



Archaeological desk-based heritage assessment of land at Bow Brickhill Milton Keynes

October 2015

Report No. 15/151

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Illustrator: James Ladocha



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Site Code:
NGR: SP 489235 234200

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OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project title	Archaeological desk-Based heritage assessment of land at Bow Brickhill, Milton Keynes	
Short description	MOLA Northampton conducted an Archaeological Desk-Based Heritage Assessment of land at Bow Brickhill, Milton Keynes. The site lies to the east of Fenny Stratford, the River Ouzel and the Grand Junction Canal and to the south-west of the village of Bow Brickhill. Areas to the north, south and south-west of the site have been subject to many archaeological excavations which have shown that the site lies between areas of dense Iron Age and Roman settlements. At Caldecotte to the north of the site, Iron Age enclosures and Roman settlement remains have been found. The Roman road of Watling Street and the small Roman defended town of Magiovinium lie close to the south-west boundary of the site and further Iron Age and Roman remains have been found to the south at Galley Lane. There are no heritage assets within the site but there are two references in the HER that lie within the boundary.	
Project type	Heritage Assessment	
Previous work	None	
Future work	Unknown	
Monument type and period	None	
Significant finds	None	
PROJECT LOCATION		
County	Milton Keynes	
Site address	Brickhill Street, Bow Brickhill	
Easting and northing	NGR SP 489235 234200	
Area	55ha	
Height OD	C71m aOD	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Organisation	MOLA Northampton	
Project brief originator		
Project Design originator	MOLA Northampton	
Director/ Supervisor	Mary Ellen Crothers	
Project Manager	Adam Yates	
Sponsor or funding body	Hampton Brook	
PROJECT DATE		
Start date	08/15	
End date	10/15	
ARCHIVES	Location (Accession no.)	Content (eg pottery, animal bone etc)
Physical		
Paper	MOLA Northampton	Map extracts
Digital	MOLA Northampton	Mapinfo Plans, Word Report
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
Journal/monograph, published or forthcoming, or unpublished client report (NA report)		
Title	Archaeological desk-based heritage assessment of land at Bow Brickhill, Milton Keynes	
Serial title & volume	15/151	
Author(s)	Mary Ellen Crothers	
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Date	10/15	

Contents

- 1 INTRODUCTION**
 - 1.1 Background**
 - 1.2 Policy background**
 - 1.3 Location, topography and geology**
 - 1.4 Sources consulted**

- 2 HERITAGE ASSET ASSESSMENT**
 - 2.1 Previous archaeological work**
 - 2.2 Summary and significance of heritage assets**
 - 2.3 Cartographic evidence**
 - 2.4 Aerial photographic evidence**

- 3 IMPACT ASSESSMENT**
 - 3.1 The proposed development**
 - 3.2 Potential impacts on the cultural heritage resource**

- 4 CONCLUSIONS**

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Tables

Table 1: Historic Environment Record (HER) details data

Table 2: Dropshort Farm land use

Table 3: Criteria for assessing the relative importance of cultural heritage sites

Figures

Front cover: View into cow pasture, looking south-west towards the A5

Fig 1: Site location

Fig 2: View from north-east corner, looking south

Fig 3: View from north-east corner, looking south-west

Fig 4: View of northern parcel of land, looking south from Bow Brickhill station

Fig 5: View from north-east corner, looking south-east

Fig 6: View of pasture fields on the south-western side of site, looking south-west

Fig 7: View from the centre of the site, looking east

Fig 8: View from boundary of Crossroads Farm, looking north

Fig 9: View from boundary of Crossroads Farm, looking north-west

Fig 10: View from centre of eastern boundary, looking west

Fig 11: Historic Environment Record (HER) data (non-Roman)

Fig 12: Historic Environment Record (HER) data (Roman)

Fig 13: Historic Environment Record (HER) data (events)

Fig 14: Jefferys' Map of Buckinghamshire, 1770

Fig 15: Bow Brickhill Tithe map, 1791

Fig 16: Bryant's Map of Buckinghamshire, 1825

Fig 17: Plan of Dropshort Farm in the parishes of Little and Bow Brickhill in the occupation of Mrs Morris, 1863

Fig 18: Ordnance Survey First Edition map, 1885

Fig 19: Ordnance Survey map, 1900

Fig 20: Ordnance Survey map, 1950

Fig 21: Oblique aerial photograph looking south-south-west

Archaeological desk-based heritage assessment of land at Bow Brickhill, Milton Keynes October 2015

Abstract

MOLA Northampton conducted an Archaeological Desk-Based Heritage Assessment of land at Bow Brickhill, Milton Keynes.

The site lies to the east of Fenny Stratford, the River Ouzel and the Grand Junction Canal and to the south-west of the village of Bow Brickhill. Areas to the north, south and south-west of the site have been subject to many archaeological excavations which have shown that the site lies between areas of dense Iron Age and Roman settlements. At Caldecotte to the north of the site, Iron Age enclosures and Roman settlement remains have been found. The Roman road of Watling Street and the small Roman defended town of Magiovinium lie close to the south-west boundary of the site and further Iron Age and Roman remains have been found to the south at Galley Lane. There are no heritage assets within the site but there are two references in the HER that lie within the boundary.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

MOLA Northampton was commissioned by Hampton Brook to conduct an Archaeological Desk-Based Heritage Assessment of land at Bow Brickhill, Milton Keynes (NGR SP 489235 234200 Fig 1).

The present report has considered the evidence of Buckinghamshire Archives, a Milton Keynes Historic Environment Record (HER) search radius of 1km and that of relevant published and archived documentary and cartographic sources. Internet sources consulted included the Archaeology Data Service (ads.ahds.ac.uk) and Historic England to check the National Monuments Record information. A site visit was also undertaken to assess the topography of the site.

The aim of the assessment was to collate information about the known or potential archaeological resource within the development area (including its presence or absence, character and extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and relative quality). The work has been undertaken in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment* (ClfA 2014). English Heritage guidance documents concerning the setting of heritage assets were also consulted (HE 2015a and b).

1.2 Policy background

National policy

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) provides national guidance on the preservation, management and investigation of the parts of the historic environment that are historically, archaeologically, architecturally or artistically

significant and are known as heritage assets. The NPPF replaced PPS5 in March 2012, which in turn replaced Planning Policy Guidance Notes 15 and 16 (PPG 15 and 16) in March 2010.

The framework covers those heritage assets that possess a level of interest sufficient to justify designation as well as those that are not designated but which are of heritage interest and are thus a material planning consideration. Where nationally important archaeological remains are affected by development then there should be a presumption in favour for their conservation.

Paragraph 128 states that *Local Planning Authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the asset's importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance.*

Paragraph 129 states that *Local planning authorities should identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset that may be affected by a proposal (including by development affecting the setting of a heritage asset) taking account of the available evidence and any necessary expertise.*

Regional policy

The strategic development plan policy framework was provided by the East of England Plan 2008 but was revoked in 2013.

Local Policy

The Milton Keynes Development Plan currently comprises the Core Strategy (2013) as well as the remaining saved policies of the Local Plan (2005). Whilst the Core Strategy was adopted in 2013 and conforms with the Framework, a large majority of the Development Management policies are contained within the saved Local Plan (2005), which pre-dates the Framework. Therefore, due weight should be given to relevant policies in existing plans according to their degree of consistency with the Framework.

Policy HE1 protection of archaeological sites

Planning permission will be refused for development proposals that would have an adverse impact upon a Scheduled Ancient Monument or its setting, or unscheduled site of local, regional or national importance or their settings. Where development is proposed affecting an unscheduled site of known archaeological interest then archaeological investigations will need to be carried out to establish a mitigation and/or excavation strategy prior to development being permitted.

Where development is permitted, consent will be subject to a legal agreement and/or conditions, to ensure that:

- (i) Archaeological remains are preserved in situ; or
- (ii) In appropriate circumstances, provision is made for the evaluation, excavation and recording of below and above ground archaeological remains prior to and during development, followed by post excavation research and publication of the results of the investigation.

Policy HE2 buildings of special architectural or historic interest (listed buildings)

The Council will exercise its Planning and Listed Building Control powers to safeguard the preservation of Listed Buildings by permitting a change of use where it would contribute to the retention of the building without adversely affecting its character, special interest or structural integrity. The Council will exercise its concurrent development control powers to ensure or secure the preservation of

statutorily listed buildings. Development involving the change of use of listed buildings may be permitted where it would demonstrably contribute towards the restoration, retention or future maintenance of such buildings, without adversely affecting their special architectural or historic interest. Where an application for a change of use will require alterations to a listed building, an application for Listed Building Consent should be submitted at the same time.

The Saved Policies of the Local Plan (2005)

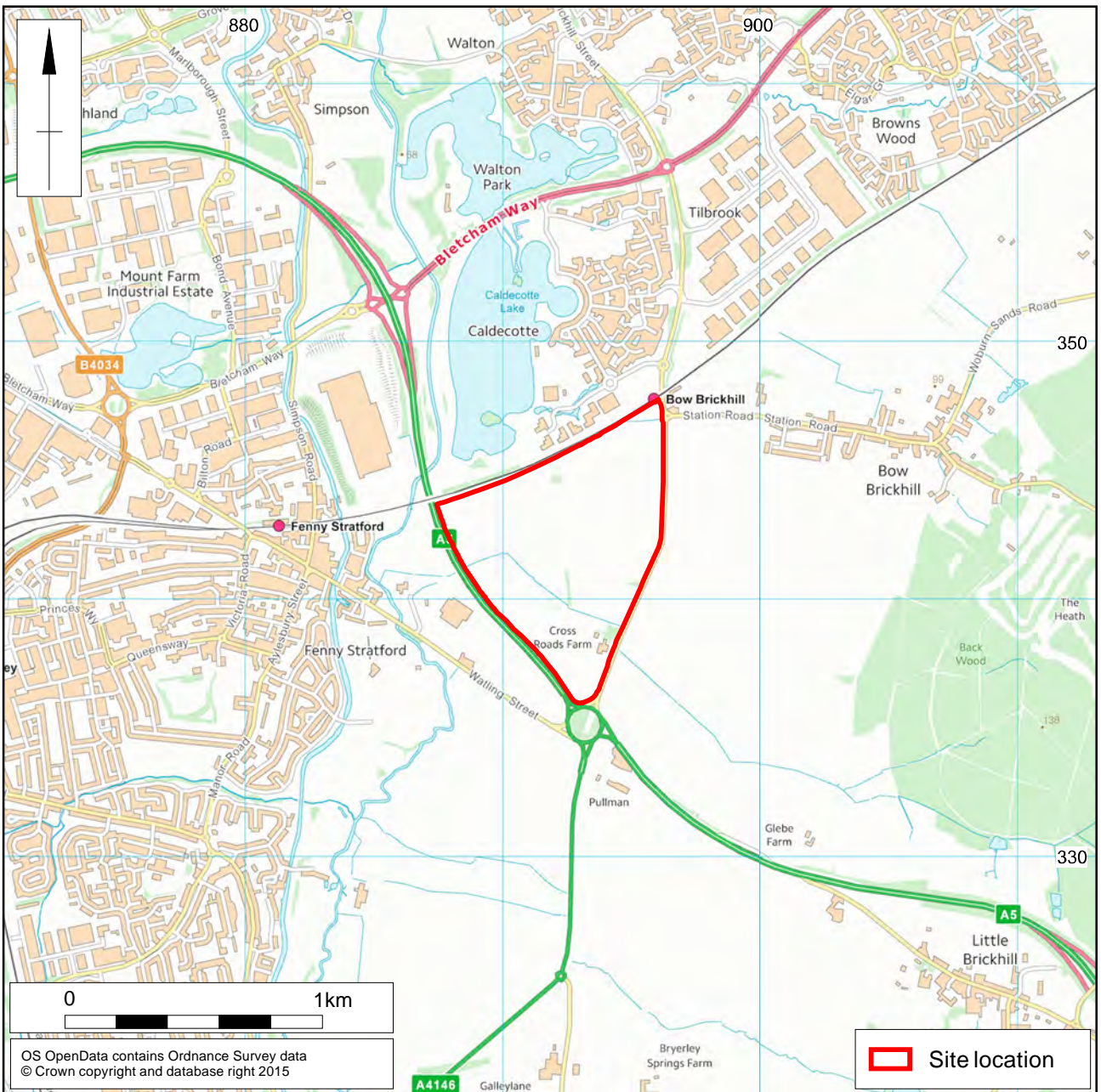
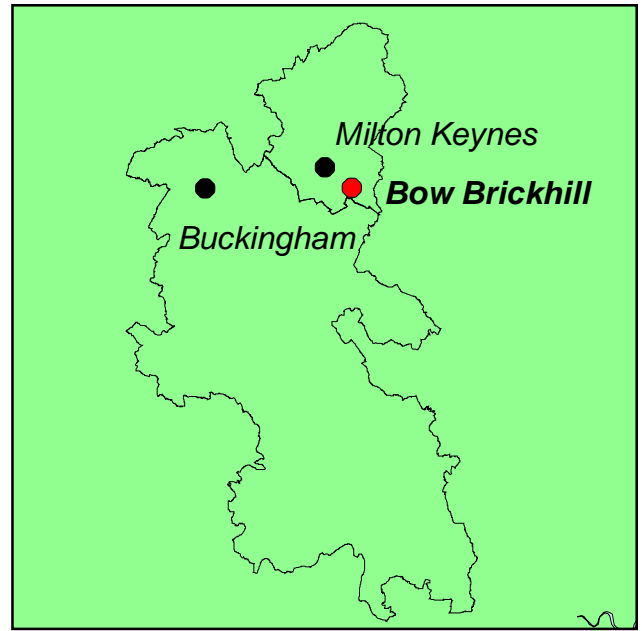
The relevant policies are set out below.

Policy S10: Open Countryside states that: -

“The open countryside is defined as all land outside of the development boundaries defined on the Proposals Map. In the open countryside, planning permission will only be given for development that is essential for agricultural, forestry, countryside recreation or other development which is wholly appropriate to a rural area and cannot be located within a settlement

Policy S12: Linear Parks states that development proposals in the Linear Parks should contribute to achieving the following objectives:

- (i) Protecting and improving the landscape*
- (ii) Protecting and enhancing features of nature conservation value*
- (iii) Retaining and improving public access to land and water areas for countryside recreation*
- (iv) Flood Control*
- (v) Minimising any adverse impact on local residents and agriculture*
- (vi) Protecting and interpreting areas of archaeological interest.”*



Scale 1:25,000 (A4)

Site Location Fig 1

1.3 Location, topography and geology

The proposed development site lies at the southern edge of the urban area of Milton Keynes, south-west of the village of Bow Brickhill. (Fig 1). The site is approximately 55ha and roughly triangular. It occupies the entire space between Brickhill Street to the east, the railway to the north and the A5 to the west. The topography is a level but gently rolling landscape divided into large fields under arable and pasture agricultural rotation. The site also includes Crossroads Farm which fronts onto Brickhill Street towards the southern end of the site.

The superficial geology comprises fine loamy clayey oxpasture soils which overlie mudstone and Oxford Clay Formation. (BGS geindex – bgs.ac.uk). The site lies at c71m aOD.



View from north-east corner, looking south Fig 2



View from north-east corner, looking south-west Fig 3



View of northern parcel of land, looking south from Bow Brickhill station Fig 4



View from north-eastern corner, looking south-east Fig 5



View of pasture fields on the south-western side of site, looking south-west Fig 6



View from the centre of the site, looking east Fig 7



View from boundary of Crossroads Farm, looking north Fig 8



View from boundary of Crossroads Farm, looking north-west Fig 9



View from centre of eastern boundary, looking west Fig 10

1.4 Sources consulted

The Milton Keynes Historic Environment Record (HER) was consulted for documented sites and monuments within the proposed development area and a nominal 1km radius surrounding it (Figs 11-13). A visit to Buckinghamshire Archives was undertaken in order to check historic maps of the area, as well as any other pertinent documents and local history books.

Books held within MOLA's library and further online sources (*nationalarchives.gov.uk*, *archaeologydataservice.ac.uk* and *historicengland.org.uk*) were also consulted in order to check for further information. A site visit was also made in order to collate photographic information and to assess the topography of the area.

2 HERITAGE ASSET ASSESSMENT

The site lies to the south-west of Bow Brickhill close to the north of the Roman road of Watling Street. There are no designated heritage assets within the boundary of the site but two references in the HER fall within it. An Iron Age enclosure has been identified through aerial photography in the centre of the site and a Saxon strap end has been found in the north-east corner through metal detecting.

Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic flints have been found in areas adjacent to the canal and the River Ouzel to the south-west and west of the site. A late Bronze Age socketed axe fragment, ring gully enclosures and a pit alignment have been found to the west of the site. Iron Age ditched enclosures and a child inhumation have been found to the north of the site at Caldecotte

Finds of all archaeological periods have been found in the vicinity of the site but the most significant remains date to the Iron Age and Roman periods. An Iron Age settlement has been found to the north of the site at Caldecotte Lake and to the south of the site at Galley Lane. The small Roman defended town of *Magiovinium*, Scheduled Monument number 1006943, lies to the south-east and south of the site and further Roman remains have been found to the north at Caldecotte. A Saxon settlement has also been found at Caldecotte. The site lies beyond the historic settlements of Bow Brickhill and Fenny Stratford and is likely to have been used as farmland during the medieval and post-medieval periods.

The nominal HER search of a 1km radius around the centre of the site and the designation listing at Historic England has shown that there is one Scheduled Monument and eight listed buildings and within the search area. The Roman site of *Magiovinium* is Scheduled Monument 1006943 and includes the land to the south of Watling Street between the Ouzel and the A4146 and land to the north of Watling Street between Dropshort Farm, Galley Lane roundabout and the A5. The listed buildings all lie to the west of the site at Fenny Stratford and comprise houses at 56-62 Simpson Road (MMK4342), The Red Lion public house (MMK4341), Lock View and Pine View (MMK3367), the canal lock (MMK3370), lock keeper's cottage (MMK3371), the Toll House (MMK3372), 11 and 13 Watling Street and St Martin's Church (MMK2577).

Searches of the HER and Historic England's designation records have shown that there are no registered battlefields or parks and gardens within the vicinity of the site.

A watching brief at Crossroads Farm in 2006 revealed only modern disturbance, a field drain and recent sheep burials.

Table 1: Historic Environment Record (HER) data

References in **bold** lie within the site boundary

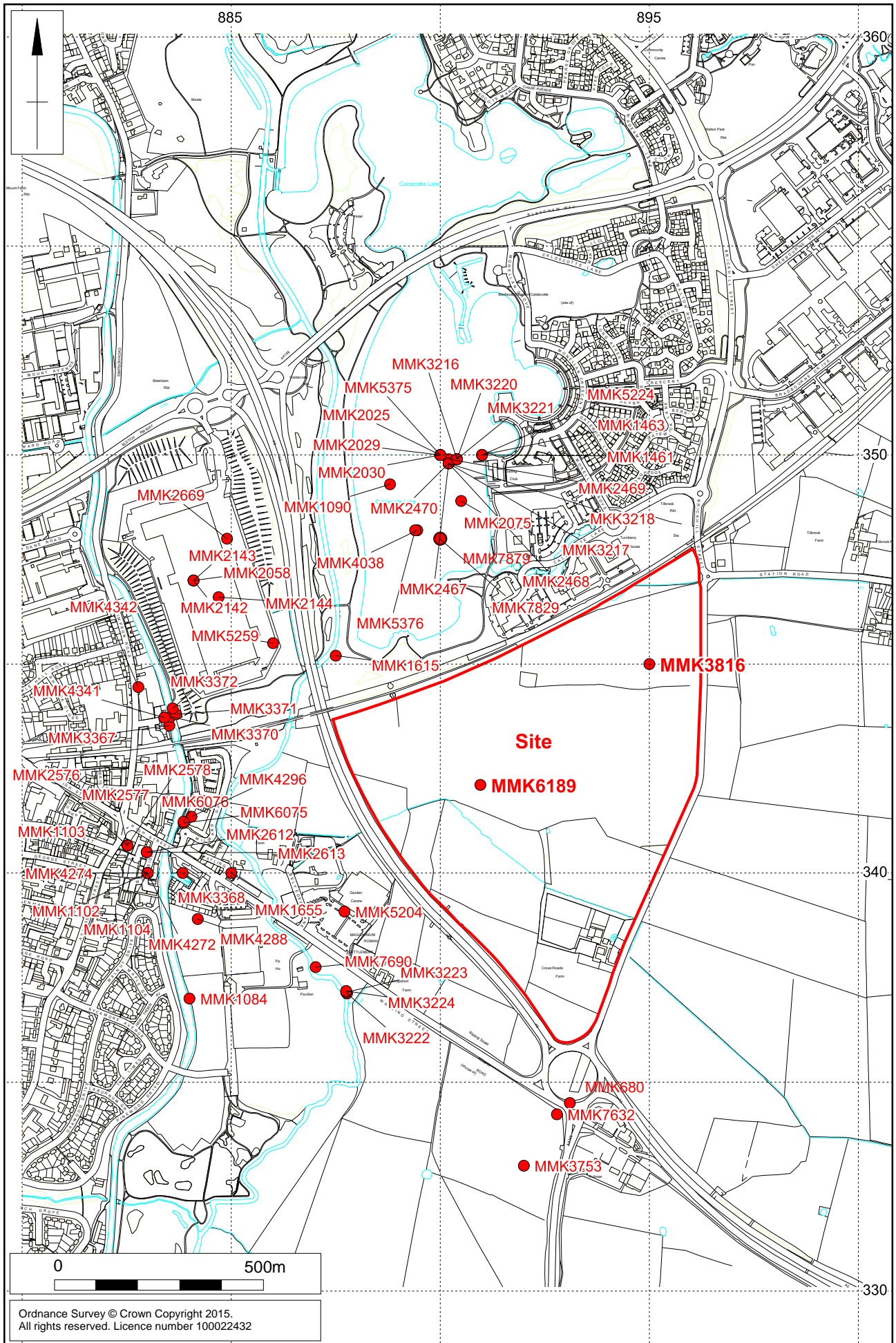
HER ref	Description	Location	
MMK669	Magiovinium Roman Town	489013	233601
MMK670	Magiovinium	489200	233500
MMK671	Findspot - Roman coins	489200	233500
MMK672	Magiovinium: various sites findspot - Roman pottery, path	488860	233770
MMK673	Auld Fields/Magiovinium - coins, building foundations	489200	233500
MMK674	Findspot - ring, intaglios, bead	489200	233500
MMK675	Findspot - Nicolo glass intaglio of Cupid fishing	489000	233700
MMK676	Bow brooch	489240	233490
MMK677	Bust and figure of eagle near White Hart Inn	489200	233500
MMK678	Figurine of ram	489300	233300
MMK679	600 Roman coins - A5	489200	233500
MMK680	Triangular dagger/sword chape - late Iron Age, A5 roundabout	489310	233450
MMK681	MD finds - ligula, brooches, lead seal, buckles	489200	233500
MMK682	Querns - puddingstone, sandstone, millstone grit	489200	233500
MMK683	Vicus. Fort and vicu preceded by a small defended town	489200	233500
MMK684	Roman fort? Cropmark on AP	489200	233350
MMK685	Roman building	489200	233500
MMK686	Roman building	488950	233950
MMK687	Industrial site	489300	233500
MMK688	Magiovinium potato store	489450	233360
MMK689	Magiovinium town defences	489000	233600
MMK692	Magiovinium cemetery, bathing station.	488600	233750
MMK693	Galley Lane. 4th century temple?, coins and skellies	489324	233324
MMK694	Galley Lane. Roman skeletons.	489324	233324
MMK695	Galley Lane. Coin hoard.	489324	233324
MMK696	Magiovinium. Skeleton, extra mural	489300	233500
MMK697	Auld Fields/Magiovinium. Coins found in 1813	489200	233500
MMK698	296 silver dinarii, latest AD183	489324	233324
MMK699	Pottery vessels, sand tempered grey ware. Late 3rd to 4th century BC	489300	233335
MMK700	Tools. 2 axes, 1 chisel, 1 spoon-bit, 1 punch	489310	233312
MMK1084	Lithic implement	488400	233700
MMK1090	Blade	488880	234930
MMK1102	Hand axe. Ficron type. Fenny Stratford canalside	488300	234000
MMK1103	Bifaced handaxe. Fenny Stratford canalside	488300	234000
MMK1104	Ovate handaxe made on flake	488300	234000
MMK1461	Late Iron Age ditched enclosure	489100	235000
MMK1463	Iron Age enclosure, Caldecotte	489100	235000
MMK1464	Enclosure with inhumation and cremation pit	489100	235000
MMK1465	Inhumation. Juvenile with cremation	489100	235000
MMK1466	Pottery sherds	488410	234700
MMK1572	Findspot. No detail.	488400	233750
MMK1573	Bronze Colchester type III fibula, AD 0-60	488500	234200
MMK1574	16 Roman coins, from Antonius Pius AD 138-61 to Valentinian II 364-78	488400	233950
MMK1575	2 bi-conical lead weights	488400	233950
MMK1576	5 bronze coins	488400	233950
MMK1615	Palaeochannel, with finds. No info.	488750	234520
MMK1655	Cordiform handaxe	488500	234000
MMK1801	tegulae/imbrices, grey shell-gritted	488771	233723
MMK1802	Roman pottery - Foot of Nene Valley beaker, samian and other sherds from dredging the Ouzel	488773	233720
MMK1856	Damaged Roman features at Mill Close South, Caldecotte	489050	234890

MMK1857	Roman stone wall? - damaged feature at Mill Close South	489050	234890
MMK2025	Caldecotte SMV	489000	235000
MMK2029	Caldecotte SMV - post built building excavated 1979	489000	235000
MMK2030	Caldecotte SMV - middle Saxon and Late Saxon pottery	489000	235000
MMK2058	Saxon pottery sherd found in field	488410	234700
MMK2075	3 Saxon sherd at Caldecotte balancing lake found during topsoil stripping	489050	234890
MMK2142	Medieval pottery and MD finds	488410	234700
MMK2143	13th century pottery sherds - St Neots ware	488410	234700
MMK2144	Medieval pottery sherds	488470	234660
MMK2467	Excavations at Caldecotte balancing lake. Site of medieval mill	489020	234980
MMK2468	Caldecotte Mill (worth 10 shillings in Brichelle (Bow Brickhill))	489020	234980
MMK2469	Caldecotte fishpond to west of mill	489020	234990
MMK2470	Medieval pottery	489020	234980
MMK2576	St Margaret's Chapel. Endowed 1494, dissolved 1553	488252	234066
MMK2577	St Martin's Church 18th century on site of med C16th chapel	488252	234066
MMK2578	St martin's Church medieval chapel	488252	234066
MMK2612	Guildhall, Fenny Stratford	488298	234050
MMK2613	Guildhall - Chantry House. WB MMK2614	488298	234050
MMK2669	Pottery rim	488490	234800
MMK3216	Caldecotte Watermill, 17th-18th	489040	234990
MT K3217	clay pipe stems, 17th, Caldecotte Lake	489020	234980
MT K3218	Green glazed blue brick at Caldecotte lake	489020	234980
MT K3220	Mill leat at Caldecotte Lake	489040	234990
MT K3221	Mill House 17th-18th Caldecotte Lake	489040	234990
MT K3222	Brick/tiles from dredging of the Ouzel	488777	233712
MT K3223	Quern and whetstone from dredging the Ouzel	488775	233715
MT K3224	Potterspurys wares. Victorian porcelain and Staffordshire stoneware from dredging the Ouzel	488775	233718
MMK3367	Lock View and Pine View. Grade II house by canal lock	488352	234353
MMK3368	Wharf. 19th.	488384	234000
MMK3370	canal lock. Grade II.	488355	234374
MMK3371	Lock keeper's cottage. Grade II	488368	234380
MMK3372	Toll House. Grade II.	488360	234394
MMK3753	Spur fragments	489200	233300
MMK3816	Strap end with animal head	489500	234500
MMK4038	2 leather shoe soles above remains of 15th-17th riverboat	488945	234820
MMK4272	Clay pipe bowl	488300	234000
MMK4273	Vessel base.	488300	234000
MMK4274	MD objects including musket balls, rings and a buckle	488300	234000
MMK4288	Brickworks. 19th. On 1881 map.	488420	233890
MMK4296	Limekiln at Clarkes brickyard	488405	234135
MMK4341	The Red Lion public house. 20th. Grade II	488340	234372
MMK4342	Grade II house. 1840-50	488278	234445
MMK5204	Rectilinear enclosure seen through Geo survey	488771	233908
MMK5224	Ditched enclosure of uncertain function	489100	235000
MMK5259	late Bronze Age socketed axe fragment	488600	234550
MMK5375	Saxon post-built structure	489000	235000
MMK5376	Caldecotte boat. double-ended boat 15th-17th	488940	234820
MMK5388	Caldecotte, copper alloy brooch, hod hill type. 1st AD	489100	235000
MMK5508	Magiovinium - Roman pottery found in 1973	489340	233460
MMK5509	Magiovinium - pottery sherds	489300	233600
MMK5510	Magiovinium - pottery sherds from Galley Lane	489200	233400
MMK5511	Magiovinium - pottery from Pullman Café forecourt	489420	233300
MMK5512	Magiovinium - 9 inhumations. All disturbed.	489290	233300

MMK5589	Rectilinear enclosure at Belvedere Nursery	488773	233831
MMK5590	Rectilinear enclosure at Belvedere Nursery	488780	233877
MMK5591	Rectilinear enclosure at Belvedere Nursery	488784	233937
MMK5910	2 Burials, possibly part of The Bathing Station cemetery	488746	233756
MMK5911	1 burial, possibly part of The Bathing Station cemetery	488760	233739
MMK5974	Roman road leading northwards from Magiovinium	488951	233927
MMK5975	Cremation cemetery. 3 cremations using cooking pots as urns	488907	233975
MMK6075	Clarke's Brickyard wharf	488386	234120
MMK6076	Clarke's Brickyard	483886	234123
MMK6189	Rectilinear enclosure seen on AP	489096	234211
MMK7171	Gaulish Dragendorff type 37 bowl sherd.	488500	234500
MMK7632	site of toll booth seen on 1813 map	489279	233423
MMK7657	Magiovinium north-west town defence ditch	488809	233740
MMK7658	Magiovinium south-east town defences	489103	233544
MMK7690	Fenny Stratford bathing place. Seen 1900 map	488702	233775
MMK7725	Forger's hoard of coin blanks and dies found in 3 pots	489300	233335
MMK7785	pottery found at Mill Close South, Caldecotte	489050	234890
MMK7787	Copper alloy disc brooch	489000	234800
MMK7788	Mill Close South, Caldecotte. Roman finds including bronze sheet frags, buckle frags, buttons, bronze ring, bronze spoon handle, fittings and weights.	489000	234800
MMK7829	Copper alloy equal armed brooch.	489000	234800
MMK7860	Bronze coin	489400	235000
EMK1031	Watching brief , gas pipeline	489348	233371
EMK1036	Excavation at Magiovinium bathing place. Tapper excavation	488741	233780
EMK1037	Watching brief, Magiovinium sewer pipe	489132	233532
EMK1038	Watching brief, River Ouzel	488770	233715
EMK1042	Watching brief , A5 drainage ditch	488900	233689
EMK112	Watching brief, land at Belvedere Nurseries	488773	233899
EMK124	Watching brief, Magiovinium water pipe trench	489290	233390
EMK125	Excavation at Magiovinium - Fenny Stratford Bypass	489310	233530
EMK132	Geophysical survey, Magiovinium Roman Road, 1978	488916	233915
EMK145	Excavation at Roman fort site 1986	489290	233390
EMK147	Excavation at petrol station and restaurant site 1987	489400	233400
EMK15	Watching brief, Dropshort Farm service trenching 1971	489060	233575
EMK154	Rescue excavation, Little Brickhill bypass, 1990	489295	233311
EMK156	Excavation, Little Brickhill and Fenny Stratford bypasses	489566	233317
EMK16	Watching brief at the Bathing Station, 1971	488700	233800
EMK174	Geophysical survey, Belvedere Nurseries, 1994	488760	233910
EMK19	Excavation south of the Ouzel, 1911	488725	233722
EMK193	Excavation at Fenny Lock Tesco site	488400	234500
EMK2	Rescue Excavation, Magovinium, road widening	489322	233414
EMK206	Geophysical survey and fieldwalking, Eaton Leys, Fenny Stratford, 1999	488950	233270
EMK212	Rescue Excavation, Sherwood Drive	488547	234309
EMK270	Watching brief. A5 corner site, Fenny Stratford, 1978	488244	234140
EMK271	Trial trenching , Simpson Mounds, 1978	488556	233570
EMK278	Excavation, Mill Close enclosure, 1982	489100	235000
EMK280	Watching Brief at Mill Close South, Caldecotte, 1982	489050	234890
EMK282	Rescue Excavation, Caldecotte boat, 1982	488900	234800
EMK291	Building survey, Fenny Stratford Guildhall, 1984	488303	234071
EMK301	Rescue Excavation, Fenny Stratford Church, 1987	488252	234066
EMK32	Excavation, Magiovinium, bathing station, 1964	488768	233755
EMK327	Trial trenching , Fenny Marina, 1998	488400	234000
EMK349	Watching brief, 20-26 Watling Street, 2000	488294	234117
EMK370	Watching brief, Reckitts Colour Site, Site A, 1996	488390	234070
EMK372	Geophysical survey, Belvedere Nurseries, 1999	488793	233924

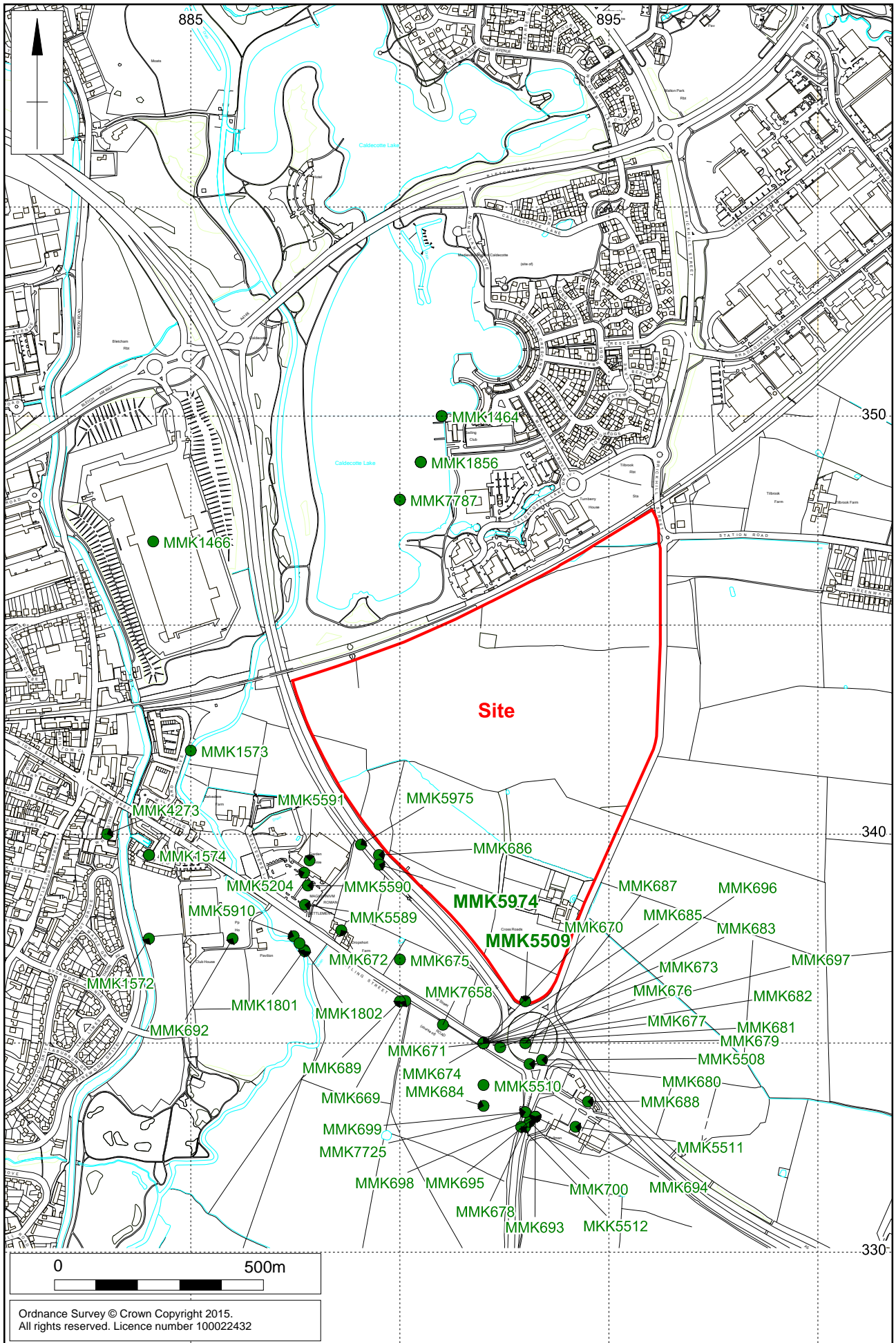
MILTON KEYNES, BOW BRICKHILL

EMK407	Excavation, Dropshort Farm, 1975	488958	233966
EMK458	Trial trenching, Belvedere Nurseries, 2001	488756	233894
EMK496	Trial trenching at Fenny Lock Tesco Site, 1996	488400	234500
EMK516	Watching brief, Magiovinium water pipe trench, 1976	489294	233410
EMK527	Excavation, Magiovinium, bathing station, 1956	488768	233755
EMK53	Excavation, Little Brickhill gas pipeline, 1967	489311	233317
EMK69	Watching brief, Magiovinium, south-east quadrant, 1974	489070	233480
EMK77	Excavation at Caldecotte Mill, 1980	489040	234990
EMK791	Excavation and trial trenching, Magiovinium site 18, 1980	488960	233930
EMK798	Trial trenching at Belvedere Nursery, 2004	488852	233961
EMK80	Trial trenching at Caldecotte enclosure, 1980	489100	235000
EMK89	Excavation at Caldecotte watermill, 1981	489040	234990
EMK892	Watching brief at Little Brickhill, Milton Keynes	489451	233361
EMK9	Excavation , Magiovinium, Galley Lane Cross Roads, 1970	489309	233465
EMK906	Watching brief, Belvedere Nurseries, 2006	488759	233877
EMK908	Watching brief, Cross Roads Farm, 2006	489378	233779
EMK948	Strip, map and sample, former Reckitt and Coleman site, 2006	488416	234143



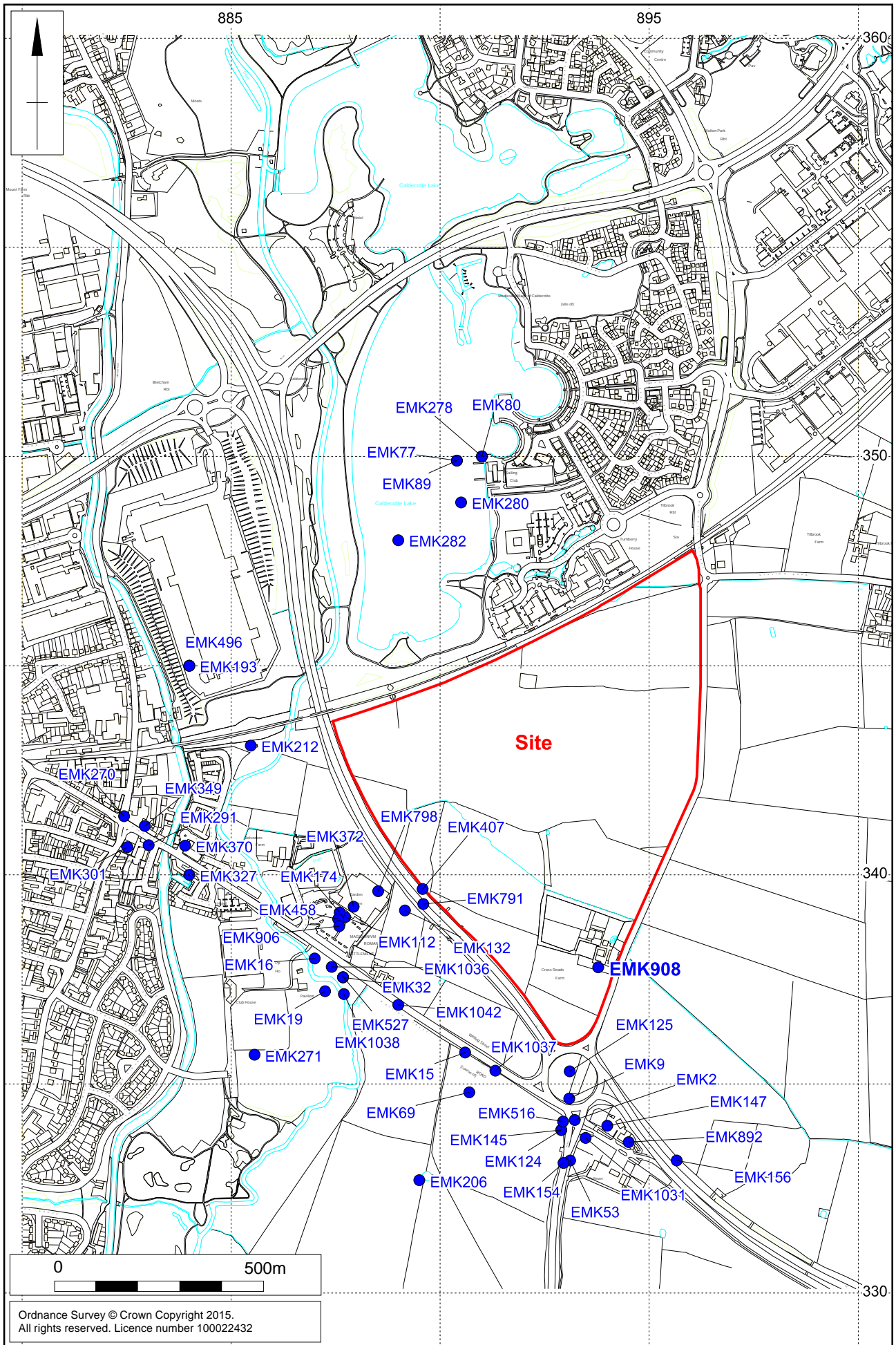
Scale 1: 12,500

Non-Roman Historic Environment Record (HER) data Fig 11



Scale 1: 12,500

Roman Historic Environment Record (HER) data Fig 12



Scale 1: 12,500

Event Historic Environment Record (HER) data Fig 13

2.1 Previous archaeological work

The area around the site has been subject to many archaeological investigations including watching briefs, excavations, trial trenching, fieldwalking and geophysical survey; one of which falls within the site (Fig 13). A watching brief at Crossroads Farm in 2006 revealed only modern disturbance, a field drain and recent sheep burials (EMK908). An excavation at Dropshort Farm in 1977 along the line of the A5 diversion which now forms the western boundary of the site revealed 1st-century timber framed-buildings that had been burnt down, parallel ditches and a stone structure positioned across earlier features (EMK407).

2.2 Summary and significance of heritage assets

Palaeolithic

A Ficron type handaxe (MMK1102), a small pointed biface handaxe (MMK1103) and a small ovate handaxe (MMK1104) of Palaeolithic date was found at the canal side at Fenny Stratford to the west of the site. A cordiform handaxe was also found to the west of Watling Street during drainage works (MMK1655).

Mesolithic

Excavations at the Fenny Lock Tesco site in 1996 to the west of the proposed development site revealed limited evidence for the Mesolithic period in the form of undated features (EMK193). A punch-struck Mesolithic blade was found in ploughsoil to the rear of the sewage works at Bletchley (MMK1090). To the north-east of the site, Mesolithic tools were also found in sandpits near Bow Brickhill church and included two scrapers, a core and a number of waste flakes (Markham, 1973)

Neolithic

Trial trenching at the Fenny Lock Tesco site produced a small pit containing Neolithic flint and pottery (EMK496) and at the canal site in Fenny Stratford a lithic implement dating to the early Neolithic or Bronze Age was found in dredged mud (MMK1084).

Bronze Age

A late Bronze Age socketed axe fragment was found during metal detecting south of the former Bletchley Sewerage Works (MMK5259). Ring gully enclosures and a pit alignment also dating to the period were found during excavation at the Fenny Lock Tesco site to the north-west (EMK193).

Iron Age

Late Iron Age ditched enclosures of uncertain function were found to the north of the site at Mill Close, Caldecotte (MMK5224). Further enclosures have also been recorded in the same location (MMK1463) and a third group included the flexed burial of a child (MMK1461, EMK278, EMK80). A rectilinear cropmark enclosure complex has also been identified from aerial photography in the centre of the site (M Farley Ref: A25/25/13 dated 17/07/96; MMK6189). An Iron Age settlement (EMK147) and pottery (EMK9) were found during excavations preceding road works at Galley Lane Crossroads, now the roundabout at the boundary of the southern end of the site and a bronze triangular dagger or sword chape was also found during metal detecting (MMK680).

Roman

The archaeology of area to the south-west of the site is dominated by the small Roman defended town of *Magiovinium* (MMK669, MMK670, MMK672) which is a Scheduled Monument and is situated either side of the Roman road of Watling Street (now the A5) between *Ducobrivae* (Dunstable) and *Lactodorum* (Towcester) where the road crossed the River Ouzel. The name relates to the word 'market' and a place where things are bought and sold (Markham 1973). *Magiovinium* has been subject to a large number of antiquarian studies, excavations, watching briefs and geophysical surveys spanning more than 200 years. It comprises 8 hectares of enclosed settlement but the precise limits are uncertain. Part of its bank can be seen both to the south-west of Dropshort Farm (MMK7657) and to the south-east of the town (MMK689, MMK7658) but other parts have been denuded by later ridge and furrow. Since as early as 1732, Roman coins were reported from Fenny Stratford (MMK671) and in 1806 Lyson recorded that 'coins and foundations of buildings have been dug up in abundance' (MMK697). In 1848 Roach Smith recorded the discovery of a figure of an eagle (MMK677) on a piece of land adjoining the Inn (The White Hart Inn, now Dropshort Farm) and Sheahan recorded that in 1857 'a great number of human bones and skulls' were found. Beyond the town, occupation consisted of buildings fronting Watling Street and field systems aligned with the fort. Industrial structures included smithies that serviced road traffic (Neal 1987).

During excavations at the bathing station site at *Magiovinium* in 1955 (MMK692, EMK1036), graves were found cut into the floors of the Roman buildings. Finds also included 40 3rd-to 4th-century coins (Tapper 1955), the skull of a kitten, horse bones, an iron knife, an iron ring and pottery dating to the 2nd and fourth centuries (EMK16). A further hoard of 600 4th-century coins was found in 1964 along with graves and building debris (EMK32). Further burials were found at the site by the Police in 2003 (MMK5910, MMK5911) and during a watching brief for a sewer pipe further to the west, ditches, gullies, wall footings and pottery dating to the 4th century were found (EMK1037).

A watching brief in advance of laying a gas pipeline to the east of Galley lane crossroads revealed a hoard of 296 *dinarii* (MMK698, EMK1031) and nearby to the west, a hoard of ironwork comprising two lugged axes, a chisel and a spoon-bit was also found (MMK700) (Wilson, 1968). A 4th-century temple was also found with a hoard of 651 4th-century coins and skeletons (MMK693, MMK694, MMK695, MMK696) and two stone surfaces, a pit with fused furnace waste and a horse burial were also found during the works (EMK53).

Immediately to the east of the main settlement of *Magiovinium* in Auld Fields, further remains dating to the Roman period have been found. It is thought that these represent a vicus and fort that preceded the later defended town of *Magiovinium*, and that many buildings were cleared in association with the construction of the defences (MMK683). In the 4th century, part of this industrial area was reused as a cemetery. Coins and building foundations have been recorded in the 18th century (MMK673). A ring, a small intaglio, a 2nd-century glass bead, fibulae and a bronze bracelet (MMK674), a Nicolo glass intaglio showing Cupid fishing from a rock (MMK675), a bow brooch (MMK676) and a figurine of a ram (MMK678) have also been found with sherds of pottery (MMK5510, EMK154). The south-east defensive boundary ditch was observed during a watching brief in 1974 for installation works for a field drainage system. The ditch was observed as being deep with possible stone revetment. Little occupation was seen in the south of the area but a consistent scatter of pottery and building material was seen towards the east. Two buildings were also identified within the walls and a third was recorded virtually in the ditch on the eastern side (EMK69). To the south of the roundabout, a Roman fort has been

identified through aerial photography (MMK684, EMK156) and pottery has been found from the forecourt of the Pullman Café (MMK5511). A rescue excavation on the south side of the roundabout in 1969 identified at least five main phases of occupation (EMK2). During the construction of the Fenny Stratford bypass to the south of the site, nine disturbed inhumations were found (MMK5512).

The excavations at Site 18 to the north of Dropshort Farm revealed a Roman road with a metalled surface formed of cobbles extracted from pits alongside its course. The road was seen leading north out of the west entrance of *Magiovinium* and it is possible that this lead to Irchester via Harrold, Bedfordshire. There were also traces of allotments defined by gullies next the road which were also identified through geophysical survey in 1978 (EMK132, EMK791, MMK5974) (Neal, 1987).

The construction process of the new A5 road or the Fenny Stratford bypass which forms the western boundary of the site made numerous discoveries in connection with *Magiovinium*, including 600 coins (MMK679), ligula, brooches, a lead seal, buckles, perforated sheets etc. (MMK681) through metal detecting. Querns made from puddingstone, sandstone and millstone grit were have been recorded (MMK682) and a forger's hoard of coin blanks and dies were also found inside three local sand-tempered pots (MMK7725). Excavations have revealed stone and timber buildings, rubbish pits and rubble foundations (MMK685, EMK145), some of which date from the 1st century AD and had been burned down. Parallel ditches were also recorded at the site and later stone structures were also excavated (MMK686 (EMK407). Sand-tempered grey-ware vessels imitating miniature cooking pots containing the copper alloy elements of a hoard were also found (MMK699). It appears that the site shows early 2nd century occupation but had been abandoned and levelled soon after and was then reoccupied in the 3rd to 4th-centuries (MMK687, MMK688). A cremation cemetery was also discovered during the excavations prior to the roadworks which had reused cooking pots as urns (MMK5975) and part of the field system surrounding *Magiovinium* was also observed and recorded (EMK125).

To the north of the site at Caldecotte, further Roman remains have been discovered. A complex of enclosures have been excavated along with an inhumation and cremation pit with a coin dating to AD73-96 and a large quantity of 1st-century pottery (MMK1464, MMK1465) and a copper alloy brooch of the Hod Hill type dating to the 1st century AD were found (MMK5388). At Mill Close South, Caldecotte, Roman features and a rotary quern fragment were seen during a watching brief on the stripped ground surface (MMK1856, EMK280). Elements of a wall were also observed (MMK1857), a copper alloy disc brooch (MMK7787), bronze sheet fragments, bronze buckles, pewter and bronze studs or buttons, a bronze ring, a bronze spoon handle, lead weights (MMK7788), a bronze coin (MMK7860) and a small quantity of pottery with several fragments of tile and quern were found (MMK7785).

There are also many findspots of Roman objects within the vicinity of the site. These include *Magiovinium* pottery (MMK5508, MMK5509), a Gaulish Dragendorff type 37 bowl (MMK7171), a bronze Colchester type fibula dated to AD 0-60 found to the west of the site (MKK1573), pottery sherds found to the north-west (MKK1466) and 16 coins found adjacent to the canal, ranging in date from Antonius Pius AD 138-61 to Valentinian II 384-78 (MMK1574). Also near the canal, two bi-conical lead weights (MMK1575), five bronze coins (MMK1576) and the base of a colour-coated vessel (MMK4273) were found through metal detecting.

Dredging work at the River Ouzel opposite Dropshort Farm to the south-west of the site has also produced a quantity of Roman finds including shell-gritted tegulae and imbrices (MKK1801), samian, and a Foot of the Nene Valley beaker (MMK1802, EMK1038).

To the west of the site at Belvedere Nurseries prior to the proposed nursery development, a rectilinear enclosure of Roman date and other archaeological remains were detected through a geophysical survey in 1994 (MMK5204, MMK5589, MMK5590, MMK5591, EMK174). A further geophysical survey in 1999 identified linear features and pits (EMK372). Boundary ditches and associated pits were found during trial trenching in 2001 (EMK458). An extra-mural settlement cemetery was also observed at the site during a watching brief in 2003 (EMK112). 1st-2nd-century AD field ditches were found during trial trenching in 2004 with domestic rubbish pits and large possible gravel pits. However, no further evidence for the cemetery was found (EMK798). Further evidence for a Roman field system was observed during a watching brief in 2006. Ditches containing Roman pottery and animal bone were found and no evidence of the continuation of the cemetery was seen (EMK906).

Painted wall plaster, rough tesserae and tiles were found during an excavation to the south of Dropshort Farm and the River Ouzel in 1911 (EMK19) and during a watching brief for the re-cutting of the A5 drainage ditch opposite the south boundary of Dropshort Farm in 1974, robbed Roman walls and a limestone spread were observed (EMK1042). The corner of a possible Roman auxiliary fort and 1st-century pottery was seen during a watching brief in 1976 (EMK124) and building debris including the remains of mortar floors, large pits and a road that had been remetalled many times were seen during a watching brief in 1971 (EMK15). To the south-east of Dropshort Farm at Eaton Leys, over 2000 fragments of Roman pottery were collected through fieldwalking in 1999 and a geophysical survey undertaken at the same time identified rectilinear ditched enclosures and pit features within Magiovinium town defences (EMK206).

During a rescue excavation at Sherwood Drive in 1973 to the south-west of the site, evidence of Roman buildings dating to the 4th century were found but occupation of the site was known to date from the first half of the 1st century AD (EMK212). Simpson Mounds to the west of the site was excavated in 1978 but very little was found apart from a few sherds of pottery dating to the 1st century AD and a quern fragment (EMK271).

Saxon

During excavations at the Bathing Station site at *Magiovinium* in 1956, 38 inhumations were found that are thought to be of Saxon date and a bronze brooch of Saxon design was also found associated with one of the burials (EMK527). To the north of the site, Middle and late Saxon pottery was found in the top of some of the Roman field boundaries seen during the excavations at Caldecotte Lake in 1967 (EMK77, MMK2025, MMK2030). A rectangular six-post structure was also found with pottery from the period around it (MMK5375). During excavations there in 1979, a second post-built building was found dating to the period (MMK2029). At a short distance to the south, Saxon pottery was found during excavations of the balancing lake (MMK2075) and a copper alloy equal armed brooch which was an adaptation of the ansate form was also found nearby (MMK7829). and to the north-west of the site, Saxon pottery was also found (MMK2058). Either within or very close to the north-east tip of the site, a strap end with zoomorphic design was found through metal detecting (MMK3816).

Medieval

Bow Brickhill is recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086 as *Brichellae*. It lay within Moulsoe hundred and was owned by the Bishop of Lisieux. Robert held 5 hides from the Bishop. There was land for 4 ploughs in the lordship with 7 villagers, 3 smallholders having 3 ploughs. There was 1 slave, meadow for 4 ploughs and

woodland for 150 pigs. The value was £4. Blackman, Earl Tosti's man, held the manor and he could sell.

Soil marks observed during a watching brief close to the roundabout at the southern tip of the site in 1976 were initially assumed to relate to the Roman town of *Magiovinium* but were later proved to be later headlands and medieval field boundaries (EMK516). The site of a deserted medieval village lies to the north of the site at Caldecotte Lake (MMK2025) including finds of medieval pottery (MMK2470). A mill worth 10 shillings is recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086 (MMK2468) is likely to have been located at Caldecotte where the lake has since been created. References to it appeared in 1208, 1293, 1307 and 1526. To the west of the mill, a fishpond of medieval date was found (MMK2469). To the west of the site, St Margaret's Chapel was endowed in 1494 but was recorded in the roll of Peter-pence as Veny Stratfod Capella in 1460. It was pulled down in 1550 and a later church built on the site was destroyed in the Civil War (MMK2576). St Martin's chapel was also located nearby (MMK2578). Medieval pottery and other finds have been found to the west of the site at Simpson Road through metal detecting (MMK2142). Sherds of 13th-century sand-tempered St Neots ware and sherds of a buff sandy ware were also found (MMK2143, MMK2144, MMK2669). To the south of the site, close to the roundabout, two pieces of medieval spur have been found (MMK3753).

Post-medieval

To the west of the site at the corner of Watling Street and Simpson Road, a post-medieval ditch containing medieval pottery, a glass mineral bottle, an iron last and scraps of leather were observed during a watching brief in 1978 (EMK270), close to St Martin's church which was built in 1724 (MMK2577), on the site of an earlier medieval chapel (MMK2578) and a guildhall founded by Roger Hebbes was also located nearby (MMK2612) which was originally a chantry (MMK2613).

To the north of the site at Caldecotte, the partial remains of a probable double-ended clinker boat known as the Caldecotte Boat along with a mooring chain and fragments of hemp cordage was excavated in 1982 and was dated to between the 15th and 17th centuries (EMK282). Two leather shoe soles were found with the boat with a worn rotary grindstone (MMK4038).

Post-medieval pottery was found during a watching brief at 20-26 Watling Street, Fenny Stratford to the west of the site (EMK349) and the location of the 19th-century wharf basin was found during trial trenching at Fenny Marina in 1998 (EMK327, MMK3368) and a canal lock is also recorded at that site (MMK3370) with a lock-keeper's cottage (MMK3371) and pump house (MMK3372). A 20th-century brick building was observed during a watching brief at the Reckitts Colour Site, Site 'A' (EMK370) and a strip, map and sample exercise in 2006 revealed the remains of a 19th-century canal dock and associated buildings (EMK948). A clay tobacco-pipe bowl was found adjacent to the canal (MMK4272) with other finds including musket balls, rings and a buckle (MMK4274).

A watermill in Caldecotte was mentioned in 1610 when a windmill, watermill and messuage in Bow Brickhill were in the possession of Robert Morgan. A watermill was excavated in advance of the construction of Caldecotte Lake in 1980 Stone and timber footings were found and they included a framed structure forming four compartments. Traces of an early 17th-century phase were recorded and the final phase was dated by a coin to the early 18th century (EMK77, EMK89, MMK2467, MMK3216). A mill leat (MMK3220) has also been identified of about 140m to the mill site and narrowed into a stone rivetted channel in front of the mill building (MMK3221). Various other finds at the site included 17th-century clay tobacco-pipe stems (MMK3217) and green glazed blue brick (MMK3218).

Opposite Dropshort Farm, various finds have been recorded from dredging works at the River Ouzel, including post-medieval brick and tiles (MMK3222), a quern and whetstone (MMK3223), Potterspurty wares, Victorian porcelain and Staffordshire stoneware (MMK3224).

The sites of a brickyard and brickyard wharf have been located to the west of the site at Fenny Stratford (MMK6075 and MMK6076). They were owned by George Odell Clarke in the 19th century and probably included lime kilns, pug-mill and associated buildings.

2.3 Cartographic evidence

Jefferys' Map of Buckinghamshire, 1770 (Fig 14)

The earliest available cartographic evidence is Jefferys' map of Buckinghamshire, published in 1770. It shows the site lying on open land on the north side of Watling Street to the east of Fenny Stratford and the course of the River Ouzel meandering between the east of the town and the western site boundary. Brickhill Street, which forms the eastern boundary of the site, is shown aligned north-south and the current location of the railway is marked as a track or minor road along the northern boundary. A stream is shown on the map in the north-eastern part of the site and the White Hart Inn, now Dropshort Farm, is shown fronting Watling Street on the southern side. Windmills and watermills are generally depicted across Jefferys' county maps and they appear elsewhere on the Buckinghamshire sheet. However, there is no sign of a mill in the area around *Caldecot* on the map, which differs from the historical and archaeological records which state that there had been a windmill and watermill there since at least 1610.

Bow Brickhill Tithe map, 1791 (Fig 15)

The Tithe map of 1791 shows the site at the western limits of the parish of Bow Brickhill and shows Little Brickhill Lordship adjacent to the site to the south and Simpson Lordship to the west. The track that was depicted on Jefferys' map forming the northern boundary of the site (Fig 14) is not shown on this map, but Brickhill Street at the eastern boundary is shown here as continuing southwards from Watling Street. Joseph Ager owned the majority of the northern part of the site and a substantial area to the south of Bow Brickhill, apart from a small area to the north-east of the site which belonged to the parish rector. The small rectangular plot marked within Joseph Ager's land is annotated '1st allotment for gravel', although there are no references within the HER relating to gravel extraction in the vicinity. The southern half appears to have been split between Thomas Ager, Thomas Cook and John Stevens and the property boundaries between their plots form the primary arrangement of the modern hedgelines and fences still present today, although further divisions have been added since.

Bryant's map of Buckinghamshire, 1825 (Fig 16)

Bryant's map does not show any great detail but give the first cartographic representation of Crossroads Farm on the eastern boundary of the site. The White Hart Inn is depicted further to the north-west of its true location towards Fenny Stratford.

Plan of Dropshort Farm in the parishes of Low and Little Brickhill in the occupation of Mrs Morris, 1863 (Fig 17)

Dropshort Farm and the lands worked from it formed part of the estates belonging to Sir Philip Duncombe Pauncefort Duncombe Baronet in the counties of Buckinghamshire, Warwickshire and Staffordshire but were in the occupation of Mrs Morris in 1863, previously owned by Thomas Cook and John Stevens (Fig

15). The land previously owned by Joseph Ager in the northern part of the site appears to have passed to Colonel Delapp, but Thomas Ager was still in possession of the fields in the eastern part of the site. The White Hart had ceased to trade as an inn in the 1860s and had become the farm buildings of Dropshort Farm, which the map shows in detail. The farm buildings and the land lay in part of the western area of the proposed development site and in an area to the south of the modern A5. The road depicted at the southern end from Holyhead to London is Watling Street; the A5 bisects field numbers 4, 5 and 7 and further field boundaries had been created, forming the layout that can be seen today. The accompanying apportionment information (Table 2) states that Mrs Morris' land was farmed for oats, wheat, peas, turnips and old grass.

First Edition Ordnance Survey map, 1885 (Fig 18)

The discovery of the Roman settlement of *Magiovinium* had been made by the time the Ordnance Survey maps were produced, but the settlement is annotated as *Magiovintum Roman Station* and lies adjacent to Dropshort Farm on the north-west side, which is where the majority of the Roman remains were thought to have originated. The nurseries at Belvedere had also been established by the late 19th century and the London and North Western Railway and Bletchley Junction had been constructed at the northern boundary of the site. The small square area of trees in the northern part of the site lies in the area noted on the Tithe map of 1791 (Fig 15) as an area of gravel extraction. A guide post is marked at the southern end of the site and St Martin's Church (MKK2577), limekilns (MMK4296) and the canal wharf (MKK3368) are shown to the west. A square earthworks is also shown to the south-west of the site.

Ordnance Survey map, 1900, (Fig 19)

Very few changes had occurred by the time the Ordnance Survey map of 1900 had been published. Crossroads Farm buildings had been enlarged. The brickworks (MKK4288) are illustrated to the west of the site and a gasworks had also been constructed nearby.

Ordnance Survey map, 1950 (Fig 20)

By 1950 Fenny Stratford had increased in size through the construction of further housing and urban facilities to support the developing industries of the town. Part of the Ouzel had become a designated bathing place opposite Dropshort Farm, a sewage disposal works had been established to the north-west of the site and a sewage ejector station had been built between Fenny Stratford and Water Eaton. It is also noted on the map that on the 13th April 1923 the surface water between Magiovinium and the Grand Junction Canal had reached 215 feet and 3 inches. The earthworks to the south-west of the site seen on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map (Fig 18) are noted here as fishponds serving Water Hall.



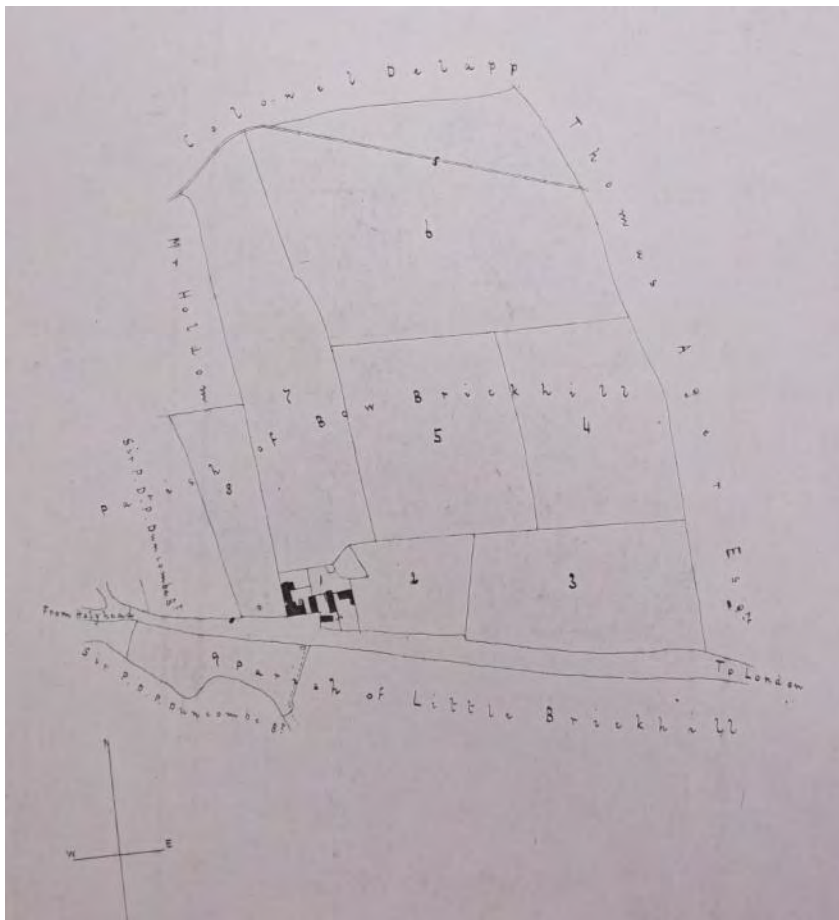
Jefferys' Map of Buckinghamshire, 1770 Fig 14



Bow Brickhill Tithe map, 1791 Fig 15



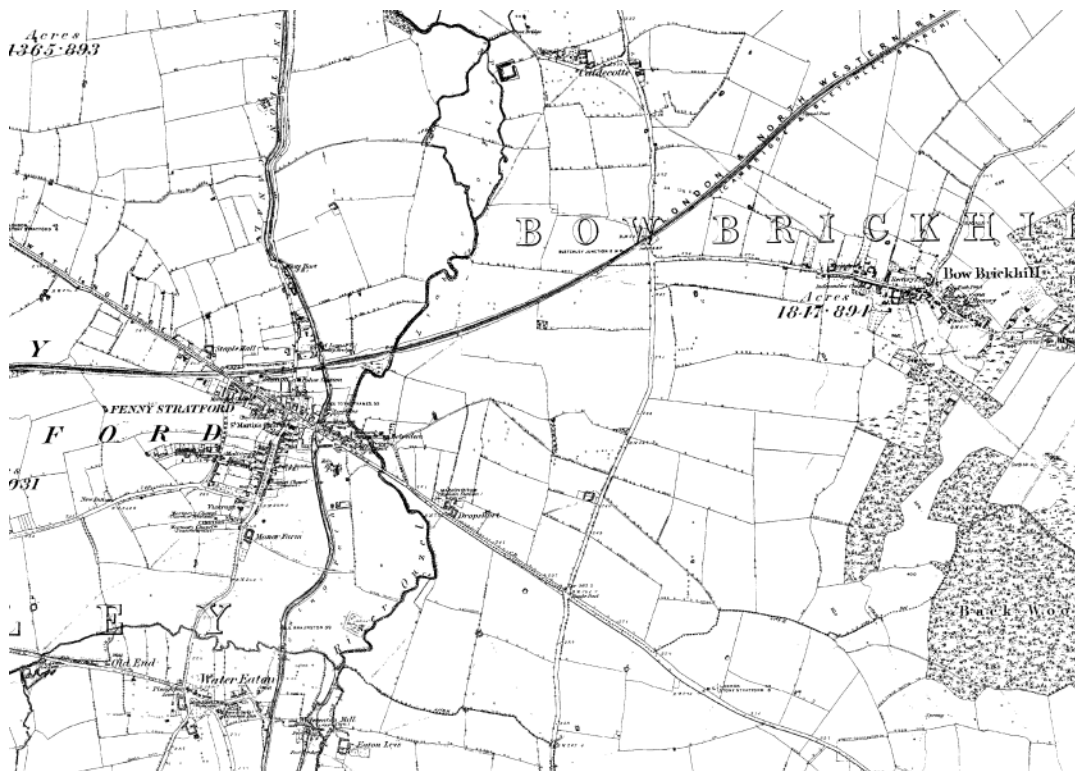
Bryant's Map of Buckinghamshire, 1825 Fig 16



Plan of Dropshort Farm in the parishes of Little and Bow Brickhill in the occupation of Mrs Morris, 1863 Fig 17

Table 2: Dropshort Farm land use

Parcel	Cultivation	A	R	P
1	Buildings etc.	-	3	25
2	Oats	2	-	29
3	Wheat	5	3	29
4	Turnips	5	3	29
5	Peas	6	1	22
6	Old Grass	14	3	16
7	Old Grass	7	3	28
8	Old Grass	2	2	36
9	Old Grass	1	3	37



Ordnance Survey First Edition map, 1885 Fig 18



Ordnance Survey map, 1900 Fig 19



Ordnance Survey map, 1950

Fig 20

2.4 Aerial photographic evidence



Oblique aerial photograph looking south-south-west Fig 21
(Source: M Farley / Bucks County Museum)

This oblique aerial photograph shows the north-west corner of the site. The railway can be seen in the lower right corner and the A5 Fenny Stratford bypass is visible at the top right. The cropmarks in the centre are referenced in the HER as the Crossroads Farm Enclosure (MMK6189) and have been interpreted as dating from the early Iron Age to the Roman period. Although the earthworks do not appear to continue beyond the hedge line to the south-west, it is likely that the remains will survive into the fields beyond. It is also possible that ridge and furrow survives to the south-east of the enclosure, however, the feint north-south-aligned earthworks are not recorded in the HER.

3 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

3.1 The proposed development

The proposed development consists of the construction of industrial warehousing, office units, associated infrastructure and landscaping. Two new site access points are to be created from Brickhill Street on the east side and a new pedestrian link is to be made on the west side from the A5. The current public footpath along the northern boundary is to be maintained, providing pedestrian access from Fenny Stratford and Bow Brickhill. Green spaces paths are to be created along the western boundary of the site and a balancing pond is to be constructed in the western corner.

3.2 Potential impacts on the cultural heritage resource

Cartographic evidence suggests that the proposed development site occupies an area of land that has remained as undeveloped farmland and low-level gravel extraction since at least the 18th century. Farm buildings have been depicted on the south-east boundary of the site on maps dating from the early 19th century.

There are two references in the HER that fall within the site. A rectilinear enclosure, most likely dating to the Iron Age has been identified through aerial photography close to the centre of the site (MKK6189) and a Saxon strap end with zoomorphic design has been found in the north-east corner (MKK3816).

A large amount of archaeological work has been carried out to the north, west, south-west and south of the site including excavations, fieldwalking, watching briefs, trial trenching and geophysical survey. One watching brief has been carried out within the site boundary at Crossroads Farm, where modern disturbance was found with a field drain and recent sheep burials.

The majority of the archaeological investigative work to the south and south-west of the site has found evidence of the Roman town of *Magiovinium* lies adjacent to the site to the south-west and its limits are not known. It is likely that this would extend into the southern end of the site but evidence of Roman settlement has not been found as far east as Crossroads Farm.

Table 3: Criteria for assessing the relative importance of cultural heritage sites

Level of sensitivity	Definition
Very high - high	Sites of international importance: World Heritage Sites Sites of national importance include those that are designated as Scheduled Ancient Monuments or those that are considered to be suitable for scheduling, Grade I and Grade II* Listed Buildings, Registered Battlefields, Grade I and II* Registered Historic Gardens
Medium	Sites of regional importance include Grade II Listed Buildings, Grade II Registered Historic Gardens, Conservation Areas and those sites which are considered to be significant regional examples with well-preserved evidence of occupation, industry etc.
Low	Sites which are of less-defined extent, nature and date or which are in a poor or fragmentary state, but which are considered to be significant examples in a local context
Negligible	Areas in which investigative techniques have produced negative or minimal evidence of antiquity, or where large-scale destruction of the archaeological resource has taken place (e.g by mineral extraction)

The potential for archaeological remains dating from the Palaeolithic period to be found on the site is unknown but likely to be low. Flint tools dating to the period have been found to the west of the site at the canalside and through dredging the Ouzel. Their discovery appears to have been limited to areas near watercourses and floodplains where they are likely to have been washed from sites further upstream.

The potential for archaeological remains dating from the Mesolithic period is unknown but likely to be low. Mesolithic features were found to the north-west of the site at the Fenny Lock Tesco site, a flint blade was found and north at Caldecotte Lake and further tools have been found in sandpits near Bow Brickhill.

The potential for archaeological remains dating to the Neolithic period is unknown but likely to be low. Flint tools dating to the period were also found near watercourses at Fenny Lock Tesco site and at the canalside.

The potential for archaeological remains dating to the Bronze Age is unknown but likely to be low. A fragment of a socketed axe, ring gully enclosures and a pit alignment have been found to the north-west of the site at the Fenny Lock Tesco site

The potential for Iron Age remains to be found on the site is likely to be very high. A rectilinear cropmark enclosure complex has also been identified from aerial photography in the centre of the site and further Iron Age remains have been found both to the north and south. At Mill Close, Caldecotte, Iron Age enclosures were found during excavations and one contained a child burial. A settlement dating to the period was also found during works at Galley Lane crossroads at the southern end of the site. The three settlements may have formed a wider group positioned close to the River Ouzel in the wide valley floor. A dagger or sword chape was also found to the west of the site at the Fenny Lock Tesco site during trial trenching.

The potential at the southern end of the site for remains dating to the Roman period is likely to be very high. The site lies to the north-east of the small defended town of *Magiovinium* with associated defensive bank, furnaces, field systems, coin hoards, temple, cemeteries and *vici*; the true boundaries of which have not yet been established. The Roman road of Watling Street is situated at the southern end of the site, the course of which is known to include small settlements and trading posts. A Roman road is also known to lead northwards out of the north-western gate of the town in the area of Dropshort Farm and it is assumed to continue northwards through the proposed development site. The potential for Roman remains to be found at the same degree of density throughout the rest of the site is likely to be less than in the southern area around Watling Street and the town, although the land may have been under agriculture during the Roman period. A further settlement lay to the north of the site at Caldecotte, which included an enclosure, buildings and an inhumation.

The potential for remains dating to the Saxon period is not known but likely to be low to moderate. Burials thought to be of Saxon date with associated Saxon finds were found at *Magiovinium*. Settlement remains dating to the period have also been found to the north of the site at Caldecotte and include post-built structures, pottery and a brooch. Saxon pottery has also been found to the north-west of the site. A strap end with zoomorphic design has been found either within or close to the north-east corner of the site through metal detecting.

The potential for archaeological remains dating to the medieval period is not known but likely to be low. The site of a deserted medieval village lies to the north of the site at Caldecotte Lake and the site of a moated manor appears on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1885 to the south-west of the proposed development site (Fig 18). Although the site lies beyond the medieval settlements at Fenny Stratford, Caldecotte and Bow Brickhill, cultivation remains from the period may survive on the site.

The potential for remains dating to the post-medieval period is likely to be high in the eastern part of the site in areas surrounding Crossroads Farm which dates from the late 18th-to the early 19th century, but low over the remainder of the site. Post-medieval remains in the area are present in Fenny Stratford, particularly around the canalside and surrounding the brick and lime industries. Watling Street was an important route throughout the medieval and post-medieval periods, so remains may be present in areas close to it at the southern end of the site. Remains dating to the period have been found adjacent to Watling Street opposite Dropshort Farm during dredging works at the River Ouzel.

4 CONCLUSIONS

The current assessment has demonstrated that the site lies in an area that has been subject to numerous archaeological and antiquarian investigations spanning centuries of enquiry. As such, the site falls between known areas of complex archaeological remains to the north at Caldecotte, to the west at Fenny Stratford and to the south and south-west at *Magiovinium* and Watling Street. The excavations at Caldecotte in advance of the construction of Caldecotte Lake have revealed settlements dating to the Iron Age, Roman, Saxon, medieval and post-medieval periods. Excavations in connection with the creation of the Galley Lane roundabout and the A5 have revealed further evidence for Iron Age settlement in the area to the south of the site. Further remains of the eastern side of *Magiovinium* were also found there and a second Roman road leading northwards from the town was found during excavations at Dropshort Farm.

There are no designated heritage assets within the boundaries of the site but there are two references within the HER that fall within. An Iron Age enclosure has been identified in the centre of the site and a Saxon strap end has been found in or close to the north-east corner.

Cartographic evidence suggests that the proposed development site occupies an area of land that has remained as undeveloped farmland and low-level gravel extraction since at least the 18th century. Farm buildings have been depicted on the south-east boundary of the site on maps dating from the early 19th century.

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