trenching via 10 trenches.

- 4.6 Large areas of geophysical survey was also conducted to the south and north of the site in 1999 (EBC15819 & EBC15818 respectively). Fieldwalking was also undertaken in 1999 in the survey area to the north (EBC15817). HERs EBC15819 and EBC15818 also relate to wide area of 1999 geophysical survey in the north-western and western areas of the study area, whilst EBC15816 relates to fieldwalking undertaken in the western area of the study area in 1998/9.
- 4.7 EBC15875 relates to second phase of evaluation trenching to the south of the A41 in 1997 (118 trenches).
- 4.8 A watching brief on test pit was undertaken to the west of the site at Quarrendon Leas in 2009 (EBC17259).
- 4.9 Further extensive evidence of late Iron Age/early Romano-British occupation was found to the north at Quarrendon Fields (Stratascan 2009; Albion Archaeology 2010). Another geophysical survey was undertaken at the DMV site to the east of the site in 2006 (EBC17468).
- 4.10 The closest and more recent project element undertaken as part of the wider Berryfields project was the ‘Berryfields Park Linking Paths Project Archaeological walkover survey’ (OA 2021). The background for that report is cross referenced below.
- 4.11 Quarrendon Leas contains the extensive and well-preserved remains of the medieval settlements of Quarrendon I and Quarrendon II, the medieval parish church, and the site and gardens of a 16th- and 17th century country house (OA 2021).
- 4.12 In terms of Designated Heritage Assets the 2021 Oxford Archaeology report notes that:
- “Broadly, Quarrendon I lies within a large field at the eastern end of the site called Aylesbury Hill, Quarrendon II lies within a field at the western end of the site called Village Field, with the site of the parish church and the post-medieval country house and gardens situated between the two. The archaeological remains are protected as a scheduled monument (HE: 1013416...). Historically, the medieval settlement remains were thought to have belonged to a single, large village. Archaeological investigation, however, has shown that they comprised two distinct groups of farmsteads based around irregular greens forming part of a dispersed settlement pattern rather than a single, nucleated deserted medieval village, as hitherto presumed (Everson 2001).”
- 4.13 The scheduled monument, which includes its setting, therefore comprises a deserted medieval settlement along with the site of a post medieval country house (HE: 1013416). The monument is well studied via aerial photographs, which also chart modern alterations (Everson 2001, 7). A RCHME earthwork survey was undertaken in 1989 and 1990 and demonstrated there were two
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settlement foci (i.e. 'Quarrendon I' and 'Quarrendon II') instead of one single village, with a loose cluster of farms around a green. A later medieval farmstead or capital messuage also appears to have been ancestral to the later, 16th-17th century country house. (Everson 2001, 1-3).

- 4.14 In 1993 archaeological recording was required following unauthorised disturbance of the Quarrendon II earthworks and identified 10th to 11th century pottery (Everson 2001, 6, 21, Fig. 13; EBC15815 on Fig. 2b).
- 4.15 In 2009 a watching brief was carried out during the construction of the footpath across the scheduled monument in Village Field (Quarrendon II). The new cycle path was built on the site of an existing farm track and only to a depth of c.200mm. No deposits predating the 19th century were encountered (Northamptonshire Archaeology 2009).
- 4.16 Other work nearby to the west as plotted by the HER include EBC18243, which is for 2018 carved stone found at Quarrendon Chapel. EBC17258 – Historic Building Recording at St Peters Church, Quarrendon Leas.

Prehistoric

- 4.17 There are no Palaeolithic finds recorded for the study area on the HER.
- 4.18 Mesolithic hunter-foragers were operating within a largely forested inland environment and consequently their camps are usually found in coastal areas, and where within inland areas, by rivers and streams (such as the River Thames), used both for communication and resources. Despite the river's proximity there are no definite Mesolithic finds reported on the HER.
- 4.19 Neolithic flintwork is widely scattered in the area based on the Berryfields project (Bidduloph et al 2019) which identified a several features containing Mesolithic to early Neolithic finds, including one pit containing hazelnut shell radiocarbon dated to 3800-3650 cal BC (95.4% certainty). The Her however, currently shows no Neolithic finds from the study area.
- 4.20 The Berryfields excavations (ibid) to the west also identified elements of one and possibly two middle Bronze Age burial mounds, although identifications were based on ditches rather than in-situ burials. Other middle Bronze Age features were located in low density in parts of the north-east and north-west zones at Berryfields. In addition an 80m long late Bronze Age/ early Iron Age east/west orientated pit alignment of 11 pits was also identified, along with a waterhole broadly dated to c.1100-50BC. Two phases of middle to late Iron Age roundhouses were located in the north-west part of the site and were associated with an enclosure. That linked to a later east-west boundary of middle/late Iron Age through to Roman date (in final use or abandonment). This was on the same alignment of the earlier pit alignment. In addition a late Iron Age/early Roman trackway was also recorded.

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- 4.21 As noted above Late Iron Age to early Romano-British agricultural field system and possible settlement (including enclosures) were identified by fieldwalking, geophysical surveys and trial trenching for the Quarrenden Fields site AZ3 in 2009 (0710600000 - MBC3277; EBC17422).
- 4.22 The HER also includes Iron Age finds including an iron spearhead (based on a Bronze Age form) found on the base of the river itself c.650m to the south of the site (HER 0025800001 - MBC832).

Romano-British

- 4.23 Part of the small Roman town of Fleet Marston associated with Akeman Street Roman road north-west of the presumed ford over the River Thames, is located from the southern edge of the study area and beyond (HER 0065600000 - MBC2226). A number of surveys have taken place in the town area. The HER includes metal detecting in that area adjacent to Akeman Street associated with the town and/or a fort including 58 later Roman coins and other finds (0065601000 - MBC2) whilst a metal detecting survey at Billings Field (0065602000 - MBC2166) also produced numerous coins broaches and other finds including a military buckles (0065602000 - MBC2166; 0065603000 - MBC2144; 0622200000). Other Roman finds have been made in this area (see Appendix 1).
- 4.24 The Planning Notification area for Church Farm Quarrendon for 'Earthwork complex of Medieval deserted village, church and manor and Tudor mansion and gardens (DBC9396) at the western edge of the stud area also refers to Weedon Hill Roman settlement (0040700000 - MBC1; 0055600000 - MBC1; 0055900000 - MBC1).
- 4.25 The Berryfields project (ibid) included a section of Akeman Street and the flanking fields and trackways of the early Roman field system from c.300m to the south-west of the study site (0660400000 - MBC2216). The north-west/south-east aligned road itself was defined by a series of surfaces and a sequence of flanking ditches though the southern area of the Berryfields project well south of the present site.
- 4.26 Roman finds within the close proximity of the site on the HER include five late Roman coins found to the east (MBC41036; MBC41037; MBC41035; MBC41057; MBC41056); further late Roman coins from only c.30m to the north side of the site (MBC40944; MBC40946; MBC40945) and to the west (MBC31107) and a dolphin brooch of 1st century date from just to the north of the site (MBC39887).
- 4.27 Roman finds were also made during metal-detecting at Quarrendon House Farm to the south-west of the site (0589702000).

Anglo-Saxon and Medieval

- 4.28 Quarrendon was of possible importance in the Anglo-Saxon period given reference to a 7th-century royal estate centre (although this may alternatively have been as Aylesbury) (OA 2021) and it was postulated that the later King of Northumberland, St Osyth, was born here at that time (Everson 2001,

9-11). OA (ibid) noted that pottery of Saxon date has been recovered from Quarrendon with a Saxon brooch from close to Fleet Marston (ibid; Biddulph et al. 2019, 19). The 1993 recording at Quarrendon also identified 10th to 11th-century pottery (Everson 2001, 6, 21, Fig. 13).

4.29 The ruined church of St Peter, Quarrendon, is of 12th century origin but probably replaced a late Saxon church or chapel associated with the minster church at Aylesbury (Everson 2001, 16).

4.30 At Domesday the manor was comprised 10 hides of land under the ownership of the king and held by Geoffrey de Mandeville (Everson 2001, 11). Oxford Archaeology 2021 state:

“In 1276 the lord of the manor, John Fitzjohn of Whaddon, was licensed by the Crown to enclose part of the manor which lay within the forest bounds. The site of the park is unknown (Everson 2001, 11). Between the late 1300s and 1499 the manor formed part of the earldom of Warwick. In 1499 the manor was leased to Richard Lee, a grazier with holdings across the Midlands. The Lee family had leased land in the township since the 1430s. In 1476 Benedict Lee left a substantial residential property at Quarrendon. In the 1500s and early 1600s Quarrendon served as the main residence of the Lee family, with members of the family being buried in the parish church. The house was less favoured by the family after c 1610, and by the late 1600s part of the house had been pulled down with the house ceasing to be a major residence after that time (Everson 2001, 11-16).

The village suffered from depopulation from the early 14th century onwards, reflected in the dwindling numbers of households listed in tax returns. By 1563 there were only four families recorded in the parish. The main driver of the parish's depopulation was not plague, but the conversion of arable land to pasture for the grazing of sheep and the engrossing activities of the Lee family through the mid to late 15th century, which intensified in the 16th century. By 1636 Quarrendon was described as 'a hamlet anciently enclosed and depopulated' (Everson 2001, 17).”

4.31 The Quarrendon Scheduled Monument is discussed above (HE: 1013416).

4.32 The only find from the site itself, at the south-west edge, comprises a 15th to 16th century copper alloy jetton found reported to the Portable Antiquities Scheme in 2020 (MBC41115).

4.33 Metal detecting finds from areas just to the east and north-east of the site include a 14th century or later buckle (MBC41768) a 12th – 14th century scabbard (MBC41112), mounts (MBC41103; MBC40949), coins (MBC41053; MBC40956; MBC40955) a Medieval or Post Medieval copper alloy vessel (MBC40947) a silver annular brooch from just to the west of the site (MBC39895) and buckle to the west (MBC41020).

Post-Medieval

4.34 The remains of the estate's later medieval and post-medieval country house were located between the medieval settlements to the east of the site and include the medieval parish church. A garden to the south of the parish church consisted of raised terraces surrounded by canals and linear ponds

and was previously thought to be a Civil War earthwork. Oxford Archaeology provide the following additional information:

“By the 1500s the settlement at Quarrendon I had been abandoned and the field formed parkland associated with the country house. The park became the site of a large rabbit warren represented today by pillow mounds and their associated drainage ditches. These elongated closes lay on the top of the higher ground overlooking the site and the western facing slope along the border with Paddock Field (Everson 2001, 32-35).

....In the early modern period, the parish and the Vale of Aylesbury was predominantly a pastoral landscape, with an economy geared toward livestock farming, especially fattening of beef cattle. The modern parish was thinly populated in the 19th and 20th centuries, and was characterised by a pattern of dispersed farmsteads (Everson 2001, 5). The Quarrendon II site is characterised by the presence of a number of ditched closes and other features which probably relate to post-medieval livestock farming (Everson 2001, 21-22). Indeed, Ordnance Survey maps show that in the 19th and 20th centuries an open, similar to one lying within the main water garden complex (see Everson 2001, 36-37), lay next to the site of the existing flood alleviation pond.”

- 4.35 The 1813 Ordnance Survey Drawing Map shows the ancient road network with the site area as field-scape to the west side of the river with Fleet Martson and Berry field labelled to the west and Quarrington labelled to the south east. The 1848 tithe map provides the first accurate depiction. The appointment includes that the landowner of the site area was James Du Pre Esq. and the occupant (farmer) was Richard Simons.
- 4.36 Post Medieval finds from the close vicinity of the site (from metal detecting) include a Post Medieval mount (MBC31795) jettons (MBC40939; MBC40942; MBC40941; MBC40940), a dress fastener (MBC41050); dress hook (MBC41049), button (MBC40948), buckle (MBC41104 – possibly of Medieval date), a token (MBC40935), coins (MBC41052; MBC40953; MBC40954; MBC41034; MBC41483; MBC41484; MBC41482; MBC41054; MBC40952).

5 ARCHEAOLOGICAL RESEARCH QUESTIONS, AIMS & OBJECTIVES

Objectives

- 5.1 As set out in the BCAS generic brief (Appendix 2). The work will be undertaken in line with the Solent-Thames Research Framework for the Historic Environment Resource Assessments and Research Agendas (Hey and Hind, 2014). The Solent-Thames region, as recently defined by central government, comprises five counties from north to south: Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Berkshire, Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, providing a N-S transect across Central Southern England.
- 5.2 With reference to the above document should archaeology be identified during the watching brief the findings, as appropriate will consider the following research objectives:
- Is there evidence for Neolithic to early Bronze Age utilisation of this landscape and if so how does it relate to the sporadic remains of the period elsewhere in the Vale of Aylesbury;
 - What is the nature of the middle to late Bronze Age remains encountered by the wider Berryfields project?
 - How do these middle-late Bronze Age remains relate to, other evidence for prehistoric occupation in the Vale of Aylesbury and is there evidence for co-axial field-systems of the type identified by Yates (2007)?
 - What is the nature of Iron Age remains at the site and do they represent a continuation of settlement from the late Bronze Age or a new episode of colonisation of the mainly clay dominated Vale at this time?
 - What is the nature of Romano-British land use and how to the findings relate to discoveries made during the wider Berryfields archaeological investigations?;
 - Is there any evidence for early Anglo-Saxon settlement or land-use?
 - Is there any indication of Medieval finds or features relating to the hinterland of associated with the scheduled Quarrendon II occupation?
 - To identify the presence/absence of archaeological remains the site and whether areas of settlement, industry or ritual activity are represented;
 - To understand the extent, character, form, function, date and significance of any archaeological activities present; and
 - To allow the extent of archaeological mitigation to offset development impacts to be identified archaeology.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL STRATEGY

- 6.1 This WSI has been prepared for agreement with Buckinghamshire Council Archaeology Service (the advisors to the LPA).
- 6.2 The overriding archaeological strategy for the watching brief is to monitor the removal of topsoil by the Main Contractor, with the aim of ensuring the depth does not penetrate the subsoil and to recover any residual artefacts from the subsoil. In the event that archaeology is exposed the features, structures and/or deposits will be archaeologically recorded prior to further ground reduction or construction work in the relevant area.

7 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

Generic

- 7.1 All watching brief work will be conducted in accordance with the BCAS generic brief for archaeological watching brief provided as Appendix 2.).
- 7.2 All work will be undertaken to Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standards and Guidance for:
- Archaeological Watching Brief
- 7.3 In accepting a contract to undertake the works, the nominated contractor will take responsibility for the standards and levels of recording and reporting plus the preparation of Health and Safety documentation.
- 7.4 The archaeologists will follow the Code of Conduct of the Institute for Archaeologists.
- 7.5 Any relevant service plans will be provided by the developer prior to the works.
- 7.6 All relevant health and safety legislation will be adhered to. A Health & Safety Risk Assessment will be prepared for archaeological works. Risk Assessments will be prepared by the archaeological contractor.
- 7.7 The site strip area will be CAT scanned by the Main Contractor prior to ground reduction. If Service runs are identified during the CAT scan they will be treated as “live” services”. Avoidance of the gas main through the site will be managed by the Main Contractor, in addition to several surface water drains (see Appendix 3).
- 7.8 If services are encountered during the digging of any trenches they will be treated as “live” and will be avoided.
- 7.9 The BMX track will be excavated under supervision of the monitoring archaeologist to the upper level of the subsoil, or above.
- 7.10 Mechanical excavation shall avoid damage to archaeological remains and be limited to removal of “overburden” unless set out otherwise in this design. The mechanical excavator/s will operate under archaeological supervision at all time. “Overburden” will be removed under direction of the nominated person in charge of fieldwork or delegated archaeologists. Mechanical excavators shall not track over an area once excavated to the upper subsoil horizon (or above) until terram or equivalent has been laid and protective layers are built up (with plant operating on the higher level at all times).

In event of archaeological findings

- 7.11 Complex areas (areas of intercutting features, surviving layers, where features are complex in form or where surface finds may plotted) will be planned by hand, usually at a scale 1:20. These plans will located via total station, scanned, vectorised and imported via the archaeological contractor’s CAD

programme on the OS grid-based plan (in this instance the contractor will use the project's topographical survey as a base). Less complex areas of the site (where features are absent or rare and of simple form) will be planned using a total station with the data input directly onto CAD and the OS tiles. There will be no site grid on the ground. All site plans will show OS grid points and spot levels and will be fully indexed and related to adjacent plans. It is not anticipated that single context recording will be appropriate. However, should particularly complex sequences of deposits or features be encountered, then single context recording will be undertaken. A uniform site plan will be produced showing all site features.

- 7.12 The OD height of all principal strata and features will be calculated and indicated on the appropriate plans and sections. Each TBM will be levelled as part of a closed loop starting and finishing on either approved OSBMs or the schemes established secondary control. Where more than one TBM is required per site, the TBMs will be established as part of the same closed loop.
- 7.13 Archaeological features and deposits will be sampled by hand. This will normally entail up to 20% of linear features and 50% of discrete features. Slots across linear features will be at least 1m in width.
- 7.14 Organic ditch or pit fills will be sampled for environmental information.
- 7.15 Any identified structures will be excavated at excavation stage and the precise methodology for their investigation will be pre-agreed with BCAS following exposure and cleaning in plan. All structural post-holes will normally be half-sectioned whilst gullies and beam slots will be sampled excavated to a percentage to be agreed with BCAS (but including terminals and at least once segment of the rear of ring-gullies as a minimum).
- 7.16 All trenches, features and deposits will be photographed using a digital camera. A scale and north arrow will be included in the photographs. Digital images will also be provided for use.
- 7.17 Contractors will be expected to liaise with the archive repository over their photographic requirements before fieldwork starts. A full photographic record of the investigations will be prepared illustrating in both detail and general context the principal features and finds discovered. The photographic record will also include 'working shots' to illustrate more generally the nature of the archaeological investigation. The transparencies will be mounted in suitable frames for long-term curation in preparation for deposition with the archive.
- 7.18 Upon completion of each evaluation trench at least one long section (or representative part) will be drawn including a profile of the top of the natural deposits (extrapolated from cut features etc., if the trench has not been fully excavated). Other sections, including the half-sections of individual layers or features will be drawn as appropriate to 1:10 or 1:20.
- 7.19 A 'site location plan' indicating the site north and based on the current Ordnance Survey 1:1250 map will be prepared. This will be supplemented by a trench plan at 1:200 (or 1:100), which will show the location of the areas investigated in relation to the investigation area and National Grid Reference.

All sections should be located on plan with OS co-ordinates. The location of the OS bench marks used and the site TBM will also be indicated.

- 7.20 All finds will be bagged and labelled with their relevant context number for washing and processing.
- 7.21 The spoil heaps from the evaluation trenches will be scanned for metal artefacts using a metal detector. A list of finds recovered by this technique will be included in the report.
- 7.22 A 'Harris Matrix' stratification diagram will be used to record stratigraphic relationships. This record will be compiled and fully checked during the course of the evaluation. Spot dating should be incorporated where applicable during the course of the works.

Finds

- 7.23 All relevant finds will be retained, washed and where appropriate will be marked with the site code and context number (unless contamination evidence to the contrary is provided).

Environmental Sampling

- 7.24 Environmental sampling strategies will be developed subject to the requirements of the evaluation work and future mitigation strategies and the issues of potential contamination. If contamination is not an issue, specialist staff will have a role in ensuring that appropriate deposits are sampled to retrieve palaeo-environmental and economic indicators to fulfil the project aims. Preparation, taking, processing and assessment of environmental samples will be in accordance with guidance provided by Historic England.
- 7.25 The sampling strategy and methodology will be based on the following (subject to H&S considerations):
- All collected samples will be labelled with context and sequential sample numbers;
 - Appropriate contexts will be bulk sampled for the recovery of carbonised plant remains and insects. Assemblages of charred crop remains are of particular importance and will be used to provide data in addition to the associated weed flora on agricultural activities, the economy of the site and its relationship to the river valley;
 - If occupation surfaces are encountered, spatially controlled collection of environmental bulk samples may be taken to aid evaluation procedures. Spatial co-ordinates will be recorded for all samples, and the sampling grid related to the site grid and Ordnance Survey grid. Assessment of spatial information should be undertaken to enable the degree of resolution to be defined following appropriate consultation;
 - Environmental samples will be taken where organic remains survive in well-stratified, datable deposits. Bulk samples (40 litres or the whole context dependent upon size) will be taken for wet sieving and flotation where there is clear indication of good analytical potential

and dating evidence for such material (subject to evaluation requirements). Where there is potential for spatial variation in the distribution of such remains, the sampling strategy will include a percentage sample of each feature/deposit type, distributed throughout the excavation area, sufficient to ensure that such variation is detected;

- Bulk samples may be taken, if appropriate, from significant datable waterlogged deposits for insects and macroscopic plant remains;
- Sub-samples or monolith samples of waterlogged deposits and sealed buried soils with potential for pollen preservation will be taken for assessment if appropriate and columns of such samples will be taken through deposits where there is clear potential for recovering a datable sequence of environmental information;
- Recovery of small animal bones, bird bone and large molluscs will normally be achieved through processing other bulk samples or 30 litre samples may be taken specifically to sample particularly rich deposits;
- Undisturbed kubiena tin or column samples of sediments will be taken for micro-morphology of buried soils where these are likely to shed light on the environmental development of the area;
- Where suitable deposit sequences are encountered (normally waterlogged deposits with high palaeo-environmental potential, in association with archaeological material), purposive radiocarbon sampling will be carried out at an appropriate interval;
- If samples are taken, a pilot study will be undertaken as an initial stage of environmental processing. This will enable an assessment of which groups of samples are likely to be most productive for complete processing and further study.

7.26 Refer also to Appendix 2.

Treatment of Finds and Samples

7.27 Different sampling strategies may be employed according to the perceived importance of the deposit or feature under investigation and future mitigation strategies. Close attention will be given to sampling for date, structure and environment. Sample size should take into account the frequency with which material is likely to occur. Bulk sieving should be considered for recovery of environmental evidence to ensure that complete samples of artefactual evidence are collected for significant deposits.

7.28 The strategy for sampling archaeological and environmental deposits and structures (which can include soils, timbers, pollen, diatoms, animal bone and human burials) would be developed in consultation with the Scientific Advisor for the LPA.

7.29 All finds will be treated in a proper manner and to standards agreed in advance with the recipient museum. They will be exposed, lifted, cleaned, conserved, marked, bagged and boxed in accordance with best professional practice.

7.30 See also Appendix 2.

Human Remains (evaluation)

7.31 Human remains will normally only be excavated at mitigation stage after obtaining the relevant Ministry of Justice Licence, as required by the Burials Act of 1857 (amended 1981). Human remains will be 100% excavated.

Treasure Act or Potential Treasure

7.32 All finds of gold and silver will be recorded, removed to a safe place and reported to the Coroner in accordance with the Treasure Act 1996, updated by The Treasure (Designation) Order 2002. Where retrieval cannot be effected the same day, appropriate security measures will be put in place to safeguard the finds.

Finds and Environmental Specialists

7.33 Appropriate specialist staff will be used on this project depending on the type of artefacts and soil samples recovered during the course of the fieldwork. The nominated contractor will provide details of specialists on request. Refer also to Appendix 2.

Health & Safety

7.34 The nominated contractor will provide a Risk Assessment method Statement (RAMS) for the project prior to the commencement of the works. This will be submitted to the clients Principal Designer for their approval.

7.35 All the latest Health and Safety guidelines will be followed on site.

7.36 No personnel will work in deep or unsupported excavations. The sides of all excavations or trenches deeper than 1.2 metres or less if the ground is considered by a competent person to be unstable will be stepped or battered. Due to the difficulty of working in shored trenches, shoring will be avoided wherever possible. Safety helmets will worn by personnel in deep trenches or other potentially unsafe positions. All deep trenches shall be fenced off and will be clearly indicated by “deep excavation” signs.

7.37 The archaeologist(s) will not enter an area under machine excavation without alerting the machine driver to his/her intention and will wait in a safe location until the machine driver has acknowledged their presence with a thumbs up.

-
- 7.38 The archaeologist(s) shall remain alert and take due care not to impede the progress of moving machinery. He/she shall stand well back from the turning circle of an excavator' buckets and cabs.
- 7.39 Suitable accommodation and welfare will be provided by the Main Contractor for staff to shelter from inclement weather and during breaks. Hand washing facilities and welfare will be provided.
- 7.40 All staff and visitors to the site will be expected to wear full PPE at all times.
- 7.41 Any archaeological work undertaken during a Main Contract will be under the H&S auspices of a Principal Contractor and Main Contractor operating under CDM Regulations. As such the archaeology RAMS will be amended for PC/MC agreement to ensure appropriate (fenced) segregation of archaeological works from the Main Contractor works and that safe access routes are provided for the archaeological contractors.

Welfare Facilities

- 7.42 Welfare facilities will be provided by the Main Contractor for the watching brief.

8 LIAISON/MONITORING AND OUTREACH

- 8.1 All stages of archaeological work will be monitored by RPS on behalf of Taylor Wimpey UK, Martin Grant Homes and Tilia Homes Eastern.
- 8.2 The BCAS Archaeological Adviser to the LPA or her representative will be responsible for monitoring progress and standards throughout the project on behalf of the Local Planning Authority.
- 8.3 Monitoring meetings will be arranged by RPS.
- 8.4 In accordance with the BCAS standard brief for watching brief (Appendix 2) if archaeological findings of interest arise (which is not anticipated in this instance due to the shallow strip), attempts should be made to seek opportunities to disseminate the results of the watching brief to the wider public. This could be in the form of open days, social media or press releases.

9 POST FIELDWORK METHODOLOGY

9.1 The BCAS Brief (Appendix 2) states:

“For most watching briefs / small-scale investigations it will be sufficient to complete an illustrated final report for the HER, publish a summary note and deposit the archive (see below).

For projects which have produced results of significant county, regional or national importance, archaeological contractors will need to submit:

- an illustrated interim report
- a post-excavation assessment
- an updated project design

These need to be submitted and approved by the Council Archaeology Service within 6 months of the completion of fieldwork.

Post-excavation analysis and report preparation should proceed in accordance with the agreed updated project design unless subsequent variations are agreed by the Council Archaeology Service.”

9.2 Where important finds are made an assessment report, containing an Updated Project Design, will be produced within 12 months of completion of the fieldwork dependent on the quantity of material and data produced. This will comprise an integrated and illustrated site narrative and specialist assessment reports that will outline the requirements for the final publication of the project. A detailed timetable and format summary for the final publication will be included in the assessment report.

9.3 A draft copy of the assessment report will be issued to RPS and BCAS for comment prior to the issue of the final version.

9.4 Expert advice and reporting (in relation to cultural artefacts and ecofacts) will be provided by individual Specialists as appropriate.

9.5 The final publication of any significant findings would be likely to be within the nominated contractors’ in-house monograph collection.

9.6 The BCAS brief (Appendix 2) also includes specific requirements for publications as follows:

“For all projects, a summary report (including illustrations where appropriate) should be sent to the editors of South Midlands Archaeology and Records of Buckinghamshire not later than three months after the end of the calendar year in which the work is undertaken. In this case publication of above and below ground archaeology should be integrated.

For projects which have produced results of significant county, regional or national importance, an illustrated final report which meets the guidelines set out in MAP2 Appendix 7 and is suitable for publication in an approved archaeological journal (normally Records of Buckinghamshire) should be provided to the Council Archaeology Service within one year of the completion of fieldwork (unless a longer time period has been agreed in the updated project design). The overall content of the report should be agreed with the Council Archaeology Service. The report should be clearly referenced in all respects to all work on the site, evaluation, excavation, watching briefs, building recording, background research including aerial photography etc, in order that a coherent picture may be presented. It should place the site in its local archaeological, historical and topographical context and include a clear location map. Each plan included should clearly relate to some other included plan of an appropriate scale and should normally include national grid references.

One bound copy of the final publication and a digital copy, in pdf format, must be supplied to the County Historic Environment Record. A further offprint should accompany the archive. A copy of any specialist papers relating to the site should also be supplied to the Council Archaeology Service.

A publication grant should be provided to the publishers of the report in accordance with their requirements.”

10 COPYRIGHT

- 10.1 It is normal practice for both the copyright and ownership of the paper and any digital archive resulting from an archaeological project to rest with the originating body (the nominated archaeological contractor). The originating body will deposit the archive in a museum or other appropriate repository on the completion of the project, and normally transfers title and/or licences for use of the archive at this stage.

11 PROGRAMME

11.1 The watching brief timing is yet to be fully determined but is likely to take place in autumn 2023.

12 ARCHIVE DEPOSITION

- 12.1 The site archive will be organised by the nominated contractor to be deposited with the appropriate local museum (in due course). the nominated contractor will ensure that they conform to their standards.
- 12.2 Account must also be taken of the requirements of the place of deposition regarding the conservation, ordering, organisation, labelling, marking and storage of excavated material and the archive accession number.
- 12.3 Prior to the deposition of the artefacts with the Museum the following procedures will have been completed:
- Notification of the fieldwork and approximate quantity of finds will be given to the museum ahead of the fieldwork by the nominated contractor. A 'notification form' will be supplied with the relevant details of the project at this stage;
 - Where possible the site code/accession number and context number shall be marked on all finds;
 - All finds packaging, including boxes and bags will be clearly marked with the assigned accession number;
 - Transfer of ownership from will be agreed in principle prior to the fieldwork and a written transfer of ownership form will be forwarded to the museum ahead of deposition. Any other finds remain the landowners to assess and dispose of;
 - The archive will be deposited complete and will include a full index of contents; and
 - Discard or non retention of certain artefacts of low academic value will be in accordance with SMA (1993, revised 1997).
- 12.4 Further guidelines and requirements of the museum for the acceptance of finds and archive as outlined in the Museum's procedures for the deposit of archaeological archives will be adhered to.
- 12.5 A project's archive comprises every record relating to that project, from written records and illustrative material to the retained artefacts.
- 12.6 Digital archives must be prepared according to local requirements.

- 12.7 The archaeology contractor project manager will ensure that every element of the archive is kept clean and secure, and that it is stored in a suitable environment.
- 12.8 The archive comprising written, drawn, photographic and electronic media, will be fully catalogued, indexed, cross referenced and checked for archival consistency.
- 12.9 A copy of the archive (on microfiche) should be deposited with the NMR and HER, as appropriate.
- 12.10 RPS will be responsible for monitoring progress and standards throughout the project, and will be kept regularly informed during fieldwork, post-excavation and publication stages by the archaeological contractor.
- 12.11 An OASIS form will be completed on completion.

13 CONCLUSIONS

13.1 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for watching brief has been prepared by RPS and will be adhered to by the (to be) nominated contractor. The WSI forms the basis of all archaeological fieldwork and post-excavation practice for the purposes of this project.

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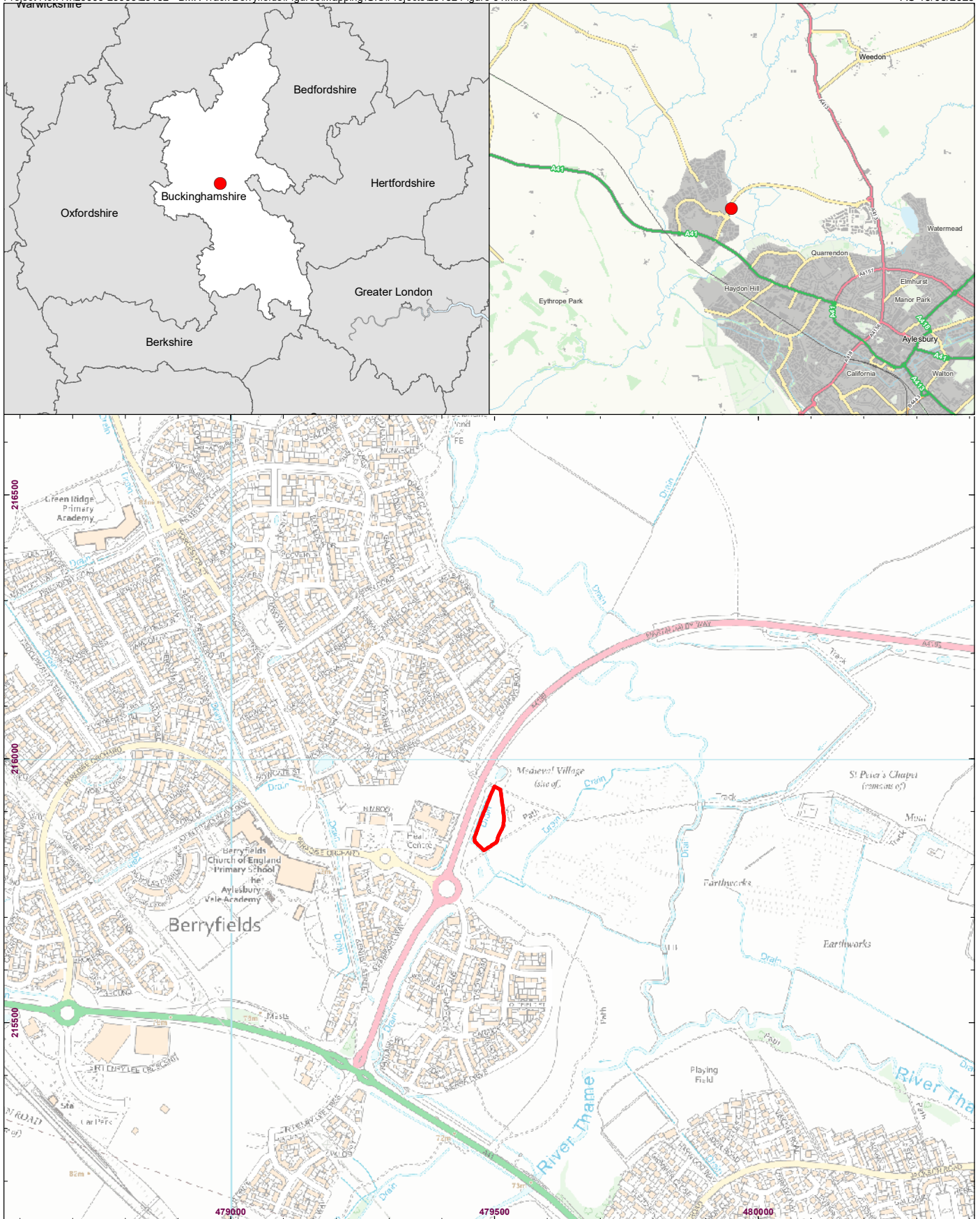
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FIGURES



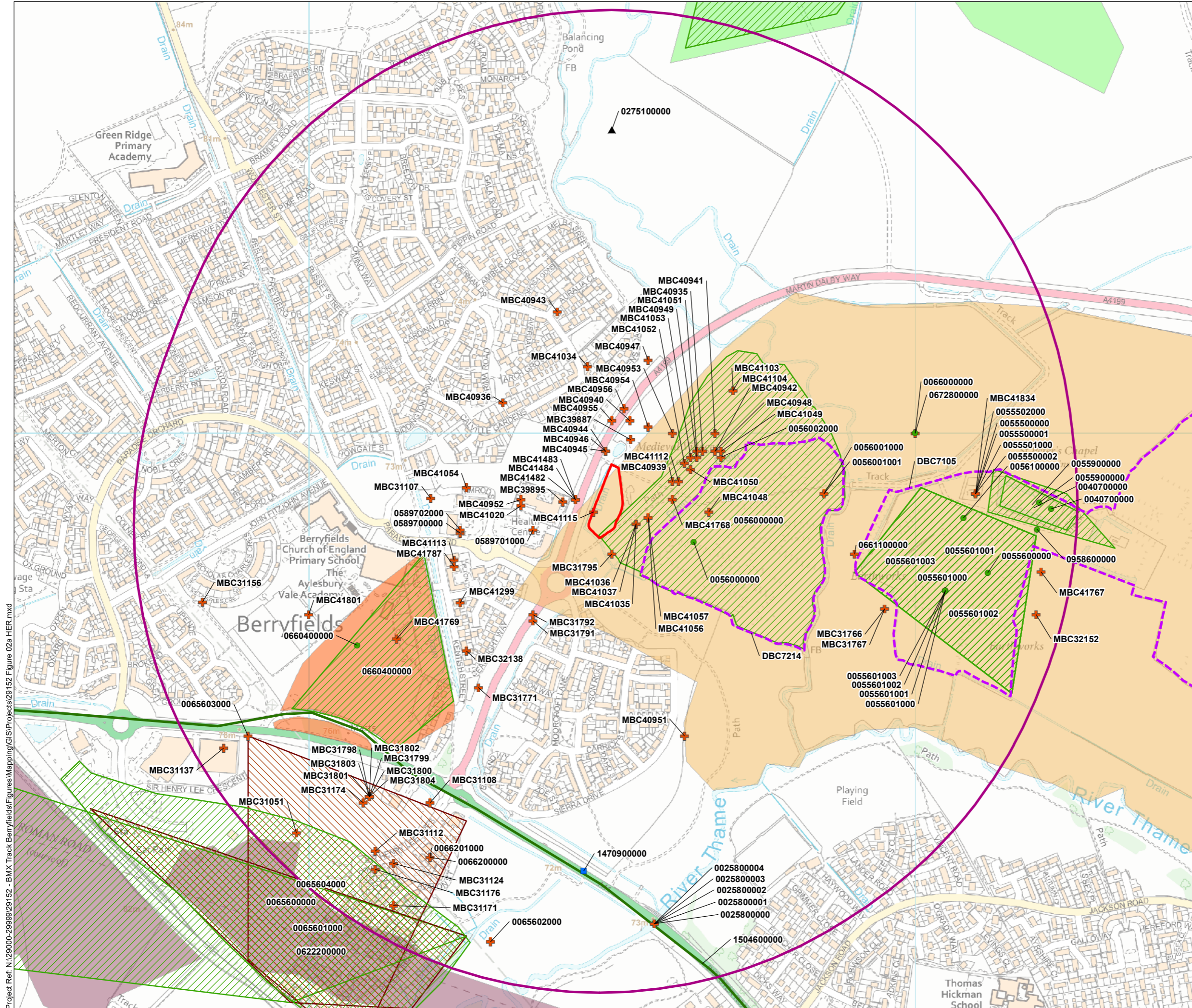
 Site Boundary



0 100 200m
Scale at A4: 1:10,000



Figure 1
Site Location



Legend

- Site Boundary
- 750 m Search Radius from SB

Designated Heritage Assets:

- Scheduled Monuments

Non-designated Heritage Assets:

HER Data (points)

- Monument
- + Find Spot
- Building
- ▲ Place

HER Data (polygons)

- Monument
- Find Spot

HER Data (lines)

- Monument

Archaeological Notification Areas

- DBC9396 - Earthwork complex of Medieval deserted village, church and manor and Tudor mansion and gardens
- DBC9978 - Late Iron Age to early Roman farmstead and field system found by geophysical survey and trial trenching
- DBC9403 - Roman roadside settlement found by geophysical survey, fieldwalking and trial trenching
- DBC9410 - Roman small town at Fleet Marston

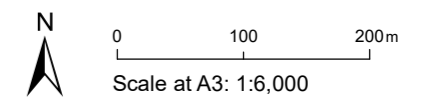
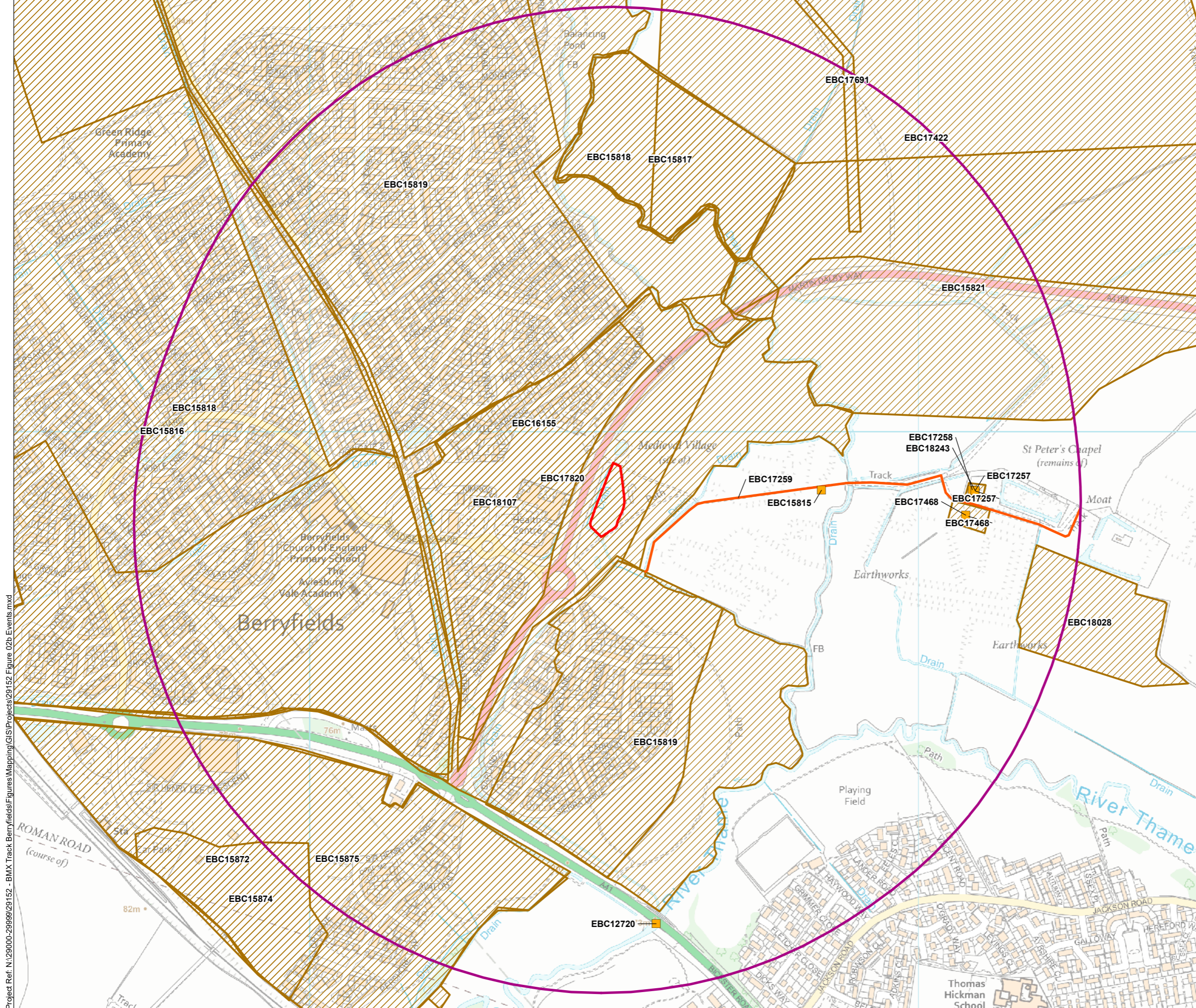


Figure 2a

HER Plot - Designated and Non-designated Heritage Assets (data from Buckinghamshire HER 2023)



Legend

- Site Boundary
- 750 m Search Radius from SB

Previous Archaeological Work:

- HER Events (points)
- HER Events (polygons)
- HER Events (lines)

N

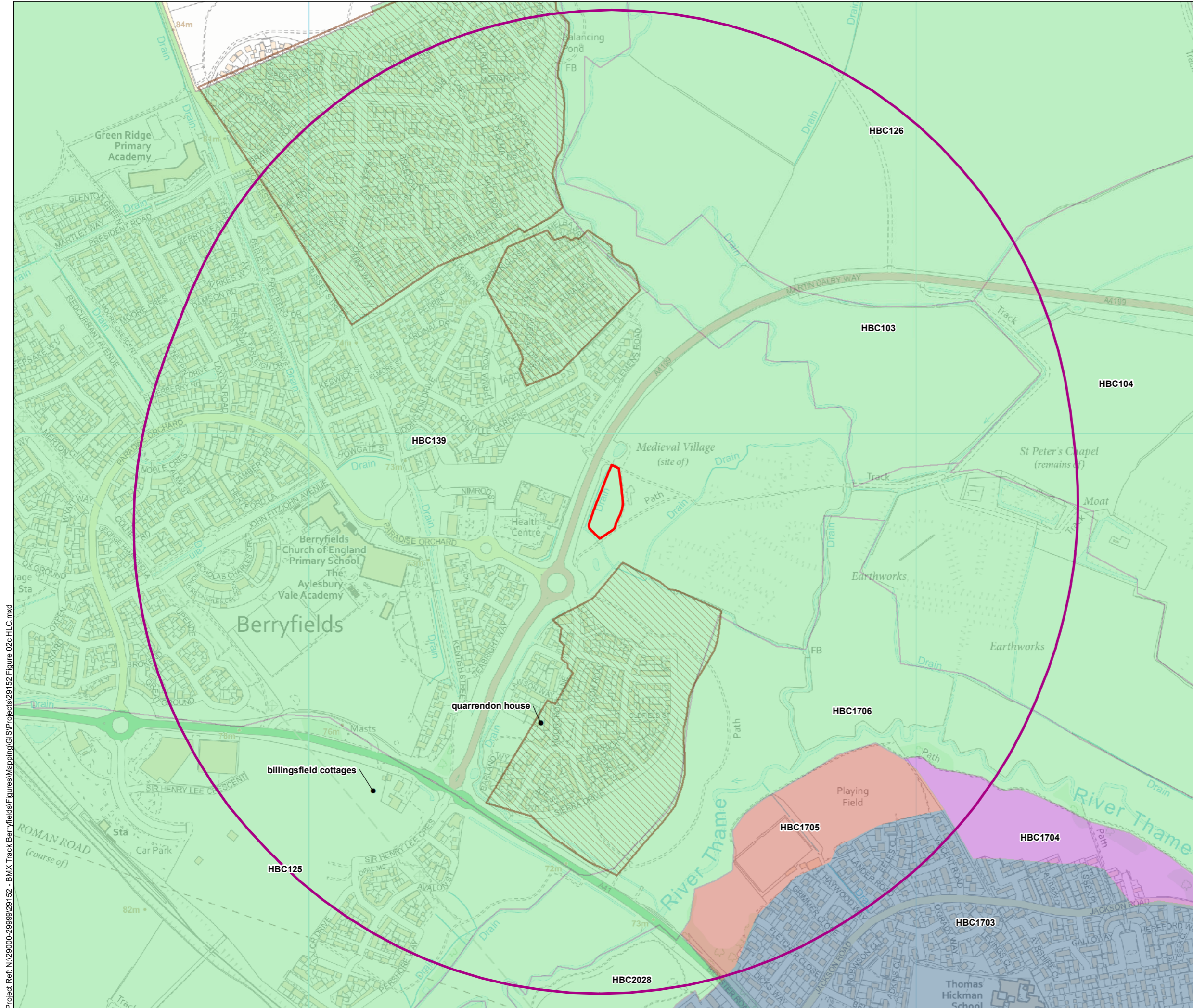
0 100 200m

Scale at A3: 1:6,000



Figure 2b
 Previous Archaeological Work
 (data from Buckinghamshire HER
 2023)

Project Ref: N:\29000-29999\29152 - BMX Track Berryfields\Figures\Mapping\GIS\Projects\29152 Figure 02b Events.mxd



Legend

- Site Boundary
- 750 m Search Radius from SB
- Historic Landscape Characterisation:**
- Enclosure
- Land Use
- Recreation
- Settlement
- Ridge and furrow (1995)
- Historic field names

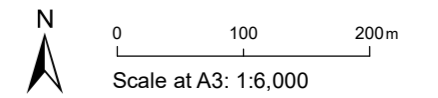


Figure 2c
 Historic Landscape Characterisation
 (data from Buckinghamshire HER 2023)

Appendix 1

HER Gazetteer

29152 HER gazetteer

HER Data

PrefRef	Name	Summary	Monument Type	Period
25800000	STONE BRIDGE, BICESTER ROAD	Sixteenth century record of bridge being used as town boundary	BRIDGE	16th Century
25800001	STONE BRIDGE, BICESTER ROAD	Early Iron Age metalwork found in bed of River Thame.	FINDSPOT	Unknown
25800002	STONE BRIDGE, BICESTER ROAD	Early Saxon metalwork found in the bed of the River Thame.	FINDSPOT	Unknown
25800003	STONE BRIDGE, BICESTER ROAD	Viking metalwork found in bed of the River Thame.	FINDSPOT	Unknown
25800004	STONE BRIDGE, BICESTER ROAD	Undated horseshoe found in the bed of the River Thame.	FINDSPOT	Unknown
40700000	CHURCH FARM, QUARRENDON	Medieval moat recorded in field surveys and surviving as earthworks.	MOAT	Medieval
55500000	ST PETER'S CHAPEL, QUARRENDON	Remains of Medieval chapel of St Peter at Quarrendon, now ruined, recorded by topographic and historic building surveys.	CHAPEL	12th Century to 16th Century
55500001	ST PETER'S CHAPEL	Medieval and post-medieval Lee family tombs recorded in photographs and illustrations	TOMB	Medieval to Post-Medieval
55500002	ST PETER'S CHAPEL	Medieval metalwork found in metal-detecting survey	FINDSPOT	Unknown
55501000	ST PETER'S CHAPEL, QUARRENDON	Historical records of now ruined medieval chapel, may date even earlier	CHAPEL	12th Century to 16th Century
55502000	ST PETER'S CHAPEL	Historical record of endowment of chantry chapel in the fourteenth century	CHANTRY CHAPEL	14th Century

55600000	QUARRENDON MANOR	Historical records of medieval to post-medieval manor of Quarrendon.	MANOR	Medieval to Post-Medieval
55601000	QUARRENDON, S OF CHURCH RUIN	Originally thought to be site of sixteenth century great house, but now believed to be part of formal garden after field survey	GREAT HOUSE	16th Century
55601001	QUARRENDON, S OF CHURCH RUIN	Possible sixteenth century enclosure bounding site of medieval manor house, now thought to be at a different location	ENCLOSURE; RECTANGULAR ENCLOSURE; BANK (EARTHWORK); DITCHED ENCLOSURE	16th Century
55601002	QUARRENDON, S OF CHURCH RUIN	Sixteenth century formal water garden recorded in field survey and aerial photographs	FORMAL GARDEN; WATER GARDEN	16th Century
55601003	QUARRENDON, S OF CHURCH RUIN	Earthworks thought originally to have been used as Civil War battery, reinterpreted as sixteenth century formal water garden following detailed field survey.	BATTERY?	Civil War
55900000	C.100M E OF CHAPEL RUINS	Series of medieval to post-medieval fishponds recorded in field survey and seen on aerial photographs	FISHPOND	Medieval to Post-Medieval
56000000	QUARRENDON II	Medieval hollow-ways, house platforms and enclosure earthworks recorded in field surveys and on aerial photographs, some salvage recording and metal-detecting finds.	DESERTED SETTLEMENT	Medieval

56001001	QUARRENDON II	Medieval pottery, animal bone and bone toggle recorded during salvage excavation.	FINDSPOT	Unknown
56002000	Quarrendon II	Medieval to sixteenth century pottery and undated metalwork found in metal-detecting survey	FINDSPOT	Unknown
56100000	S of St Peter's church	Site of possible sixteenth century hospital/almshouse known from historical sources and field survey	HOSPITAL; ALMSHOUSE	16th Century
65600000	BILLINGS FIELD, QUARRENDON	Roman small town extending along Akeman Street at Fleet Marston	SETTLEMENT	Roman
65601000	BILLINGS FIELD, QUARRENDON	Roman metalwork found along line of Akeman Street in metal-detecting survey	FINDSPOT	Unknown
65602000	BILLINGS FIELD, QUARRENDON	Roman metalwork found in metal-detecting survey	FINDSPOT	Unknown
65603000	BILLINGSFIELD, QUARRENDON	Metal-detecting survey area	ARTEFACT SCATTER	Roman
65604000	BILLINGSFIELD, QUARRENDON	Metal-detecting survey area	ARTEFACT SCATTER	Unknown
66000000	PARISH	Late Roman metalwork found on surface	FINDSPOT	Unknown
66200000	GAS MAIN TRENCH	Roman metalwork found in trench of gas pipeline	FINDSPOT	Unknown
66201000	GAS MAIN TRENCH	Roman pottery found in trench for gas pipeline	FINDSPOT	Unknown
261000000	AYLESBURY	General background information for Aylesbury parish.	NON ANTIQUITY	Unknown
275100000	QUARRENDON PARISH	General background information on Quarrendon parish.	NON ANTIQUITY	Unknown
589700000	BERRYFIELD,QUARRENDON	Roman metalwork found in metal-detecting survey	FINDSPOT	Unknown
589701000	BERRYFIELD,QUARRENDON	Possibly Saxon metalwork found in metal-detecting survey	FINDSPOT	Unknown

589702000	QUARRENDON HOUSE FARM	Thirteenth century metalwork found by metal-detector	FINDSPOT	Unknown
622200000	PUTLOWES, FLEET MARSTON	Scatters of Roman artefacts suggest presence of a fort, town or other settlement	TOWN?; FORT?; SETTLEMENT	Roman
660400000	Berryfields	Roman roadside settlement recorded in geophysical survey and fielwalking and confirmed by trial trenching.	LINEAR FEATURE; PIT; SETTLEMENT; TRACKWAY; DITCHED ENCLOSURE; BEAM SLOT; TIMBER FRAMED BUILDING?	Roman
661100000	Between Quarrendon DMV	Undated metalwork found in metal-detecting survey	FINDSPOT	Unknown
672800000	Quarrendon	Unlocated site of a possible seventh century Saxon 'palace' at Quarrendon suggested from historical sources	ROYAL PALACE?	7th Century
710600000	Quarrenden Fields site AZ3	Late Iron Age to early Romano-British agricultural field syatem and possible settlement identified by fieldwalking, geophysical surveys and trial trenching.	SETTLEMENT?; FIELD SYSTEM; FARMSTEAD?	Late Iron Age to 2nd Century
958600000	QUARRENDON VILLAGE	Medieval settlement of Quarrendon, recorded in Domesday Book	VILL; SETTLEMENT	11th Century to Medieval
1470900000	Milepost on A41	18th or 19th Century milepost or milestone on A41 north of Stone Bridge in Quarrendon may be missing	MILEPOST	18th Century to 19th Century

1504600000	Turnpike road between Tring and Bicester	The Sparrows Herne Turnpike Trust was set up in 1762, administering the road between Bushey Heath and Aylesbury, with the road from Aylesbury to Bicester added in 1770.	TOLL ROAD	18th Century to 19th Century
MBC31051	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	5th Century Saxon to 11th Century
MBC31107	Quarrendon	Roman coin found during metal-detecting rally	FINDSPOT	Unknown
MBC31108	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	4th Century
MBC31112	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	3rd Century
MBC31124	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	11th Century to 16th Century
MBC31137	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	14th Century to 16th Century
MBC31156	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	1st Century Roman
MBC31171	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	12th Century to 13th Century
MBC31174	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	4th Century to 5th Century Roman
MBC31176	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	3rd Century
MBC31766	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	18th Century to Modern
MBC31767	Fleet Marston (known as)		FINDSPOT	1st Century Roman to 5th Century Saxon

MBC31771	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	1st Century Roman to 2nd Century
MBC31791	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	16th Century to 17th Century
MBC31792	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	14th Century to 16th Century
MBC31795	Quarrendon	Post-medieval mount found whilst metal-detecting.	FINDSPOT	Unknown
MBC31798			FINDSPOT	4th Century
MBC31799			FINDSPOT	4th Century
MBC31800			FINDSPOT	3rd Century to 5th Century Roman
MBC31801			FINDSPOT	4th Century
MBC31802			FINDSPOT	4th Century
MBC31803			FINDSPOT	4th Century
MBC31804			FINDSPOT	4th Century
MBC32138	Quarrendon	Roman coin found whilst metal-detecting	FINDSPOT	Unknown
MBC32152	Quarrendon	Undated metal object found whilst metal-detecting	FINDSPOT	Unknown
MBC39887	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	1st Century Roman
MBC39895	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	13th Century to 15th Century
MBC40935	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	17th Century to Unknown
MBC40936	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	17th Century to Civil War
MBC40939	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	16th Century

MBC40940	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	16th Century to 17th Century
MBC40941	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	16th Century to 17th Century
MBC40942	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	16th Century to 17th Century
MBC40943	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	13th Century
MBC40944	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	4th Century
MBC40945	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	4th Century
MBC40946	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	4th Century
MBC40947	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	15th Century to 17th Century
MBC40948	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	17th Century to 19th Century
MBC40949	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	14th Century to 15th Century
MBC40951	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	14th Century to 17th Century
MBC40952	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	Civil War
MBC40953	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	16th Century
MBC40954	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	16th Century to Unknown
MBC40955	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	15th Century
MBC40956	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	13th Century
MBC41020	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	12th Century to 14th Century

MBC41034	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	17th Century to Civil War
MBC41035	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	4th Century
MBC41036	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	4th Century
MBC41037	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	4th Century
MBC41048	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	13th Century to 15th Century
MBC41049	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	16th Century to 17th Century
MBC41050	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	17th Century to 18th Century
MBC41051	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	16th Century
MBC41052	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	17th Century to Civil War
MBC41053	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	15th Century
MBC41054	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	16th Century
MBC41056	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	4th Century
MBC41057	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	3rd Century
MBC41103	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	12th Century to 15th Century
MBC41104	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	14th Century to 18th Century
MBC41112	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	12th Century to 14th Century
MBC41113	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	13th Century to 15th Century

MBC41115	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	15th Century to 16th Century
MBC41299			FINDSPOT	1st Century Roman
MBC41482	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	17th Century
MBC41483	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	17th Century to Unknown
MBC41484	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	17th Century to Unknown
MBC41767	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	13th Century to 15th Century
MBC41768	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	14th Century to 17th Century
MBC41769	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	14th Century to 15th Century
MBC41787	Hammonds field (known as)		FINDSPOT	14th Century
MBC41801	Quarrendon (known as)		FINDSPOT	1st Century Roman
MBC41834			FINDSPOT	13th Century to 14th Century

HER Events

EvUID	Name	Location	Organisati
EBC12720	River find	River Thames at Stone Bridge, Bicester Road	
EBC15815	Salvage recording at Quarrendon DMV	Quarrendon west DMV	Buckinghamshire County Museum

EBC15816	Fieldwalking	Berryfields MDA, Quarrendon	Foundations Archaeology
EBC15817	Fieldwalking	Berryfields MDA, Quarrendon	Foundations Archaeology
EBC15818	Geophysical survey	Berryfields II, Quarrendon	GSB Prospection
EBC15819	Geophysical survey	Berryfields II, Quarrendon	GSB Prospection
EBC15821	Geophysics Quarrendon western link road	Berryfields Quarrendon	GSB Prospection
EBC15872	Fieldwalking	Billingsfield, Bicester Road, Quarrendon	A C Archaeology
EBC15874	Evaluation trial trenching	Billingsfield, Bicester Road, Quarrendon	A C Archaeology
EBC15875	Evaluation trial trenching	Billingsfield, Bicester Road, Quarrendon	A C Archaeology
EBC16155	Evaluation trial trenching	Berryfields MDA, Quarrendon	Oxford Archaeology
EBC17257	Topographic survey	St Peter's Church, Quarrendon	Jacobs
EBC17258	Historic building recording	St Peter's Church, Quarrendon	Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society
EBC17259	Test pitting and watching brief	Quarrendon Leas, Aylesbury	Northamptonshire Archaeology
EBC17422	Archaeological investigations at Quarrendon Fields (Berryfield East)	Quarrendon Fields (Berryfields East)	Albion Archaeology
EBC17468	Resistivity Survey	Quarrendon DMV	Chess Valley Archaeological & Historical Society
EBC17691	Strip, Map and Sample (SMS) Excavation, Preservation in-situ or selected areas and Watching brief	Quarrendon Wind Farm, Buckinghamshire	Headland Archaeology Ltd
EBC17820	Geophysical survey	Berryfields Farm, Quarrendon	GSB Prospection

EBC18028	Fieldwalking survey at Quarrendon	Quarrendon	Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society
EBC18107	Aylesbury Berryfields MDA further trenching, 2016	Berryfields, Aylesbury	Oxford Archaeology
EBC18243	Onsite investigation	Quarrendon	John Moore Heritage Services

Scheduled Monuments

DesigUID	Name	NationalRe
DBC7105	DESERTED VILLAGES AND CIVIL WAR EARTHWORK	1013416
DBC7214	DESERTED VILLAGES AND CIVIL WAR EARTHWORK	1013416

Archaeological Notification Areas

DesigUID	Name	Notes
DBC9396	Earthwork complex of Medieval deserted village, church and manor and Tudor mansion and gardens	Captured in GIS 1994. Earthworks. High importance. Scheduled Monument 1013416. Area 99.35ha.
DBC9403	Roman roadside settlement found by geophysical survey, fieldwalking and trial trenching	High importance. Area 5.48ha.
DBC9410	Roman small town at Fleet Marston	High importance. Area 63.61ha.
DBC9978	Late Iron Age to early Roman farmstead and field system found by geophysical survey and trial trenching	Area 12.36ha.

Appendix 2

BCAS Generic brief for an archaeological watching brief or small-scale investigation last updated July 2023

Generic brief for an archaeological watching brief or small-scale investigation

Last updated: 1 July 2023

1. Summary

This is a generic brief for use on small to medium scale archaeological watching briefs / investigations required as a condition of planning permission.

These are normally requested where groundworks being undertaken as part of a development have the potential to impact on archaeological remains.

This intervention requires that a suitably qualified archaeologist be present to record any significant archaeological deposits encountered during works.

This brief sets out the standard requirements for the archaeological contractor who will undertake this work. It can be used to obtain quotes from archaeological contractors (they will also need details of the development) and will inform the preparation of a project design (Written Scheme of Investigation), which must be agreed by the Council Archaeology Service before commencing development.

Watching briefs or small-scale investigations will normally include:

- the production of the Written Scheme of Investigation
- provision for the archaeologist to observe or supervise specific site works (normally the main groundworks)
- the production of a final report
- a contingency to cover the recording of any archaeological features that may be encountered and any subsequent post fieldwork analysis that may be required

For advice on commissioning archaeological work please see '[Advice on commissioning archaeological work in Buckinghamshire](#)'.

2. Definition

The definition of an Archaeological Watching Brief is

"a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land ...or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed. The programme will result in the preparation of a report and ordered archive." (ClfA, 2014)

3. Requirement for a watching brief or investigation

Paragraph 194 of the National Planning Policy Framework (2021) states that where the loss of the whole or a material part of a heritage asset's significance is justified, local planning authorities should require the developer to record and advance understanding of the significance of the heritage asset before it is lost, in a manner proportionate to its significance and the impact. The evidence gathered should be made publicly accessible, a report lodged in the Historic Environment Record and the archive deposited with a local museum – all of which should be completed in a timely manner

Requirements for watching briefs or small-scale investigations are normally secured by means of a "negative condition" and must be specified in a "written scheme of investigation" which has been agreed in writing by the Council Archaeology Service and approved by the local planning authority prior to commencing fieldwork. Archaeological planning conditions will not be complied with until all fieldwork and post-excavation work has been completed, the archive has been deposited and publication secured.

4. Project objectives

The project design (Written Scheme of Investigation) should identify the specific objectives with reference to the advice set out by the Council Archaeology Service to the Local Planning Authority and following the consultation of the County Historic Environment Record by the contracting unit.

Copies of the Council Archaeology Service advice letters are now routinely posted on the council websites.

5. Project design - 'written scheme of investigation'

Archaeological watching briefs or small-scale investigations must be undertaken in accordance with the Standard and Guidance for archaeological watching briefs published by the Institute for Archaeologists (ClfA, 2014).

The project must be governed by a project design which has been agreed in writing by the Council Archaeology Service (Written Scheme of Investigation or WSI). The WSI must be contractor specific. Whilst we will accept WSIs from consultants to inform the scope, the final document must be produced by the appointed contractor.

The WSI or project design should be based on a thorough study of all relevant background information (especially assessment and evaluation reports, historic maps and data held or referenced in the HER). Please note that online platforms such as Buckinghamshire's Heritage Portal and MAGIC are not licenced for commercial work.

It should conform to the requirements set out in paragraph 3.2.12 of the ClfA guidelines and should in particular include:

- an archaeological background, utilising an up to date Historic Environment Record search. This data must be obtained direct from the Buckinghamshire HER team, and is licenced for a specified time to a specific organisation. Data which is not covered by the licencing terms and conditions must not be used.
- the project's objectives
- the location of the area to be monitored
- procedures for project management (to follow the principles set out in Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) (Historic England 2015))
- the expertise of the project team. The project manager should ideally be a named Member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (MCIfA) who is adequately qualified to manage the required archaeological work in line with the guidance set out in the ClfA code of conduct or can demonstrate an equivalent level of competence. The composition and experience of the project team should be described. Specialists should be identified where required (for example for building survey). In some cases it will also be necessary to identify academic advisors. CVs should be supplied outlining the relevant qualifications and experience of key personnel - where relevant this should include specific reference to knowledge of particular periods and local/ regional traditions. Note: Specialists should be able to demonstrate a relevant qualification and track record of at least 3 years continuous relevant work (or equivalent) and appropriate publication. In appropriate circumstances, less experienced staff may conduct work under the supervision of well-established and widely recognised specialists
- an outline of the proposed timetable and staff resources. Whilst this can in general be non-binding and presented "for information only", a final confirmed maximum timeframe of 18 months of the completion of the field work should be included, unless a revised completion date is agreed in writing with BCAS.
- reporting arrangements - see Section 7
- archiving arrangements - see Section 11

6. Fieldwork methodology

Procedure

Subject to site constraints, and the nature of the groundworks being undertaken, it would normally be expected that groundworks would be undertaken using an appropriate machine fitted with a toothless bucket and working under archaeological supervision

Watching briefs / small-scale investigations require that the archaeologist(s) are present on site during works in the following circumstances: comprehensive/detailed (present during all works which may affect archaeological remains); intensive (present during specified sensitive works); intermittent (viewing immediately after each specified phase of works). The level of attendance by the archaeologist should be 'as appropriate'.

The most common form of watching brief / small-scale investigation is comprehensive, for example the erection of a house or extension within the historic core of a village or town. An intensive watching brief / small-scale investigation may

be appropriate where a specific area of a pipeline has been identified as of interest. For developments which are likely to involve small scale works over a drawn out period an intermittent watching brief / small-scale investigation may be appropriate (for example this approach may be appropriate to monitor underpinning work). It is expected that developer and archaeological contractor will establish a clear mutual understanding of the nature of the groundworks and the potential archaeological interest in them to achieve 'best value' in the targeting of required works.

During each phase of fieldwork the presence/absence of archaeological features should be noted. If features are identified then sufficient work should be done to date, characterise and record the remains in accordance with the project objectives.

If an "unexpected discovery" is made then the Council Archaeology Service and the developer should be informed as soon as possible. Initially consideration should be given to preservation in-situ but if this is not practical then such discoveries may give rise to a full-scale excavation funded from a contingency fund, detailed in the WSI

Recording

Recording standards should be the same as for formal excavations but the particular practical difficulties and constraints of watching brief recording are acknowledged. Features should be recorded in plan at an appropriate scale and accurately located in relation to the National Grid. Each context should be recorded on pro-forma records which should include the following minimum details: character; contextual relationships; detailed description (dimensions and shape; soil components, colour, texture and consistency); associated finds; interpretation and phasing as well as cross-references to the drawn, photographic and finds registers. Normally each context should be recorded on an individual record. Sections should be drawn through all significant cut features and levelled to ordnance datum.

A digital photographic record should be maintained including photos of all significant features and overall photos of each watching brief area. Selected black and white and colour transparencies should also be taken.

Artefact and Ecofact collection and recording

All stratified finds should be collected by context or, where appropriate, individually recorded in 3 dimensions. Unstratified finds should only be collected where they contribute significantly to the project objectives or are of particular intrinsic interest. Finds of "treasure" must be reported to the Coroner in accordance with the Treasure Act procedures.

Collection policies for structural remains and industrial residues have been set out by the Society of Museum Archaeologists (SMA, 1993). The presence of such materials within a context should always be recorded and, where they are considered to be of importance, the recording should aim to quantify their occurrence, even where comprehensive retention is not considered appropriate.

Provision should be made within the contingency for: conservation (lifting and treatment) of fragile objects and the collection and analysis of environmental and scientific (including dating) samples. Sampling is to be carried out in accordance with a strategy which is related to the project objectives and has been agreed with English Heritage's Regional Adviser in Archaeological Science. If fragile items of particular significance are discovered, a conservation management plan will be produced by the contractor at the earliest opportunity in consultation with the curator, museum team and any external specialists. Regular updates on the preservation of the item will be given to the Council Archaeology Service.

In the event of discovery of any human remains the archaeological contractor should inform the client, the Council Archaeology Service, and the Ministry of Justice via the submission of an application form for the 'Archaeological/Accidental/Site Investigation Licence regarding the disturbance of human remains'. The Human remains should be left in-situ, covered and protected. Where a licence for their excavation is issued by the Ministry of Justice, the requirements of that licence must be followed. The only exception is where excavations are being undertaken in a churchyard under a faculty issued by the Chancellor of Oxford Diocese (in such cases the faculty requirements should be followed). In certain situations special arrangements may be required for the recovery of samples for DNA analysis. Human remains should be treated in accordance with ClfA guidelines (ClfA, 2004) and the advice set out in Guidance for best practice for treatment of human remains excavated from Christian burial grounds in England (English Heritage, 2005).

Metal-detecting

In some instances it may be appropriate to arrange for stripped surfaces to be subject to a metal detecting scan, such arrangements should be set out in the Project Design (Written Scheme of Investigation).

Whenever private individuals or subcontractors are engaged to undertake metal detecting as part of an archaeological fieldwork project they should be asked to sign a formal agreement in which the right to claim Treasure is waived. Please refer to the third revision of the Treasure Act Code of Practice (2023, Section D, paragraphs 13-16). A suggested clause is:-

"In the process of working on the archaeological/ excavation at [location of site] between the dates of [insert dates], [name of person contributing to the project] has been working under the direction or permission of [name of archaeological organisation or responsible individual archaeologist] and hereby waives all rights to rewards for objects discovered that could be otherwise payable under the Treasure Act 1996."

Contracts should ensure that investigations are covered by a written agreement with the owner & occupier regarding rewards which may be payable.

Contingency fund

Contingency arrangements must be specified in the project design and should take account of the nature of possible "unexpected discoveries" and the likely impact of the development upon them.

Arrangements should include the demarcation of the area for excavation, the period of temporary cessation of development works within this area and the resources (expressed in person-days, specialist input etc.) available to undertake the excavation.

7. Post-excavation methodology

For most watching briefs / small-scale investigations it will be sufficient to complete an illustrated final report for the HER, publish a summary note and deposit the archive (see below).

For projects which have produced results of significant county, regional or national importance, archaeological contractors will need to submit:

- an illustrated interim report
- a post-excavation assessment
- an updated project design

These need to be submitted and approved by the Council Archaeology Service within 6 months of the completion of fieldwork.

Post-excavation analysis and report preparation should proceed in accordance with the agreed updated project design unless subsequent variations are agreed by the Council Archaeology Service.

8. Publication

For all projects, a summary report (including illustrations where appropriate) should be sent to the editors of South Midlands Archaeology and Records of Buckinghamshire not later than three months after the end of the calendar year in which the work is undertaken. In this case publication of above and below ground archaeology should be integrated.

For projects which have produced results of significant county, regional or national importance, an illustrated final report which meets the guidelines set out in MAP2 Appendix 7 and is suitable for publication in an approved archaeological journal (normally Records of Buckinghamshire) should be provided to the Council Archaeology Service within one year of the completion of fieldwork (unless a longer time period has been agreed in the updated project design). The overall content of the report should be agreed with the Council Archaeology Service. The report should be clearly referenced in all respects to all work on the site, evaluation, excavation, watching briefs, building recording, background research including aerial photography etc, in order that a coherent picture may be presented. It should place the site in its local archaeological, historical and topographical context and include a

clear location map. Each plan included should clearly relate to some other included plan of an appropriate scale and should normally include national grid references.

One bound copy of the final publication and a digital copy, in pdf format, must be supplied to the County Historic Environment Record. A further offprint should accompany the archive. A copy of any specialist papers relating to the site should also be supplied to the Council Archaeology Service.

A publication grant should be provided to the publishers of the report in accordance with their requirements

9. Oasis

Once the final report has been accepted by the Council Archaeology Service, it is highly recommended that contractors should complete an OASIS fieldwork summary form and submit it to the Archaeology Data Service.

Visit the Oasis website to access the [form and guidance for its completion](#).

10. Archiving

Archiving requirements within Buckinghamshire are dependant on the results of an investigation. The following guide is for reference only, please discuss final deposition requirements with BCAS and the Discover Bucks Museum.

- Totally negative/sterile sites (no archaeological features, deposits or artefacts) – report uploaded to OASIS
- Artefactual negative sites but with archaeological features/deposits – case by case, but in general this will be limited to the digital archive being deposited with ADS
- Archaeological site with artefactual evidence – physical archive to be deposited with the Discover Bucks Museum, digital with ADS

The WSI should include a reference to the contractor's Selection Strategy, however there should be no final decision on retention until the fieldwork is complete. The final selection criteria should be agreed in writing between the contractor, BCAS and the Discover Bucks Museum prior to the submission of the archive.

The archaeological contractor should endeavour to ensure that the site archive (including any artefacts recovered) are deposited in an acceptable condition with a museum which is registered with the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council and approved for the storage of archaeological archives. The digital archive should be deposited with an accredited digital Core Trust Seal digital repository. The contractor should be aware that there will be costs associated with archiving, and ensure funds are available for the final deposition of the archaeological archives.

The preferred repository for the physical archive in Buckinghamshire is the Discover Bucks Museum, who should be contacted for an accession number at the earliest opportunity. The procedures and requirements which must be followed for the

deposit of archaeological archives with Buckinghamshire County Museum are documented in the Museum's Procedures for Notifying and Transferring Archaeological Archives (BCM, 2013), available from the Curator (address below). A storage grant should be provided to the museum in accordance with their requirements.

Digital Archives should be deposited with a Core Trust Seal accredited organisation, The preferred repository for the digital archive in Buckinghamshire is the Archaeology Data Service. The guidelines for depositing with the ADS can be found on their website. The archaeological contractor should provide details of their Digital Management Plan within the report.

The archaeological contractor should agree Transfer of Ownership with the legal landowner at the earliest opportunity. In the event of the legal owner(s) resolving to retain all or part of the site archive, it is necessary that the archaeological contractor make them aware that they shall be responsible for the future preservation and maintenance of any material element of that archive. The part of the site archive in question shall be transferred to the legal owner only after the following stages have been completed and:

- all necessary processing, research, analysis and investigation
- a full inventory of all elements of the archive to be returned to the landowner, complete with photographs
- all necessary stabilising, conservation and packing necessary to prepare the archive for preservation and in a usable, accessible form
- the provision of a final approved report for submission to the HER and/or publication
- the owner has demonstrated that all necessary provision is made for the long-term preservation of the archive in a satisfactory environment, and that it is accessible for future research

The final archaeological archive should be deposited within 24 months of completion of fieldwork, unless otherwise agreed with the Council Archaeology Service.

11. Monitoring

Monitoring is carried out by the Council Archaeology Service, normally acting on behalf of the local planning authority, to ensure that projects are being carried out in accordance with the brief and approved project design, to enable the need for modifications to the project to be independently considered and validated and to control and validate the use of available contingencies.

A programme of monitoring should be agreed with the Council Archaeology Service prior to the commencement of fieldwork, and in general at least two weeks notice should be provided. The archaeological contractor should keep the Council Archaeology Service regularly informed of the project's progress and facilitate the monitoring of the project at each stage, including post-excavation. In particular, there should be no substantial modification of the approved brief and project design

without the prior consent of the Council Archaeology Service and no fieldwork should be carried out without the service's knowledge and approval.

Monitoring visits will normally be documented by the Council Archaeology Service and the archaeological contractor will be informed of any perceived deficiencies. The Council Archaeology Service has a charging policy in place for site monitoring visits.

The Council Archaeology Service should be informed at the earliest opportunity of any unexpected discoveries, especially where there may be a need to vary the project design. The archaeological contractor should carry out such reasonable contingency works as requested by the Council Archaeology Service within the resources defined in the project design.

In the event that the Council Archaeology Service considers that the approved project design is not being complied with without reasonable justification then action will be taken in accordance with [Buckinghamshire Council's archaeological enforcement policy](#).

12. Outreach and Public Benefit

BCAS expect all WSIs to include a commitment to outreach, and for all contractors and consultants to aim to share the findings of their work wherever possible.

Some suggested approaches are outlined below;

- a site Open Day
- a targeted invite to a local archaeology society for a site tour or talk to a local group or museum. Society details can be found in the Contacts Section;
- a visit to a local primary school to share findings as part of the KS2 National Curriculum offerings on history National Curriculum - History key stages 1 to 2 (publishing.service.gov.uk)
- a blog post for our council archaeology blog post Heritage and Archaeology | Buckinghamshire Council
- social media updates
- a leaflet drop to nearby residents with a summary overview of what you are doing, why, and a brief description of what's been found to date
- Participation in a wider event, such as the Festival of Archaeology or Bucks Open Weekend Festival of Archaeology Council for British Archaeology (archaeologyuk.org) Bucks Open Weekend - Visit Buckinghamshire
- Short term loan of appropriate items to the Discover Bucks Museum to tie in with any press releases

13. Health and safety

Health and Safety must take priority over archaeological requirements and will be an issue on this site. It is essential that all projects are carried out in accordance with safe working practices and under a defined Health and Safety Policy.

Risk Assessments must be carried out for every field project. If the risk assessment indicates it is necessary, the requirements of the brief can be varied in the interests of health and safety (the Council Archaeology Service must be consulted and the proposed changes agreed in such cases). The Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 1994 (CDM) will apply to archaeological work undertaken on many construction (and demolition) projects.

14. Bibliography

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6. English Heritage, 2010. Waterlogged wood. Guidelines on the Recording, Sampling, Conservation and Curation of Waterlogged Wood (third edition).
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8. Slowikowski, A, Nenck, B, & Pearce, J 2001. Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post Roman Ceramics, Medieval Pottery Research Group, Occasional Paper No2
9. SMA, 2018. Guidance on the Rationalisation of Museum Archaeology Collections

15. Contacts

Buckinghamshire Council Archaeology Service

Planning and Environment
Walton Street Offices
Aylesbury
Bucks
HP20 1UA

Phil Markham BA MA MClfA, Senior Archaeological Officer

Telephone: [01296 382 705](tel:01296382705)

Email: philip.markham@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

Lucy Lawrence BA MClfA, Archaeological Officer

Telephone: [01296 674 592](tel:01296674592)

Email: lucy.lawrence@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

Julia Wise BA MClfA, HER Officer

Telephone: [01296 382 072](tel:01296382072)

Email: julia.wise@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

Paul Clements BA HER Assistant

Telephone: [01296 382 624](tel:01296382624)

Email: paul.clements@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

Please note that the HER operates an appointment system and there is a charge for commercial enquiries.

Discover Bucks Museum

Brett Thorn, Keeper of Archaeology

Museum Resource Centre

Tring Road

Halton

Aylesbury

Bucks

HP22 5PN

Tel: [01296 624 519](tel:01296624519)

Email: BThorn@discoverbucksmuseum.org

Buckinghamshire Archaeology Society (Records of Buckinghamshire)

Mr Bob Zeepvat, Archaeological Editor

c/o ASC Ltd

Letchworth House

Chesney Wold

Bleak Hall

Milton Keynes

MK6 1NE

Tel: [01908 608 989](tel:01908608989)

Fax: 01908 605700

Council For British Archaeology South Midlands Group (South Midlands Archaeology)

Nick Crank, Editor, c/o Milton Keynes Council

Conservation & Archaeology

Placemaking

Civic Offices

1 Saxon Gate East

Milton Keynes

MK9 3EJ

Tel: [01908 254 259](tel:01908254259)

Email: nick.crank@milton-keynes.gov.uk

Historic England Regional Science Adviser (London and the South East Region)

Jane Corcoran, Science Advisor

Anne De Vareilles, Science Advisor
Historic England
4th Floor
Cannon Bridge House
25 Dowgate Hill
London
EC4R 2YA

Email: Anne.DeVareilles@HistoricEngland.org.uk

Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society

BAS Library
Discover Bucks Museum
Church Street
Aylesbury,
HP20 2QP

Tel: [01296 798015](tel:01296798015)

Email: bucksas@buckscountymuseum.org

Marlow Archaeology Group

Email: info@marloarch.co.uk

Chess Valley Archaeological and Historical Society

Email: cvahs99@yahoo.com

Appendix 3


Development Proposals

KEY

Hardstanding

 Asphalt pump track to specialist specification.

Soft landscape

 Proposed amenity grass (Emorsgate EL1 or similar)

PROPOSED AMENITY GRASS (EMORSGATE EL1 OR SIMILAR) PLANTING NOTES:

Ground preparation
Endeavour to select ground that is not highly fertile and does not have a problem with perennial weeds. Good preparation is essential to success so aim to control weeds and produce a good quality seed bed before sowing.
To prepare a seed bed first remove weeds using repeated cultivation. Then plough or dig to bury the surface vegetation, harrow or rake to produce a medium till, and roll or tread to produce a level firm surface.

Sowing
Seed is best sown in the autumn or spring but can be sown at other times of the year if there is sufficient warmth and moisture. The seed must be surface sown and can be applied by machine or broadcast by hand. To get an even distribution and avoid running out, divide the seed into two or more parts and sow in overlapping sections. Do not incorporate or cover the seed, but firm in with a roll, or by treading, to give good soil/seed contact.

First year management
The wild flower and grass species in this mix are perennial; they will be slow to germinate and grow and will not usually flower in their first growing season. There will often be a flush of annual weeds from the soil in the first growing season. This annual weed growth is easily controlled by repeated mowing.
Mow newly sown flowering lawns regularly (every 7-10 days during growing season) throughout the first year of establishment. Cut to a height of 40-60mm, removing cuttings if dense. This will gradually develop a good sward structure, help maintain balance between faster growing grasses and slower developing wild flowers, and control annual weeds.
Dig out any residual perennial weeds such as docks.

Management once established
Mow regularly as a lawn but not too short (25-40mm). To permit flowering, mowing can be relaxed from late June. Cut again when the sward gets untidy (after 4-6 weeks). Mowing may be suspended earlier in the year to allow cowslips to flower. Heavy quantities of cuttings should be collected and removed from site.
EL1 is a complete mix composed of 20% wild flowers and 80% slow growing grasses (by weight). The flower and grass components are also available to order separately as EL1F for the flower component and EG1 for the grass component. For quicker establishment of grass cover EL1 may be sown with an additional 10g/m² EG1 or lawn mixtures EG21 or EG22. Higher grass sowing rates will however reduce the time and space available for flower establishment, especially in good growing conditions.

 Proposed wild flower mix (Emorsgate EM3 or similar)

PROPOSED WILD FLOWER MIX (EMORSGATE EM3 OR SIMILAR) PLANTING NOTES:

Ground preparation
Endeavour to select ground that is not highly fertile and does not have a problem with perennial weeds. Good preparation is essential to success so aim to control weeds and produce a good quality seed bed before sowing.
To prepare a seed bed first remove weeds using repeated cultivation. Then plough or dig to bury the surface vegetation, harrow or rake to produce a medium till, and roll, or tread, to produce a firm surface.

Sowing
Seed is best sown in the autumn or spring but can be sown at other times of the year if there is sufficient warmth and moisture. The seed must be surface sown and can be applied by machine or broadcast by hand. To get an even distribution and avoid running out divide the seed into two or more parts and sow in overlapping sections. Do not incorporate or cover the seed, but firm in with a roll, or by treading, to give good soil/seed contact.

First year management
Most of the sown meadow species are perennial and are slow to establish. Soon after sowing there will be a flush of annual weeds, arising from the soil seed bank. These weeds can look unsightly, but they will offer shelter to the sown seedlings, are great for bugs, and they will die before the year is out. So resist cutting the annual weeds until mid to late summer, especially if the mixture contains Yellow Rattle, or has been sown with a nurse of comfield annuals. Then cut, remove and compost. Early August is a good time. This will reveal the young meadow, which can then be kept short by grazing or mowing through to the end of March of the following year.
Dig out any residual perennial weeds such as docks.

Management once established
In the second and subsequent years EM3 sowings can be managed in a number of ways which, in association with soil fertility, will determine the character of the grassland. The best results are usually obtained by traditional meadow management based around a main summer hay cut in combination with autumn and possibly spring mowing or grazing.

Meadow grassland is not cut or grazed from spring through to late July/August to give the sown species an opportunity to flower. After flowering in July or August take a 'hay cut': cut back with a scythe, petrol strimmer or tractor mower to c 50mm. Leave the 'hay' to dry and shed seeds for 1-7 days then remove from site.
Mow or graze the re-growth through to late autumn/winter to c 50mm and again in spring if needed.



Berryfields BMX Pump Track

Rev A: 3No bike racks added (24/01/2023)
Rev B: Tuck shop removed (28/03/2023)

Land adjacent to Martin Dalby Way,
Aylesbury, Bucks, HP19 9DE

for Berryfields Parish Council

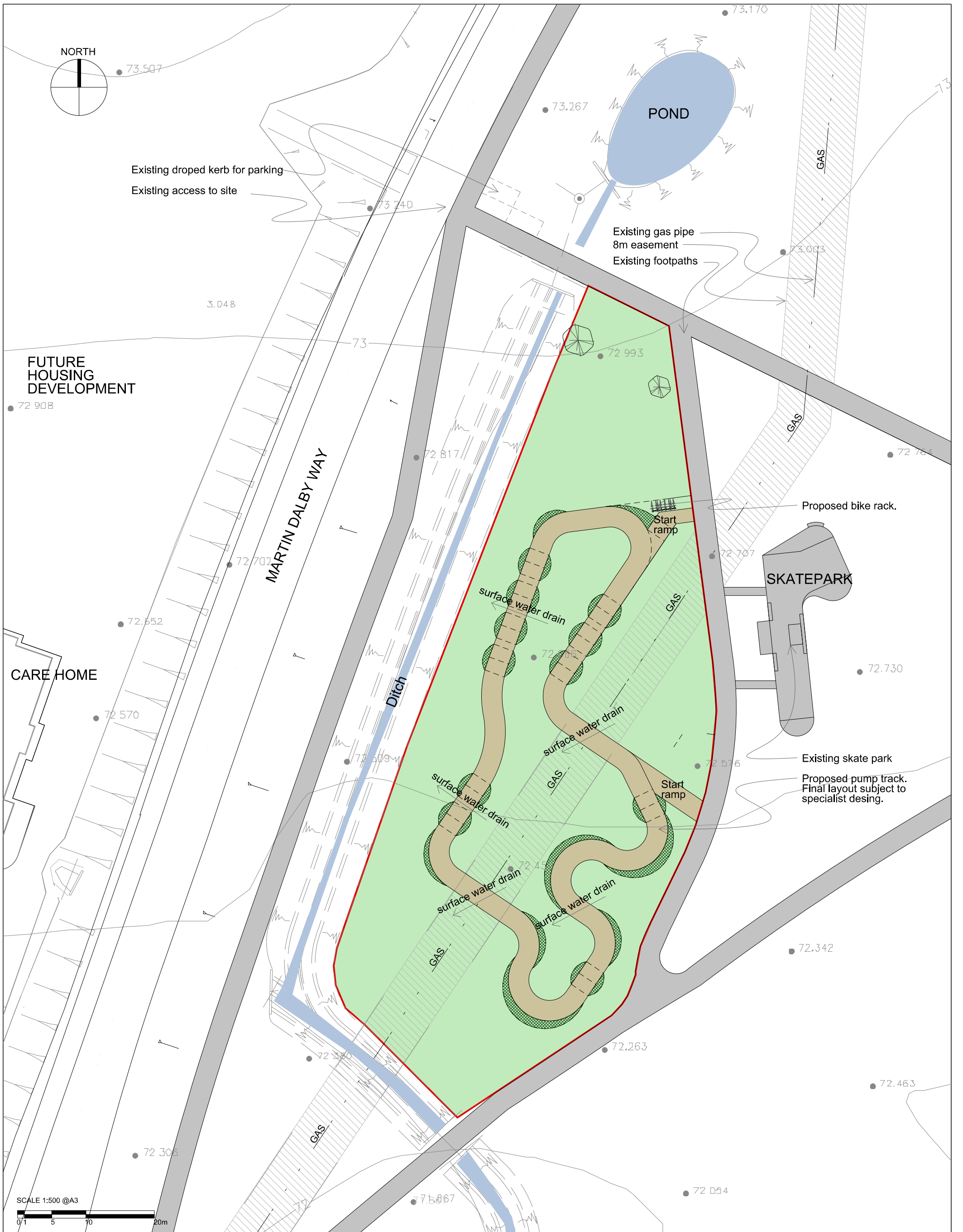
PROPOSED HARDSTANDING AND SOFT
LANDSCAPE PLAN

1:500@A2 MAR 23

BPT/ 04 B

BLACKWOOD ARCHITECTS

E. office@blackwood-architects.co.uk
1, 01296 399959
3 Centre House
North Centre
Colindale Ave
Aylesbury HP19 9DP



SCALE 1:500 @A3
 0 5 10 20m

Rev A: 3No bike racks added (24/01/2023)
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Land adjacent to Martin Dalby Way,
 Aylesbury, Bucks, HP19 9DE

for Berryfields Parish Council

PROPOSED SITE PLAN

1:500@A3	MAR '23	DATE	REVISED
BPT/	02		B

BLACKWOOD ARCHITECTS
 3 Carrera House
 Merlin Centre
 Gatehouse Close
 Aylesbury HP19 9DP
 E. office@blackwood-architects.co.uk
 T. 01296 399959

Berryfields BMX Pump Track



rpsgroup.com