## LAND NORTH-EAST OF SKIMMINGDISH LANE LAUNTON BICESTER OXFORDSHIRE

# WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR ARCHAEOLGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION

# Albion archaeology





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Figure 1: Trial trench plan

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#### Preface

Every effort has been made in the preparation and submission of this document and all statements are offered in good faith. Albion Archaeology cannot accept responsibility for errors of fact or opinion resulting from data supplied by a third party, or for any loss or other consequence arising from decisions or actions made upon the basis of facts or opinions expressed in this document.

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#### Version History

Version	Issue date	Reason for re-issue
1.0	23/05/2016	N/A
1.1	25/05/2016	Amendments to section 2.3 requested by the CAO

#### Key Terms

The following terms or abbreviations are used throughout this document:

CAO	County Archaeological Officer
CAS	County Archaeological Services
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
DA	Development area
OHER	Oxfordshire Historic Environment Record



## 1.1 Project Background

Outline planning permission (CDC: 15/01012/OUT) has been granted by Cherwell District Council for development of land to the north-east of Skimmingdish Lane, Launton, Bicester, Oxfordshire, OX26 5AF, comprising up to 48,308sqm of employment floorspace, servicing and circulation areas, vehicular and pedestrian access from Skimmingdish Lane and landscaping.

Due to the potential presence of archaeological features at the site the planning permission contains two conditions requiring a staged programme of archaeological investigation: evaluation followed by mitigation, if required. The conditions read as follows:

#### Condition 15

Prior to the commencement of the development hereby approved, a professional archaeological organisation acceptable to the Local Planning Authority shall prepare an Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation, relating to the application site area, which shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason - To safeguard the recording and inspection of matters of archaeological importance on the site in accordance with Government guidance contained within the National Planning Policy Framework.

#### Condition 16

Following the approval of the Written Scheme of Investigation referred to in condition 15 and prior to the commencement of the development (other than in accordance with the agreed Written Scheme of Investigation), a staged programme of archaeological evaluation and mitigation shall be carried out by the commissioned archaeological organisation in accordance with the approved Written Scheme of Investigation. The programme of work shall include all processing, research and analysis necessary to produce an accessible and useable archive and a full report for publication which shall be submitted to the Local Planning Authority.

Reason - To safeguard the identification, recording, analysis and archiving of heritage assets before they are lost and to advance understanding of the heritage assets in their wider context through publication and dissemination of the evidence in accordance with the NPPF

Albion Archaeology has been commissioned by Albion Land to prepare this written scheme of investigation (WSI). It covers the first stage of the archaeological investigation required by the condition, *i.e.* a trial trench evaluation and is in accordance with a brief for the works (CAS 2016) issued by the County Archaeological Officer (CAO).

If the trial trenching reveals significant archaeological remains that will be impacted by the development, then the CAO may require a further stage of investigation. Any such work would be the subject of a separate WSI.



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 CAO in monitoring and assessing the archaeological work on behalf of the Local Planning Authority.

#### 1.3 Site Location, Topography and Geology

The town of Bicester is situated in north-eastern Oxfordshire and close to the Buckinghamshire-Oxfordshire border. The county town of Oxford lies 17km to the south-west and Buckingham 16km to the north-east.

The development area (DA) is situated on the north-east edge of Bicester, centred on grid reference SP60042372. It comprises approximately 12.54ha of mainly arable land to the north-east of Skimmingdish Lane (A4421), a road that forms part of the ring road around Bicester. The former RAF Bicester is situated on the north-west boundary of the DA and arable land surrounds the remaining boundaries of the site.

The DA is situated on the boundary of two geologies: Cornbrash Formation Limestone and Kellaways Clay Member Mudstone. Superficial deposits comprise clay, silt, sand and gravel associated with the neighbouring Langford Brook<sup>1</sup>. The site lies at c. 73m OD.

#### 1.4 Archaeological Background

The earliest known archaeological remains in the vicinity of the DA date to the Bronze Age and comprise a number of ring ditches or barrows identified from aerial photographs to the north (OHER 17471) and south (OHER D5630, D5631) of Skimmingdish Lane. A barrow cemetery (OHER D5629) containing five ring ditches and a double ring ditch was amongst these sites identified. Those to the south of the DA now lie under an area of housing.

The route of the Roman Alchester to Towcester road is situated c. 1.2km to the north-east of the DA. Contemporary settlement remains have been identified adjacent to its course through archaeological investigations; the nearest are situated c. 1km to the west of the DA (Pine 2001, 67). Iron Age and Roman finds and features were also found c. 600m to the south-east of the DA on the north-east section of the Bicester perimeter road (OHER 16540).

During 2013 an archaeological evaluation on land to the south of Skimmingdish Lane (OHER 28360), and adjacent to the DA, uncovered a number of ditches and isolated possible pits. The features produced no datable artefacts but stratigraphic evidence suggested three of the ditches and one pit were of some antiquity.

During Sir Hugh Trenchard's expansion of the RAF from 1923 to 1939 RAF Bicester was constructed on land immediately to the north and north-west of the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html

DA (Grover Lewis Associates 2015, 5). It comprised a grassed airfield with associated buildings and watch tower on the south-west side. Bomb storage units were positioned in an isolated location on the south-east edge of the airfield. It became fully redundant in 2004, but "as a pre-Wold War II airbase, RAF Bicester is regarded as being of high national significance in the context of 20<sup>th</sup>-century military aviation" (Grover Lewis Associates 2015, 6). Accordingly, the whole of the former RAF airbase has been designated a Conservation Area by Cherwell District Council and buildings that once formed the core of the operational base are grade II listed. Bomb stores and a series of airfield defence structures have also been designated as scheduled monuments.

#### 1.5 Project Objectives

The relevant research frameworks for the area are: 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 DA.

The earliest archaeological remains on the north-east side of Bicester can be dated to Bronze Age based on cropmark evidence characteristic of ring ditches or barrows of this period. The county research framework states that "a much better understanding is needed of date range of the very varied burial monuments of the 4<sup>th</sup> millennium" (Bradley, 112). Their relationship to settlement is also highlighted as a key area of study (ibid).

A number of research agendas exist for the late Iron Age/Romano-British period, which on this side of Bicester is represented by the Alchester to Towcester Roman road and a small number of possible settlement sites. The research agenda for this region argues for a need to characterise "settlement, its density and variability as well as economy" on the north-east Oxfordshire claylands (Fulford 2014, 181). With regards to Romano-British infrastructure "the influence of the major roads on the development of roadside settlement" requires further investigation" (Fulford 2014, 184).

The specific research objectives of the trial trench evaluation are:

- To determine if evidence for the Bronze Age period is present within the DA.
- To determine if evidence for the late Iron Age / Romano-British period is present within the DA.
- To assess if any heritage assets relating to earlier periods are present within the DA.

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 DA;
- integrity and state of preservation of any archaeological features or deposits that may be present within the DA;
- 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> (2 <sup>nd</sup> edn, 2001).
County Archaeological Services	Land N E of Skimmingdish Lane, Launton: Design Brief for Archaeological field Evaluation.
• CIfA	Charter and by-law; Code of conduct (2014)Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation (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	<i>Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory</i> <i>and practice of methods, from sampling and</i> <i>recovery to post-excavation. 2nd ed.</i> (2011)

#### 2.2 Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation

Approximately 11.66ha of the 12.54ha DA is available for trial trench evaluation. Parts of the site not available and/or inaccessible include: public footpaths/access tracks and three wooded/scrub areas, which include the route of a dismantled former railway; a wooded pond in the southern quarter of the site; and a small area of scrub in the northern quarter.

A total of 86 trenches will be excavated. Each trench will measure  $30m \ge 1.8m$  in area. This equates to  $4,644m^2$  of trenching which is a 4% sample of the 11.66ha accessible area. The layout and extent of the trenches is shown on 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 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 CAO. 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 complex, important and/or deep archaeological deposits or features are uncovered, an appropriate strategy of investigation will be agreed with the CAO.

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 County Archaeological Officer 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 CAO.

# 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* (2016).

Albion Archaeology will endeavour to establish a transfer of title during the initial stage of the project. By the time of completion of post-excavation analysis and reporting, permission will have been sought for transfer of title of all finds to Oxfordshire's Museums Resource Centre (accession no. OXCMS: 2016.90).

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. albionar1-251581).

# 2.5 Liaison with the Oxfordshire County Archaeological Officer

The CAO is responsible for monitoring the project on behalf of the LPA to ensure adherence to this WSI and the maintenance of professional standards. The CAO will be given at least two weeks' notice of the start of the fieldwork and all reasonable access to the site and site documentation will be afforded to them.

Any variation to the WSI will be agreed with the client and the CAO before its implementation.

# 2.6 Project Timetable

The trenching will be scheduled to commence following approval of the WSI by the CAO and is expected to take approximately 4–8 weeks to complete, depending on findings. The report will be issued within 3–4 weeks of the completion of the fieldwork.

# 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 30 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.

#### 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 Robert Wardill MA, MCIfA, Project Manager: day-to-day operational management, budget management Project Officer – to be confirmed: management of site work and report preparation Project Supervisor – to be confirmed: On site supervision, report preparation Jackie Wells MA, Finds Officer: finds processing, artefact assessment and reporting Holly Duncan M Litt MCIfA, Artefacts Manager: finds management and reporting Joan Lightning, CAD/GIS Technician: archive digitisation and report illustrations

Supporting 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.



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 sub-contractors and continually seeks competitive quotes in order to avoid over-reliance on a single sub-contractor.

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

Artefact conservation	Birmingham Museums Trust
Coinage	Dr. Peter Guest
Faunal remains	Dr. Mark Maltby, Bournemouth University
Human remains	Dr. Corinne Duhig, Cambridge University
Plant, insect and molluscan	Dr. John Giorgi
remains	
Scientific dating	Scottish Universities Environmental
	Research Centre, University of Glasgow
Geoarchaeology and soils	James Rackham, The Environmental
	Archaeology Consultancy

# 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, 2000 Procedures Manual, Volume 1: Fieldwork 2nd Edition
- Bradley, R., 2014 'The Neolithic and Early Bronze Age Research Agenda', in Hey, G. and Hind, J., Solent-Thames Research Framework for the Historic Environment: Resource Assessment and Research Agendas, Oxford Wessex Monograph 6
- CAS, 2016. Land N E of Skimmingdish Lane, Launton: Design Brief for Archaeological field Evaluation. 5<sup>th</sup> May 2016.
- Everitt, J., 2002 Oxfordshire Museums Service Documentation Manual
- Fulford, M., 2014 'The Roman Period; Research Agenda', in Hey, G. and Hind,J., Solent-Thames Research Framework for the Historic Environment:Resource Assessment and Research Agendas, Oxford Wessex Monograph 6
- Grover Lewis Associates, 2015 Heritage Impact Assessment. Proposed development: Land north-east of Skimmingdish Lane, Bicester (Report GLA-174-v10)
- 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)
- Oxfordshire Museums Service, 2016 Requirements for Transferring Archaeological Archives
- Pine, J., 2001 'Bicester, Skimmingdish Lane', South Midlands Archaeology 31

# 6. APPENDIX 1: DETAILED METHOD STATEMENTS

# 6.1 Trial Trenching

- 1. All trenches will be a minimum of 30m long and 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 hearths, burials, surfaces, structural remains and the key relationships will 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 CAO 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 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);

- Description of each individual stage of investigation (method statement, results, limitations);
- 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. Buried and overhead services.
- 2. UXO
- 3. Safe access/egress to site
- 4. Public safety with regard to PRoW.
- 5. Welfare facilities for staff

# 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 post-fieldwork 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. Member of the Medieval Settlement Research Group. Member of the Society of Landscape Studies.

#### Employment History

1991 to present, Operations 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

#### **Robert Wardill: Project Manager**

Technical qualifications

MA Maritime Archaeology, University of Southampton, 2006

BSc (Hons) Archaeological Science, University of Sheffield, 1996

Member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

Core skills

The management of multiple fieldwork projects from inception to publication and archive. Experience of a wide variety of archaeological work, including excavation and post-excavation analysis.

Employment History

2006 to present, Project Manager with Albion Archaeology

2003–2005 Project Manager with Wessex Archaeology

1996–2003 Rejoined Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit in 1996 as a Site Assistant, being eventually promoted to Project Manager in 2000.

- 1991–1993 Employed as a Site Assistant with Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit before leaving to study for a degree in archaeology.
- 1981–1996 Employed and volunteered on various archaeological projects and with various organisations in the UK and abroad.

#### 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 100 BCAS/Albion Archaeology 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). Independent of Albion Archaeology, she has analysed the artefacts from the Roman roadside settlement at Alfoldean, West Sussex (due for publication). She is a member of the Study Group for Romano-British Pottery and Roman Finds Group.

#### Holly Duncan: Artefacts Manager (non-ceramics)

#### Technical qualifications

M Litt, Department of Archaeology, University of Glasgow, 1982 BA (Hons) Anthropology, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, 1976 Member of the Chartered Institute *for* Archaeologists

Core skills

Management and analysis of non-ceramic artefacts, with specialist knowledge of the post-Roman and medieval periods and substantial experience in the prehistoric and Roman periods. Responsible for the Bedfordshire Artefact Typology (BAT) in conjunction with the two registered museums in the county. Wide network of specialist researchers and conservation specialists.

#### Employment History

An artefact specialist since 1981, her work has been published in both Scottish and English archaeological journals, and she has conducted research in the United States. She is a member of both the Roman Finds Group and the Finds Research Group (AD700–1700); former committee member of the CIfA Finds Group, having sat on their Standards and Guidance for Finds Work Working Party; and a past member of the MDA Archaeological Objects Thesaurus Working Party.

#### Joan Lightning: CAD Technician, Albion Archaeology

Technical qualifications

BA (Hons) Archaeology and Prehistory

HND (Merit) Practical Archaeology

City and Guilds: AutoCAD 4351-01, and 4351-03.

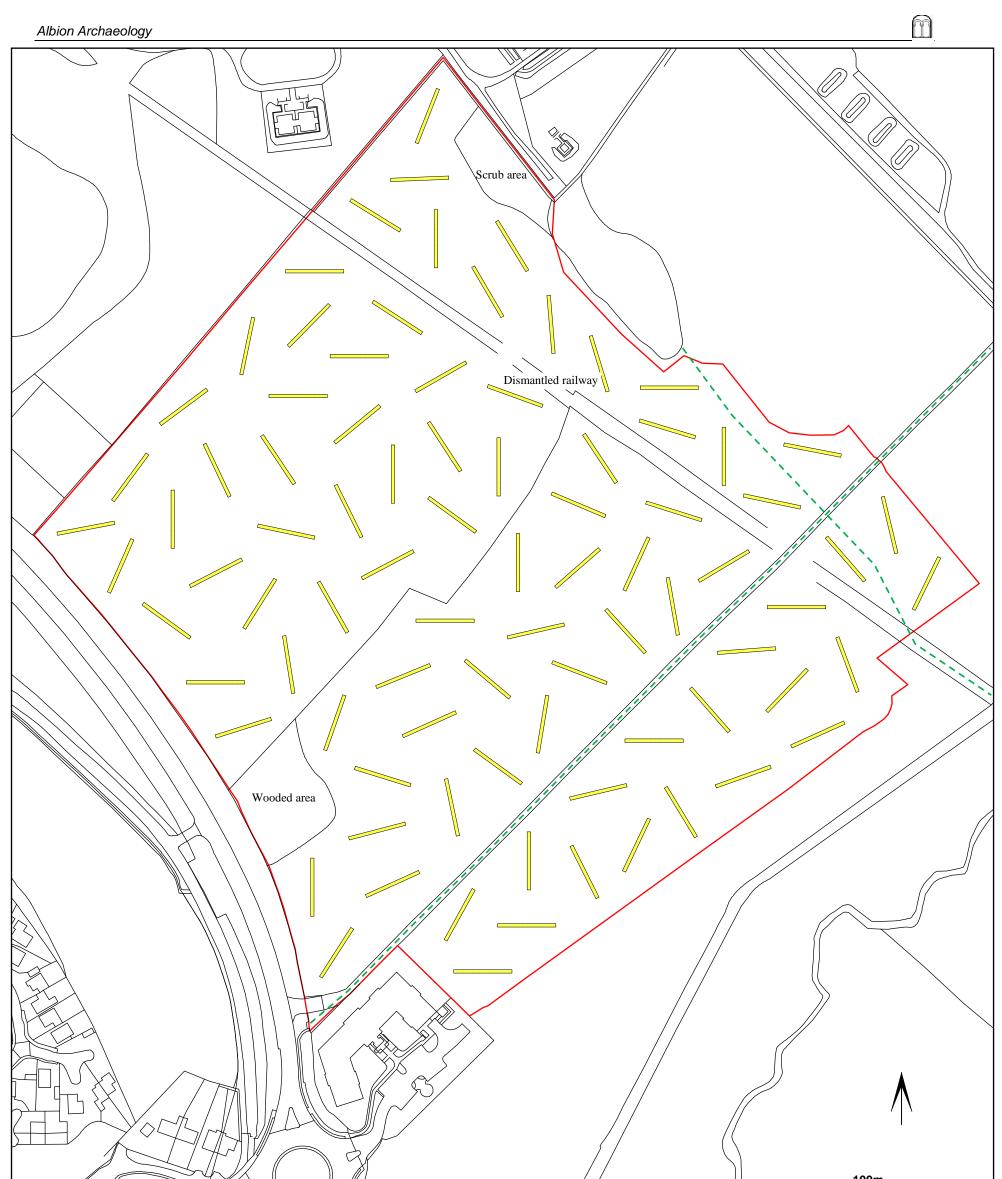
Core skills

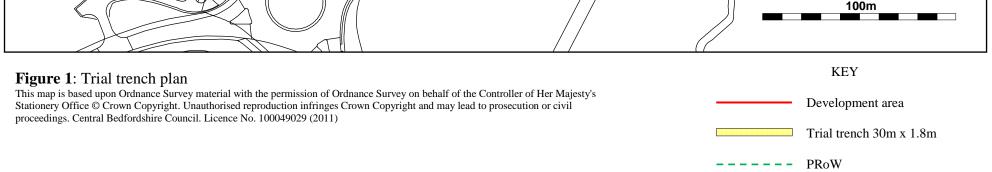
Experienced in using AutoCAD, Gsys, Aerial 5.12, Surfer 7, IntelliCAD, Access, Word, Corel Photopaint, Corel Draw and Corel Trace. Uses data collected from field survey to produce landscape survey plans and 3d models/deposit models. Also experienced at aerial photographic interpretation using Aerial. Joan has also undertaken some building recording work. *Employment History* 

1999 to 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.





Land North-East of Skimmingdish Lane, Launton, Bicester, Oxfordshire: Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation





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