LAND TO THE SOUTH OF AND ADJACENT TO SOUTH SIDE STEEPLE ASTON OXFORDSHIRE

WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR ARCHAEOLGICAL EVALUATION







LAND TO THE SOUTH OF AND ADJACENT TO SOUTH SIDE STEEPLE ASTON OXFORDSHIRE

WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR ARCHAEOLGICAL EVALUATION

Project code: SA3545 Museum accession no.: OXCMS: 2019.125 Oasis reference: albionar1-369649

> Document: 2019/122 Version 1.2

Issue date: 15th October 2019

Compiled by	Approved by
Wes Keir	Drew Shotliff

Produced for: Rectory Homes

© Copyright Albion Archaeology 2019, all rights reserved

Contents

1. IN	TRODUCTION	4
1.1	Project Background	4
1.2	Status and Purpose of this Document	4
1.3	Site Location, Topography and Geology	4
1.4	Archaeological Background	5
1.5	Project Objectives	5
2. ME	THOD STATEMENTS	7
2.1	Methodological Standards	7
2.2	Archaeological Trial Trenching	7
2.3	Post-fieldwork Analysis, Reporting & Publication	8
2.4	Archiving	8
2.5	Liaison with the Oxfordshire County Council Planning Archaeologist	9
2.6	Project Timetable	9
2.7	Health and Safety	9
3. RE	SOURCES	10
3.1	Albion Archaeology Company Profile	10
3.2	Relevant Experience	10
3.3	Albion Archaeology Staff Resources	10
3.4	External Sub-contracted Specialists	10
4. QL	JALITY ASSURANCE	12
5. Bli	BLIOGRAPHY	13
6. AF	PENDIX 1: DETAILED METHOD STATEMENTS	14
6.1	Trial Trenching	14
6.2	Artefacts	14
6.3	Environmental Sampling	15
6.4	Post-Fieldwork Analysis and Reporting	15

6.5 Archive	16
7. APPENDIX 2: SITE CONSTRAINTS AND H&S	17
CONSIDERATIONS	17
8. APPENDIX 3: PROJECT STAFF CVS	18

List of Figures

Figure 1: Site and trench location plan

The figure is bound at the rear of the document.



All statements and opinions in this document are offered in good faith. This document has been prepared for the titled project or named part thereof and was prepared solely for the benefit of the client. This document should not be relied upon or used for any other project without an independent check being carried out as to its suitability and the prior written authority of Albion Archaeology (a trading unit of Central Bedfordshire Council).

Albion Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for the consequences of this document being used for any other purpose than the purposes for which it was commissioned. Any person/party relying on the document for such other purposes agrees and will, by such use or reliance, be taken to confirm their agreement to indemnify Albion Archaeology for all loss or damage resulting therefrom. Albion Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for this document to any party other than the persons/party by whom it was commissioned. This document is limited by the current state of knowledge.

This document was researched and written by Wes Keir (Project Manager). The figures were prepared by Joan Lightning (CAD Technician). All Albion projects are under the overall management of Drew Shotliff (Operations Manager).

Albion Archaeology St Mary's Church St Mary's Street Bedford MK42 0AS The contemportation in the strength of t

Version History

Version	Issue date	Reason for re-issue	
1.2	15/10/2019	Comments from OCC Planning Archaeologist	
1.1	11/10/2019	Comments from client re trench layout	
1.0	10/10/2019	N/A	

Key Terms

The following terms or abbreviations are used throughout this document:

- CIfA Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
- HER County Historic Environment Record
- LPA Local planning authority
- OCC Oxfordshire County Council
- PA OCC Planning Archaeologist
- PDA Proposed development area



1.1 Project Background

Rectory Homes are preparing to submit a planning application to Cherwell District Council for a residential development on land to the south of South Side, Steeple Aston, Oxfordshire. The proposed development comprises the erection of ten dwellings along with the provision of parking/garages and soft landscaping to the rear and eastern boundaries.

Given the site's archaeological potential, the Oxfordshire County Council Planning Archaeologist (OCC PA) advised that archaeological evaluation was necessary to provide the information required to assess the potential impact of the development on archaeological heritage assets that might survive within the site. The PA issued a design brief, outlining the required work (OCC 2019).

Albion Archaeology was commissioned by Rectory Homes to prepare this written scheme of investigation (WSI) in response to the design brief and to undertake the required archaeological trial trenching.

This approach is in accordance with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF) which states that: 'Where a site on which development is proposed includes, or has the potential to include, heritage assets with archaeological interest, local planning authorities should require developers to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation' (NPPF 2019, paragraph 189).

1.2 Status and Purpose of this Document

This document represents a written scheme of investigation (WSI) for carrying out a programme of archaeological trial trenching. It describes the circumstances of the project, the scope of the work required, and the procedures, methodologies and resources that are to be employed for its successful completion. This information is provided to assist the OCC PA in monitoring and assessing the archaeological work on behalf of the LPA.

1.3 Site Location, Topography and Geology

Steeple Aston is a village and civil parish on the west side of the Cherwell Valley in north Oxfordshire. It lies c.11km west of Bicester and c.16km south of Banbury. The proposed development area (PDA) is situated at the south-west corner of the village, c.600m south-west of the parish church (Figure 1). It comprises a c.0.94ha plot of pasture to the south of South Side, centred on SP 4697 2584, with further arable fields to the south.

The PDA is generally flat at c.121m OD. The underlying solid geology varies with Horsehay Sand Formation – Sandstone to the east and Chipping Norton Limestone Formation – Limestone to the west; both formed approximately 166–170 million years ago in the Jurassic Period¹. No superficial deposits are recorded.

¹ <u>http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html</u>

Land to the south of and adjacent to South Side, Steeple Aston, Oxfordshire: Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Evaluation

1.4 Archaeological Background

A number of archaeological investigations have taken place within Steeple Aston, revealing some significant Iron Age and, in particular, Romano-British remains.

The PDA lies c.90m west of Burlands, a house on the north side of South Side, where a possible Romano-British burial was revealed during construction of a patio (HER 26108). It was possibly associated with further Romano-British burials recorded to the east.

An archaeological evaluation and subsequent excavation was undertaken ahead of a housing development on Heyford Road (HER 16024), *c*.700m ESE of the PDA (OA 1998). The work revealed Neolithic, Iron Age and Romano-British remains. The latter included a trackway and a number of burials, possibly related to the burial found at Burlands. The full extent of this settlement and its associated burials is unknown, but it may extend into the PDA.

An evaluation at the hotel in the hamlet of Hopcroft's Holt, *c*.800m to the southwest of the PDA, revealed the remains of a low-status, early Romano-British farmstead (HER 16311) (OAU 1996). A Roman villa, possible prehistoric burials, pottery and animal bones had been recorded in the area in antiquity.

An archaeological watching brief during the excavation of a service trench on land adjacent to the village hall did not reveal any significant archaeological remains (OA 2007). A Romano-British inhumation burial had been recorded close to the site in the late 19th century (HER 1708).

1.5 Project Objectives

The relevant regional research framework for the area is the Solent Thames Research Framework (Hey and Hind 2014), a document that also includes the counties of Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

The framework provides a comprehensive chronological review of the historic environment as investigated so far within Oxfordshire and the other counties within the Solent-Thames sub-region, as well as establishing a research agenda and strategy for future investigations and for consolidating and integrating current knowledge. It is, therefore, a vital tool for identifying research frameworks and objectives relevant to the archaeological resource within and surrounding the PDA.

The regional research framework suggest that more work needs to be undertaken with regards to rural settlement characteristics and typologies during the Roman period and the Iron Age–Roman transition (Fulford 2014, 180–1). Similarly, the need for further study of cemeteries and burial practice in the Roman period has been highlighted (op. cit., 182). Given the nature of the archaeological remains recorded to the east of the PDA, these elements of the regional research framework appear to be most relevant to the forthcoming evaluation.

The specific research objectives of the evaluation are, therefore:

- To determine if evidence for Iron Age/Roman activity or settlement is present within the PDA.
- To determine if further Roman burials are present within the PDA.
- To assess if any heritage assets relating to other periods are present within the PDA.

The general purpose of the evaluation is to recover information on the:

- location, extent, nature, and date of any archaeological features or deposits that may be present within the PDA;
- integrity and state of preservation of any archaeological features or deposits that may be present within the PDA;
- nature of palaeo-environmental remains to determine local environmental conditions.



The methodological approach to the project is summarised below and detailed in Appendix 1.

2.1 Methodological Standards

The standards and requirements set out in the following documents will be adhered to throughout the project:

•	Albion Archaeology	<i>Procedures Manual: Volume 1 Fieldwork</i> (3rd ed., 2017)
•	CIfA	2017). Charter and by-law; Code of conduct (2014)
	-	Standard and guidance for archaeological
		excavation (2014)
		Standard and guidance for the collection,
		documentation, conservation and research of
		archaeological materials (2014)
•	EAA	Management of Research Projects in the Historic
		Environment PPN3: Archaeological Excavation
		(2015)
•	Historic England	Archaeology Guidelines and Standards ² ;
	-	The MoRPHE Project Managers Guide (2015)
		Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory
		and practice of methods, from sampling and
		recovery to post-excavation, (2nd edn, 2011)
•	Oxfordshire	Oxfordshire Museums Documentation Manual
	Museums Service	(Everitt 2002)
		Requirements for Transferring Archaeological
		Archives (2016)

2.2 Archaeological Trial Trenching

Seven $30m \ge c.1.8m$ -wide trenches will be opened. They will be arranged to provide even coverage of the PDA (Figure 1). Realignment or curtailment of the trenches may occur, dependant on local conditions/obstructions and health and safety requirements, i.e. to avoid buried services.

Overburden (topsoil and subsoil) will be removed from each trench by a mechanical excavator fitted with a wide, toothless ditching blade operated by an experienced driver under close archaeological supervision. Exposed archaeological features and deposits will be excavated by hand unless agreed with the OCC PA. All hand excavation and recording will be carried out by experienced Albion Archaeology staff with external specialists consulted as necessary. An appropriate level of environmental and other sampling will be undertaken in accordance with standard guidelines.

The extent of investigation of exposed archaeological remains will be sufficient to achieve the objectives of the project (see Section 1.5). If further complex,

² Historic England guidelines on a number of specialist fields and materials, including environmental archaeology, are available at: <u>https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/advice-and-guidance/</u>.



A detailed method statement for the trial trenching is provided in Appendix 1.

2.3 Post-fieldwork Analysis, Reporting & Publication

During or immediately after fieldwork, all records will be checked and crossreferenced to ensure they are internally consistent. Recording, cleaning and conservation of finds will follow CIfA guidelines. Site drawings will be digitised and geo-referenced.

Data gathered during all stages of the evaluation will be analysed and synthesised into a final report. The analysis will be carried out using Albion Archaeology's networked Access database system and GIS.

The report will be sufficiently detailed to allow the results of the project to be interpreted without recourse to the site archive and where appropriate, place them in their local, regional and national context. It will include appropriate illustrative material, including copies of relevant parts of the drawn and photographic record.

A digital copy of the summary report will be supplied to the OCC PA for verification and assessment. When the report has been agreed a final digital copy will then be supplied to the County Historic Environment Record on the understanding that it will become a public document after an appropriate period of time (generally not exceeding six months).

The results of the project, even if little or no archaeology is discovered, will be published. Publication will take place within a reasonable length of time. The level of publication will be commensurate to the findings of the project and will be agreed with the OCC PA.

2.4 Archiving

The archive of finds and records generated during the project will be kept secure at all stages of the operation. All records and materials produced will be archived to the standards outlined in Historic England's *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (2015). Oxfordshire Museums Service has also issued guidance entitled *Oxfordshire Museums Documentation manual* (Everitt 2002) and *Requirements for Transferring Archaeological Archives* (2014).

Permission will be sought from the landowner for transfer of title of all finds to the Oxfordshire Museums Resource Centre on completion of post-excavation analysis and reporting. On completion of the project the archive will be deposited at the Museums Resource Centre (accession number OXCMS: 2019.125).

Albion Archaeology employs a full time Archives Officer to ensure that all archives are completed to the correct standards and deposited according to the relevant guidelines. Details of the project and its findings will be submitted to the OASIS database in accordance with the guidelines issued by Historic England and the Archaeology Data Service (ref. no. albionar1-369649).

2.5 Liaison with the Oxfordshire County Council Planning Archaeologist

The OCC PA is responsible for monitoring the project on behalf of the LPA to ensure adherence to this WSI and the maintenance of professional standards. The OCC PA will be given at least two weeks' notice of the start of the fieldwork in order to arrange a date for the monitoring visit(s). All reasonable access to the site and site documentation will be afforded to them.

Any variation to this WSI will be agreed with the client and the OCC PA before its implementation. Trenches will only be backfilled after approval from the OCC PA.

2.6 Project Timetable

The trenching will be scheduled to commence following approval of the WSI by the OCC PA and is expected to take no more than 2 weeks to complete, depending on findings. The report will be issued within 3–4 weeks of the completion of the fieldwork, depending on findings.

2.7 Health and Safety

A risk assessment will be carried out before the start of fieldwork in accordance with Albion Archaeology's *Health & Safety Policy*. As part of the project briefing, all staff will be made aware of their responsibilities and the specific site hazards (identified under the risk assessment). The risk assessment will be reviewed as the project progresses.

Albion Archaeology will comply fully with all operational and safety requirements of the client and/or landowner.



3.1 Albion Archaeology Company Profile

Albion Archaeology, formerly called Bedfordshire County Archaeology Service was established in 1974. In keeping with its commitment to the maintenance of the highest standards of professional practice, it has been a Registered Organisation with the Chartered Institute *for* Archaeologists since August 1997. Albion Archaeology is one of the region's leading archaeological organisations and for more than 40 years has undertaken major fieldwork and evaluation projects throughout Bedfordshire. It also now operates over a wider area, including the nearby counties of Oxfordshire, Northamptonshire, Cambridgeshire, Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire. It offers a comprehensive service to local and national government, statutory bodies, and the private sector. Current clients include Barratt Homes, Cemex UK Materials Ltd, English Heritage and Persimmon Homes.

3.2 Relevant Experience

Albion Archaeology staff can draw on decades of experience of working on a wide range of archaeological sites within the eastern region and beyond. The evaluation works will be undertaken by a team of professional, employed archaeologists. The team leader will be competent at archaeological evaluation and excavation techniques, with a proven track record. The team leader will directly supervise all site works and will be the main author of the report.

3.3 Albion Archaeology Staff Resources

Albion Archaeology employs over 40 full time, professional archaeological staff. Additional staff are recruited as required by the organisation's work load. The following individuals will be deployed on this project (detailed CVs are presented in Appendix 3).

Drew Shotliff MA MCIfA, Operations Manager: *quality control and overall* management

Wes Keir, BSc (Hons), ACIfA, Project Manager: day-to-day operational management

Project Supervisor/Officer – to be confirmed: *management of site work and report preparation*

Jackie Wells MA, Finds Officer: *finds processing, artefact assessment and reporting*

Joan Lightning, CAD/GIS Technician: *archive digitisation and report illustrations*

Archaeological Technicians will be assigned to the project team as necessary. Technical support will be provided by in-house specialist staff in the areas of finds analysis, surveying, illustration and computing.

3.4 External Sub-contracted Specialists

All sub-contractors used by Albion Archaeology are established and well respected in their respective fields of expertise. Each has a proven track record of providing quality services within set deadlines. *Pro forma* contracts are used

to ensure work is correctly specified and delivered to time and budget. Albion Archaeology continually reviews the quality of work received from subcontractors and continually seeks competitive quotes in order to avoid overreliance on a single sub-contractor.

The following external specialists will be used, as required, on this project:

Dr. Mike Allen: *soil formation processes and micromorphology* John Giorgi, freelance: *plant, insect and molluscan remains* Mark Maltby, Bournemouth University: *faunal remains* Dr. Peter Guest: *coinage* Natasha Powers, Allen Archaeology: *human remains* Drakon Heritage Ltd: *x-ray and artefact conservation* Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre: *scientific dating*

4. QUALITY ASSURANCE

Albion Archaeology's three principal organisational goals are:

- i. delivery of a first class service to clients;
- ii. development of the highest professional standards;
- iii. rapid dissemination of the results of archaeological projects.

To meet these goals the following elements of Total Quality Management are under continuing development.

- A networked Projects Database and client contact *pro formae* which underpin our service delivery.
- A networked time and cost recording system which underpins project budget management.
- Use of Project Management software for scheduling both individual projects and the work of the organisation as a whole.
- Specific standards reviews at the completion of each project stage.
- Adherence to professional standards set out by the CIfA.
- Commitment to utilisation and development of regional and national research frameworks.
- Commitment to staff development to maintain professional expertise.
- Comprehensive Fieldwork Procedures Manual.
- Consistent approach to assessment, analysis and archiving by means of standardised database templates and procedures.
- Continual review of service standards provided by sub-contractors.
- Support for Albion Archaeology staff involved in national archaeological organisations.
- Regular publication of the results of fieldwork projects, in both stand-alone format and as part of regional and period-based summaries.
- Safe and secure storage of project archives prior to deposition with relevant museum.
- Provision of an education service for local schools.
- Maintenance of public display area at St Mary's Archaeology Centre.



- Albion Archaeology, 2017 Procedures Manual, Volume 1: Fieldwork 3rd Edition
- Everitt, J., 2002 Oxfordshire Museums Service Documentation Manual
- Fulford, M., 2014 'The Roman Period; Research Agenda', in Hey, G. and Hind, J., 2014
- Hey, G. and Hind, J., 2014 Solent-Thames Research Framework for the Historic Environment: Resource Assessment and Research Agendas, Oxford Wessex Monograph 6
- Historic England, 2011 Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation (second edition)

Oxford Archaeology, 1998, Steeple Aston, Land near Upper Heyford Road: Post Excavation Assessment and Research Design, unpubl. rep.

Oxford Archaeology, 2007, Land adjacent to the Village Hall, Steeple Aston, Oxfordshire: Archaeological Watching Brief Report, unpubl. rep.

Oxford Archaeological Unit, 1996, *Hopcroft's Holt Hotel, Steeple Aston:* Archaeological Evaluation Report, unpubl. rep.

- Oxfordshire County Council, 2019, Land to the south and adjacent to South Side, Steeple Aston: Design Brief for Archaeological Evaluation
- Oxfordshire County Museums Service, 2014 Requirements for Transferring Archaeological Archives

6. APPENDIX 1: DETAILED METHOD STATEMENTS

6.1 Trial Trenching

- 1. The trenches will be $30m \log and c.1.8m$ wide.
- 2. The depth cannot be specified at this stage but would typically be c.0.5m. Staff will not enter any part of the trench deeper than 1.2m without prior agreement of the Albion Archaeology Project Manager, and following a risk assessment and implementation of any necessary safety measures.
- 3. The trench locations will be marked out on the ground in advance of machining.
- 4. All machine excavation will be supervised by an archaeologist.
- 5. Topsoil/overburden and subsoil will be stockpiled separately on either side of the trenches. These stockpiles will be positioned at a safe distance from the trench edges.
- 6. Topsoil and modern overburden will be removed by machine down to the top of archaeological deposits, or natural subsoil, whichever is encountered first.
- 7. A sufficient sample of identified archaeological features or deposits will be excavated in order to achieve the project objectives. Segments excavated across linear features will be at least 1m wide and discrete features will normally be half-sectioned or excavated in quadrants. Features such as Kilns, hearths, burials, surfaces, structural remains and the key relationships will be discussed with the OCC PA before commencement and be investigated in such a way as to minimise unnecessary destruction.
- 8. All excavated features and deposits will be fully recorded in accordance with Albion Archaeology's *Procedures Manual*.
- 9. Each trial trench will be issued with a unique block of context numbers to facilitate recording and identification of archaeological deposits.
- 10. Soil will be scanned for artefacts by both eye and metal detector.
- 11. A record of the excavations will be made by 35mm monochrome print photography, supplemented by digital and 35mm colour slide/print photography as appropriate. A register detailing the subject, direction, date and author of each photograph will be kept.
- 12. The trenches will not be backfilled before the client and OCC PA have had the opportunity to inspect.

6.2 Artefacts

Artefacts will be collected and treated in accordance with CIfA Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials (2014), and the Albion Archaeology Procedures Manual.

In summary, artefacts, including those recovered from soil bunds, will be assigned to the relevant context number for the trench/test pit. Artefact processing will be undertaken concurrently with the investigation. This will comprise cleaning and marking, documenting and storing as appropriate. Documenting will comprise identification, dating and entry of data onto the Context Assemblage database. All ironwork, and other materials deemed suitable, will be submitted for x-radiography. If human remains are encountered and their excavation is required, Albion Archaeology will liaise with the Ministry of Justice and acquire the appropriate Licence. Only in exceptional circumstances will human remains be removed. Any finds which are identified as Treasure, as defined in the 1996 Treasure Act and the 2003 extension of definition will be reported to the appropriate Portable Antiquities Scheme officer upon their discovery/identification.

6.3 Environmental Sampling

A programme of environmental sampling will be carried out in accordance with Historic England (2011) *Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation*, and the Albion Archaeology *Procedures Manual*.

In summary, samples will be taken from a representative range of context types from each phase of identified archaeological activity. Samples will be taken from contexts that appear rich in environmental material and other key contexts identified within the excavations. The primary purpose of sampling will be to examine:

- survival of material;
- key, securely dated, archaeological contexts.

Processing will be undertaken at St Mary's Church Archaeology Centre in accordance with the *Procedures Manual*. Specialist advice will be sought as necessary.

6.4 Post-Fieldwork Analysis and Reporting

During or immediately after fieldwork all excavation records will be checked and cross-referenced to ensure they are internally consistent. Recording, cleaning and conservation of finds will follow the CIfA *Guidelines for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (2014). All soil samples will be processed and assessed as appropriate.

The data acquired during all stages of fieldwork will be analysed to a level that is appropriate to provide the information required by to achieve the project objectives. Site drawings will be digitised and geo-referenced. Contextual, artefactual and ecofactual data will be entered onto a networked Access database. This will be used to analyse and report on the results of the fieldwork.

The report will contain sufficient detail to enable the results of the evaluation to be interpreted without recourse to the site archive. This will include the tabulation of contextual and finds information. The report will consider the significance of any archaeological deposits in local, regional and national terms.

The report will be laid out as follows

- Non-technical summary;
- Introduction (site location and description, planning background, archaeological background);



- Summary of results and significance including reports on artefacts and environmental remains where appropriate;
- Bibliography;
- Appendix: summary of contexts and finds within the trench;
- Figures will include a location plan, appropriate all features plans, sections and photographs.

6.5 Archive

A full project archive will be compiled in accordance with Historic England (MoRPHE) standards.

Albion Archaeology adheres to strict archiving standards and ensures that all archive is stored appropriately. All storage material is of archival-quality and includes archival-quality photographic storage sleeves. As part of the archiving process all records will be scanned in open document format, either PDF/A or images (JPEG or TIF). The archive will be deposited with Oxfordshire Museums Service.

An on-line OASIS from will be completed in accordance with the guidelines provided by Historic England and the Archaeology Data Service.

7. APPENDIX 2: SITE CONSTRAINTS AND H&S CONSIDERATIONS

The following issues should be taken into consideration when planning the site works:

- 1. Existing and potential overhead and underground services.
- 2. Plant and machinery movement
- 3. Site staff welfare
- 4. Adjacent dwellings

8. APPENDIX 3: PROJECT STAFF CVS

Drew Shotliff: Operations Manager

Technical qualifications MA Archaeological Practice, University of Birmingham, 1985 BA (Hons) Modern History, Mansfield College, Oxford, 1980 Member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Core skills Archaeological project management through design and fieldwork to publication. Postexcavation analysis of large urban and rural sites. Development of fieldwork and postfieldwork analysis methodologies using database, AutoCAD and GIS applications. Research interests centre on Saxon and medieval rural settlement. Member of the Service Management Team, with specific responsibility for project programming and finance. Employment History 2001 – present Operations Manager, Albion Archaeology 1991 -2001, Project Manager, Albion Archaeology 1991, Consultant to ODA/British Council, Samanalawewa Project, Sri Lanka 1990–1991, Project Officer, Cambridgeshire County Council 1987–1990, Senior Archaeologist, Museum of London 1982–1987, various archaeological employment including, English Heritage, University of Birmingham (Sutton Hoo), and Ecuador, Cyprus and France

Wesley Keir: Project Manager

Technical Qualifications

BSc (Hons) Archaeology, Bournemouth University, Bournemouth, 2000

Associate of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (ACIfA)

Core Skills

The management of fieldwork projects with experience of a wide variety of archaeological work, including excavation and post-excavation analysis. Experience ranges from open area excavation, evaluation, watching briefs, earthwork survey, and some building recording. Since 2000 he has worked on a variety of sites in Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Suffolk and surrounding counties.

Other research interests include earthwork survey, including undertaking independently the survey of a medieval manorial grange.

Employment History 2005 to present, Project Officer with Albion Archaeology

2003-2005, Archaeological Supervisor with Albion Archaeology

2002-2003, Project Officer with Archaeological Solutions

2001-2002, Archaeological Supervisor with Archaeological Solutions

2000-2001, Archaeological Site Assistant with Archaeological Solutions

Project Officer/Supervisor TBC

Jackie Wells: Artefact Officer

Technical qualifications MA Post-Excavation Studies, University of Leicester, 1990 BA (Hons) Archaeology and History, University of Nottingham, 1988 *Core skills* Processing and analysis of ceramic and non-ceramic artefact types. Computer-based artefacts analysis. Establishment and maintenance of County Ceramic Type Series. Jackie has written the ceramic and non-ceramic sections for articles published in *Bedfordshire Archaeology*, the Bedfordshire Monograph Series and over 150 BCAS/Albion evaluation reports, *Employment History* Over 8 years postgraduate experience in processing and analysing artefactual assemblages, gained mainly through work in the Peak District (predominantly prehistoric sites), South Wales (Caerwent Roman town) and Bedfordshire (variety of chronological periods). She has undertaken the pottery analysis for a number of substantial late prehistoric sites within Bedfordshire. Independent of Albion she has analysed the artefacts from the Roman roadside settlement at Alfoldean, West Sussex (due for publication latter year). She is a member of The Study Group for Romano-British Pottery and Roman Finds Group.

Joan Lightning: CAD Technician

Technical qualifications BA (Hons) Archaeology and Prehistory HND (Merit) Practical Archaeology City and Guilds: AutoCAD 4351-01, and 4351-03. *Core skills* Experienced in using AutoCAD, Gsys versions 2 to 5.0, Aerial 5.12, Surfer 7, IntelliCAD, Access, Word 97, Corel Photopaint, Corel Draw and Corel Trace. Use data collected from field survey to produce landscape survey plans and 3d models/deposit models. Also experienced at aerial photographic interpretation using Aerial. Joan has also undertaken some building

recording work. Employment History

1999-present: CAD / Survey Technician for Albion Archaeology

1996-1999: Archaeological Technician /AutoCAD operator for Bedfordshire County Archaeology Service

1985-1996: Excavator on a variety of archaeological excavations covering many periods and in various parts of the country.





Figure 1: Site and trench location plan This map is based upon Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Central Bedfordshire Council. Licence No. 100049029 (2011)

Land to the south of and adjacent to South Side, Steeple Aston, Oxfordshire: Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Evaluation





Albion Archaeology St Mary's Church St Mary's Street Bedford MK42 0AS

Telephone 01234 294000 Email office@albion-arch.com www.albion-arch.com

