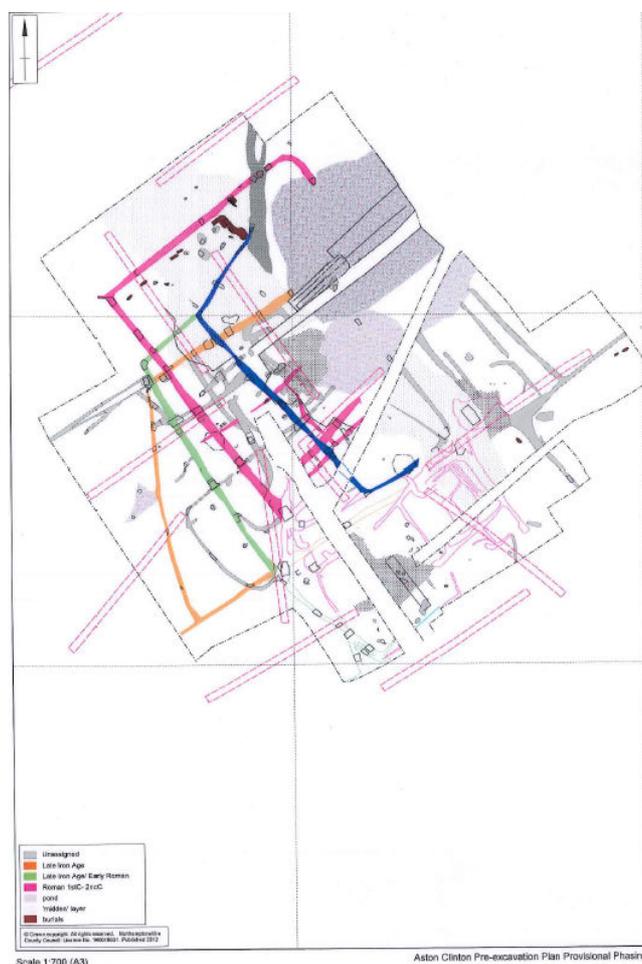


## Fieldwork of interest

### ARLA megadairy, Aston Clinton

A 12-week long excavation by Northamptonshire Archaeology at the ARLA megadairy development site north of Aston Clinton has revealed an interesting late Iron Age – Romano British settlement. Occupation on site started in the late Iron Age and continued into the Roman period. Ditches were the principal means of managing and draining the rather boggy site, and defined enclosed paddocks for livestock. Also present was evidence of cultivation in the late Iron Age. A small Roman timber post-built structure was also found and investigated.

The main focus of the Iron Age and Roman enclosure ditches occupied a slight ridge of ground between two naturally silted old river channels, clustered around a large pond. The enclosures were repeatedly remodelled and rebuilt over a period of two to three centuries, as each set of ditches silted up. Quantities of pottery, including high status Samian ware, and animal bone were recovered from the ditch fills. After the site was abandoned, the ridge was further emphasised by the accumulation of rich organic material. This must have been a very visible feature in the landscape as it later defined the medieval parish boundary between Buckland and Aston Clinton. Some of the last occupants of the Roman settlement were buried on the edges of the site and their remains will be reinterred in Buckland Cemetery once analysis is complete.



## **Salden House, Mursley**

A strip and record excavation and watching brief by Archaeological Services and Consultancy at Salden House in Mursley has revealed the substantial remains of a structure dating from at least the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The rectangular brick-built structure was over 100m<sup>2</sup> in area. Two elevations were faced with brick and dressed clunch and included at least one rounded bay and one square bay. Brick samples have suggested an 18<sup>th</sup> century date for the structure. The remains suggest this building formed a later part of the high-status residence at Salden Manor, which was built in 1566. A series of intercutting pits and layers were also recorded beneath the structure, although the lack of finds suggests this area was not used for waste disposal.

Salden Manor, Cooks Lane, Mursley, Buckinghamshire  
1459/MSM

Strip and Record &  
Watching Brief Report

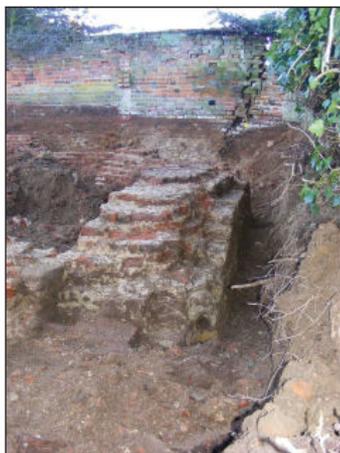


Plate 11: Clunch facing (007) on east elevation, structure 006, facing north



Plate 12: Rounded, brick-faced bay on north elevation, structure 006, facing west