
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

PROPOSED NEW HOUSE, DALMONDS WOOD FARM, MANGROVE LANE, BRICKENDON, HERTFORDSHIRE SG13 8QJ

ARCHAEOLOGICAL 'STRIP, MAP & SAMPLE' INVESTIGATION AND MONITORING AND RECORDING

HER enquiry No. 7/17

Authors:	Gareth Barlow (Fieldwork & report) Lauren Wilson (Background Research) Thomas Light (Graphics)	
NGR: TL 34144 09036		Report No: 5358
District: East Herts		Site Code: AS 1880
Approved: Claire Halpin MCIfA		Project No: 7008
		Date: 21 April 2017

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INVESTORS
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OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

Project details			
Project name	PROPOSED NEW HOUSE, DALMONDS WOOD FARM, MANGROVE LANE, BRICKENDON, HERTFORDSHIRE SG13 8QJ		
<p><i>In April 2017 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological 'strip, map and sample' investigation at Dalmonds Wood Farm, Mangrove Lane, Brickendon, Hertfordshire SG13 8QJ (NGR TL 34144 09036). The investigation was undertaken in advance of the construction of a new Farm Manager's dwelling with associated landscaping to replace existing temporary accommodation. It was required by Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Advisory Team (HCC HEAT), as advisors to the Local Planning Authority, and undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to the planning approval (EHDC Planning Ref. 3/16/0869/FUL).</i></p> <p><i>The archaeological investigation revealed two undated gullies (F1009 and F1011) which may have functioned as forerunners to the modern land drains also encountered across the site.</i></p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	11 th and 12 th April 2017		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	N	Future work	N
P. number	7008	Site code	AS1880
Type of project	Archaeological 'strip, map and sample' investigation		
Site status	-		
Current land use	Mobile dwelling		
Planned development	Dwelling		
Main features (+dates)	Two undated gullies		
Significant finds (+dates)			
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	Hertfordshire	East Herts	Brickendon
HER/ SMR for area	Hertfordshire HER		
Post code (if known)	SG13 8QJ		
Area of site	c.7400m ²		
NGR	TL 34144 09036		
Height AOD (min/max)	c.87m AOD		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Team		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	Archaeological Solutions Ltd		
Funded by	Mr James Bourke, Elbow Lane Farm		
Full title	PROPOSED NEW HOUSE, DALMONDS WOOD FARM, MANGROVE LANE, BRICKENDON, HERTFORDSHIRE SG13 8QJ. ARCHAEOLOGICAL 'STRIP, MAP & SAMPLE' INVESTIGATION AND MONITORING AND RECORDING		
Authors	Barlow, G. & Wilson, L.		
Report no.	5358		
Date (of report)	April 2017		

PROPOSED NEW HOUSE, DALMONDS WOOD FARM, MANGROVE LANE, BRICKENDON, HERTFORDSHIRE SG13 8QJ

ARCHAEOLOGICAL 'STRIP, MAP & SAMPLE' INVESTIGATION AND MONITORING AND RECORDING

SUMMARY

In April 2017 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological 'strip, map and sample' investigation at Dalmonds Wood Farm, Mangrove Lane, Brickendon, Hertfordshire SG13 8QJ (NGR TL 34144 09036). The investigation was undertaken in advance of the construction of a new Farm Manager's dwelling with associated landscaping to replace existing temporary accommodation. It was required by Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Advisory Team (HCC HEAT), as advisors to the Local Planning Authority, and undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to the planning approval (EHDC Planning Ref. 3/16/0869/FUL).

The site lies within an area of archaeological potential. Elbow Lane follows the line of the major Roman route of Ermine Street, recorded on the Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record (HER 9271), and the site has a potential for Roman roadside activity/occupation. Elbow Lane Farm to the north is a post-medieval farmstead depicted on maps back to 1722 (HER 17542) shown on the 1847 tithe map as Homestall. A medieval homestead moat is recorded at Dalmonds (HER 2947).

The archaeological investigation revealed two undated gullies (F1009 and F1011) which may have functioned as forerunners to the modern land drains also encountered across the site.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In April 2017 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological 'strip, map and sample' investigation at Dalmonds Wood Farm, Mangrove Lane, Brickendon, Hertfordshire SG13 8QJ (NGR TL 34144 09036; Figs.1 - 2). The investigation was undertaken in advance of the construction of a Farm Manager's dwelling with associated landscaping to replace existing temporary accommodation. It was required by Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Advisory Team (HCC HEAT), as advisors to the Local Planning Authority, and undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to the planning approval (EHDC Planning Ref. 3/16/0869/FUL).

1.2 The investigation was carried out in accordance with the requirements of HCC HEAT, and a specification compiled by AS (dated 8th December 2016) and approved by CCC HET. It followed the procedures outlined in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct, Standard and Guidance for*

Archaeological Field Excavation (2014). It also adhered to the relevant sections of *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).

1.3 The requirements of the project were:

- Archaeological monitoring by a programme of 'strip, map & record' of the area of the proposed new development, where ground reduction is proposed, with the investigation and recording of any archaeology thereby revealed;
- The archaeological monitoring of all other groundworks associated with the scheme likely to have an impact on any remains;
- The analysis, conservation and long-term storage of any artefactual/ecofactual material recovered from the site in appropriate conditions;
- The provision of an adequately detailed project report that will place the findings of the monitoring and recording of the development programme in their local and regional context, having made reference to the relevant regional research agendas and through cartographic, documentary and other research; and
- The full analysis and interpretation of the site archive in order to promote local and regional research, and the appropriate dissemination and publication of the project results.

Planning Policy Context

1.4 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2012) states that those parts of the historic environment that have significance because of their historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest are heritage assets. The NPPF aims to deliver sustainable development by ensuring that policies and decisions that concern the historic environment recognise that heritage assets are a non-renewable resource, take account of the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits of heritage conservation, and recognise that intelligently managed change may sometimes be necessary if heritage assets are to be maintained for the long term. The NPPF requires applications to describe the significance of any heritage asset, including its setting that may be affected in proportion to the asset's importance and the potential impact of the proposal.

1.5 The NPPF aims to conserve England's heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance, with substantial harm to designated heritage assets (i.e. listed buildings, scheduled monuments) only permitted in exceptional circumstances when the public benefit of a proposal outweighs the conservation of the asset. The effect of proposals on non-designated heritage assets must be balanced against the scale of loss and significance of the asset, but non-designated heritage assets of demonstrably equivalent significance may be considered subject to the same policies as those that are designated. The NPPF states that opportunities to capture evidence from the historic environment, to record and advance the understanding of heritage assets and to make this

publicly available is a requirement of development management. This opportunity should be taken in a manner proportionate to the significance of a heritage asset and to impact of the proposal, particularly where a heritage asset is to be lost.

2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE

2.1 The site lies on the eastern side of the Elbow Lane which leads northwards from Mangrove Lane to the south, and south of Elbow Lane Farm. It currently contains a temporary mobile home, which is to be replaced by a new dwelling. The site forms an irregular square parcel of land and is surrounded by fields on three sides.

3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS

3.1 The site was situated at c.87 AOD. The underlying bedrock geology is the London Clay Formation formed during the Palaeogene Period. The overlying soils comprise of sand and gravel formed during the Quaternary Period.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 The site lies within an area of archaeological potential. Elbow Lane follows the line of the major Roman route of Ermine Street, recorded on the Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record (HHER 9271), and the site is directly adjacent to the west. Ermine Street ran from London to York and in its earliest form had a pair of ditches on its western side which then went out of use. Further to the south a well-preserved section was constructed on two levels. The lower of the two provided a gentle incline for official traffic while the higher may have been constructed for local traffic (HHER 11354).

4.2 An irregular pond Dalmonds c.780m to the south-west of the site is a potential medieval moated site (HHER 2947). Also in the area is Dalmonds farmstead, a post-medieval farm with medieval origins (HHER 15708). Ridge and furrow have also been recorded in this area during aerial photo mapping in 2010 (HHER 30940). The site also lies in an area of ancient co-axial fields as identified on the Historic Landscape Characterisation.

4.3 Elbow Lane Farm c.250m to the north is a post-medieval farmstead depicted on maps back to 1722 (HER 17542) shown on the 1847 tithe map as *Homestall*.

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 HCC HEAT advice required the initial clearance of the overburden within the footprint of the proposed new house and associated area of proposed ground reduction under close archaeological observation.

5.2 The overburden was removed under close archaeological supervision and control using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. All subsequent excavation was undertaken by hand

5.3 Exposed sections were cleaned and examined for archaeological features. Deposits were recorded using *pro forma* recording sheets, drawn to scale and photographed as appropriate. Open trenches and excavated spoil were manually/ visually searched and scanned by metal detector to enhance the recovery of archaeological finds.

6 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS (TRIAL TRENCHING)

Sample sections were drawn and are presented below:

Sample Section 1 (Figs. 2 - 3)

Sample section 1: 0.00m = 87.87m AOD		
0.00 - 0.14m	L1000	Modern made ground. Friable, mid greyish brown silty sand with frequent CBM rubble and frequent small to medium sized sub-rounded and sub-angular flints
0.14 - 0.15m	L1001	Terram. Black synthetic textile sheet
0.15 - 0.38m	L1002	Buried soil. Firm, dark greyish brown sandy silt with frequent small to medium sized rounded flints and stone
0.38 - 0.50m	L1003	Subsoil. Firm, mid orange brown silty sand with frequent small to medium sized rounded flints and stones
0.50m+	L1004	Natural deposit. Mixed patches of friable, pale brown yellow sand; friable, mid brown orange silty coarse sand with frequent small to medium sized rounded flints and stones; friable, pale grey yellow very coarse sand with frequent small sub-rounded flints and stones; friable, pale blue grey silty sand with moderate to frequent small to medium sized rounded flints and stones; and firm, mid brown orange clay

Sample Section 2 (Figs. 2 - 3)

<i>Sample section 2:</i> <i>0.00m = 87.88m AOD</i>		
0.00 - 0.15m	L1000	Modern made ground. As above.
0.15 - 0.16m	L1001	Terram. As above.
0.16 - 0.21m	L1005	Modern made ground. Firm, pale yellow brown clay with moderate medium sized sub-rounded chalk
0.21 - 0.57m	L1006	Buried soil. Firm, dark orange brown sandy silt with frequent small to medium sized rounded flints and stones
0.57m+	L1004	Natural deposits. As above.

Sample Section 3 (Figs. 2 - 3)

<i>Sample section 3:</i> <i>0.00m = 87.16m AOD</i>		
0.00 - 0.24m	L1007	Topsoil. Friable, mid grey brown sandy silt with occasional small and sub-rounded flints
0.24 - 0.49m	L1008	Made ground. Very firm, dark orange brown sandy silt with patches of mid brown orange sandy silt. Moderate small to medium sized sub-angular and sub-rounded flints
0.49 - 0.67m	L1003	Subsoil. As above.
0.67m+	L1004	Natural deposits. As above.

Sample Section 4 (Figs. 2 - 3)

<i>Sample section 4:</i> <i>0.00m = 87.55m AOD</i>		
0.00 - 0.28m	L1000	Modern made ground. As above.
0.28 - 0.47m	L1005	Modern made ground. As above.
0.47 - 0.57m	L1002	Buried soil. As above.
0.57m+	L1004	Natural deposits. As above.

Sample Section 5 (Figs. 2 - 3)

<i>Sample section 5:</i> <i>0.00m = 87.16m AOD</i>		
0.00 - 0.17m	L1000	Modern made ground. As above.
0.17 - 0.54m	L1005	Modern made ground. As above.
0.54 - 0.71m	L1003	Buried subsoil. As above.
0.71m+	L1004	Natural deposits. As above.

Description: Trench 1 contained undated Gullies F1009 and F1011. The gullies may have served as drainage predating the modern land drains.

Gully F1009 was linear in plan (2.0+ x 0.18 x 0.07m), orientated NE/SW. It had moderately steep sloping sides tapering to concave base. Its fill, L1010, was a firm, mid blue grey silty sand with frequent medium sized rounded flints and stones. It contained no finds.

Gully F1011 was linear in plan (5.0+ x 0.26 x 0.13m), orientated N/S. It had vertical sides with a flattish base. Its fill, L1012, was a friable, mid yellow brown silty coarse sand with frequent large sized rounded flints and stones. It contained no finds. It was cut by modern land drains.

8 CONFIDENCE RATING

8.1 It is not felt that these factors inhibited the recognition of archaeological features or finds.

8 DEPOSIT MODEL

8.1 Topsoil was only encountered within the south-western part of the site and comprised a friable grey brown sandy silt with occasional small sized sub-rounded flints (c. 0.24m in thickness). Below this and only observed in Sample Section 3 was a 0.24m thick modern made ground layer (L1008), which comprised a very firm, patchy dark orange brown/mid brown orange sandy silt with moderate small to medium sized sub-angular and sub-rounded flints, with occasional charcoal flecks. This overlay L1003, a subsoil which was encountered across the site (Sample Sections 1, 3 and 5). It was a firm mid orange brown silty sand with frequent small to medium sized rounded flints and stones and overlay natural deposit L1004.

8.2 The site was more commonly overlain by a modern made ground deposit, L1000 (Sample Sections 1 – 2 and 3 - 5); which comprised a friable, mid greyish brown silty sand with frequent quantities of CBM rubble and small to medium sized sub-rounded and sub-angular flints. It varied in thickness ranging from 0.14 - 0.28m and overlay a synthetic black terram sheet (L1001) in Sample Sections 1 and 2. Beneath L1000 and L1001 was either: made ground layer (L1005) (Sample Section 2, 4 & 5) or buried soil L1002 (Sample Section 1. L1005 comprised a firm, pale yellow brown clay with moderate quantities of medium sized sub-rounded chalk (c.0.03 - 0.37m thick); whilst the latter, L1002, was a firm, dark grey brown sandy silt with frequent quantities of small to medium sized rounded flints and stone. Underlying both L1002 and L1005 was buried subsoil L1003; whilst L1006 was only present in Sample Section 3 beneath L1005. L1006 comprised a firm dark orange brown sandy silt with frequent quantities of small to medium sized rounded flints and stones which overlay natural deposit L1004.

8.3 At the base of the sequence was the natural, L1004. The natural deposits varied across the site and comprised patches of primarily friable, pale yellow brown/mid brown orange/pale grey yellow, coarse sand and silty sands with some pale blue grey silty sand and mid brown orange clay. All contained

moderate to frequent quantities of small to medium sized sub-rounded flints and stones. They were typically encountered between 0.5m and 0.71m below the present ground surface.

9 DISCUSSION

9.1 The recorded features are tabulated:

Context	Description	Spot date
1009	Gully	Undated
1011	Gully	Undated

9.2 The site lies within an area of archaeological potential. Elbow Lane follows the line of the major Roman route of Ermine Street, recorded on the Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record (HER 9271), and the site has a potential for Roman roadside activity/occupation. Elbow Lane Farm to the north is a post-medieval farmstead depicted on maps back to 1722 (HER 17542) shown on the 1847 tithe map as Homestall. A medieval homestead moat is recorded at Dalmonds (HER 2947).

9.3 The site had the potential to reveal medieval and post-medieval remains, and remains of Romano-British activity adjacent to the line of Elbow Lane (the former Roman Ermine Street).

9.4 The archaeological investigation revealed two undated gullies (F1009 and F1011) which may have functioned as forerunners to the modern land drains also encountered across the site.

DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

Archive records, with an inventory, will be deposited at Hertford Museum. The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross referenced and checked for internal consistency.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions would like to thank Mr James Bourke of Elbow Lane Farm for funding the project and for assistance.

AS would also like to acknowledge the input and advice of Ms Alison Tinniswood of Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Advisory Team.

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SSEW 1983 *Soil Survey of England and Wales: Legend for the 1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales* Harpenden, Rothamsted Experimental Station/Lawes Agricultural Trust

APPENDIX 1 CONCORDANCE OF FINDS

Concordance of Finds

AS1880, P7008, Dalmonds Wood Farm, Mangrove Lane, Brickendon, Herts

Feature	Context	Segment	Trench	Description	Spot Date (Pot Only)	Pot Qty	Pottery (g)	CBM (g)	A.Bone (g)	Other Material	Other Qty	Other (g)
	1008			Made ground				98				

APPENDIX 2 SPECIALIST REPORTS

The Ceramic Building Materials

Andrew Peachey

Made Ground L1008 contained two abraded fragments (98g) of post-medieval peg tile. The 14mm flat tile has a slightly uneven, length-ways striated upper surface, a smooth base and is 14mm thick. It was manufactured in a highly fired, orange-red, silty fabric with sparse inclusions of limestone and red clay pellets (generally <2mm, occasionally to 5mm). Based on the limited evidence, these fragments could have been produced in the mid 16th to 18th centuries, with the high-temperature firing possibly favoring a date later in this range.

APPENDIX 3**CONTENTS OF THE ARCHIVE**

Records	Number
Brief	N
Specification	Y
Registers	Context, Photo, Digital Photo, Drawing
Context Sheets	12
Site drawings A1	-
Site drawings A3	1
Site drawings A4	-
Site photographs b/w	9
Site photographs colour slides	9
Digital Photographs	9

APPENDIX 4 HER SUMMARY SHEET

Site name and address:	<i>PROPOSED NEW HOUSE, DALMONDS WOOD FARM, MANGROVE LANE, BRICKENDON, HERTFORDSHIRE SG13 8QJ.</i>
County: Herts	District: East Herts
Village/Town: Hertford	Parish: Brickendon
Planning application reference:	<i>EHDC Planning Ref. 3/16/0869/FUL</i>
Client name/address/tel:	<i>Mr James Bourke</i>
Nature of application:	<i>Residential</i>
Present land use:	<i>Temporary dwelling</i>
Size of application area: <i>c.7400m²</i>	<i>Size of area investigated c.7400m²</i>
NGR (8 figures):	TL 34144 09036
Site Code:	AS1880
Site director/Organization	<i>Archaeological Solutions Ltd</i>
Type of work:	<i>ARCHAEOLOGICAL 'STRIP, MAP & SAMPLE' INVESTIGATION AND MONITORING AND RECORDING</i>
Date of work:	<i>11th and 12th April 2017</i>
Location of finds/Curating museum:	<i>Hertford</i>
Related HER Nos:	<i>Periods represented:</i>
Relevant previous summaries/reports: -	-
Summary of fieldwork results:	<p><i>In April 2017 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological 'strip, map and sample' investigation at Dalmonds Wood Farm, Mangrove Lane, Brickendon, Hertfordshire SG13 8QJ (NGR TL 34144 09036). The investigation was undertaken in advance of the construction of a new Farm Manager's dwelling with associated landscaping to replace existing temporary accommodation. It was required by Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Advisory Team (HCC HEAT), as advisors to the Local Planning Authority, and undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to the planning approval (EHDC Planning Ref. 3/16/0869/FUL).</i></p> <p><i>The archaeological investigation revealed two undated gullies (F1009 and F1011) which may have functioned as forerunners to the modern land drains also encountered across the site.</i></p>
Author of summary: Gareth Barlow	Date of Summary: April 2017

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



1
F1009 looking south-west



2
F1011 looking south



3
Sample Section 1 looking north



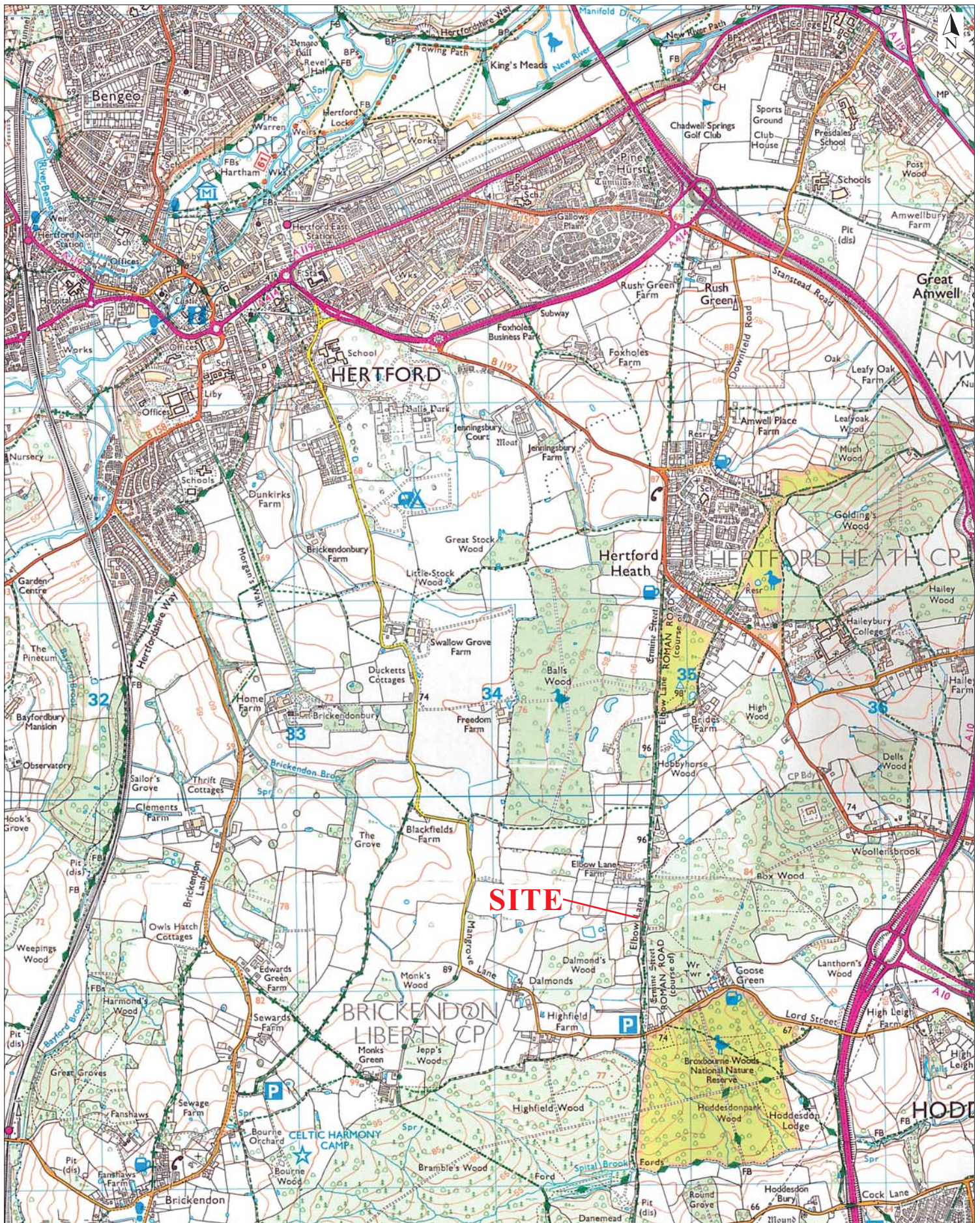
4
Sample Section 2 looking west



5
Sample Section 5 looking west

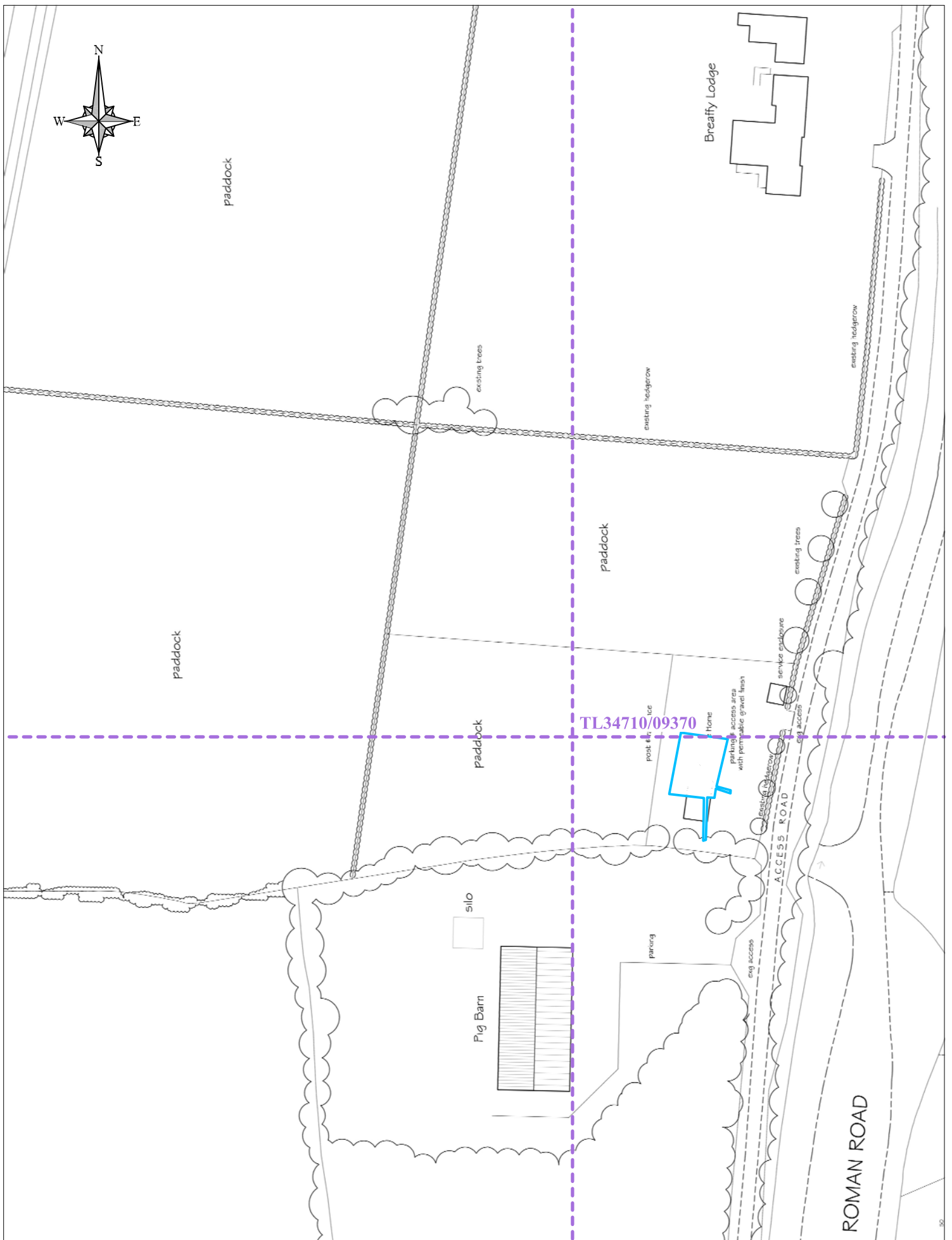


6
View of site looking south



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Fig. 1 Site location plan
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4
 Dalmonds Wood Farm, Hertfordshire (P7008)

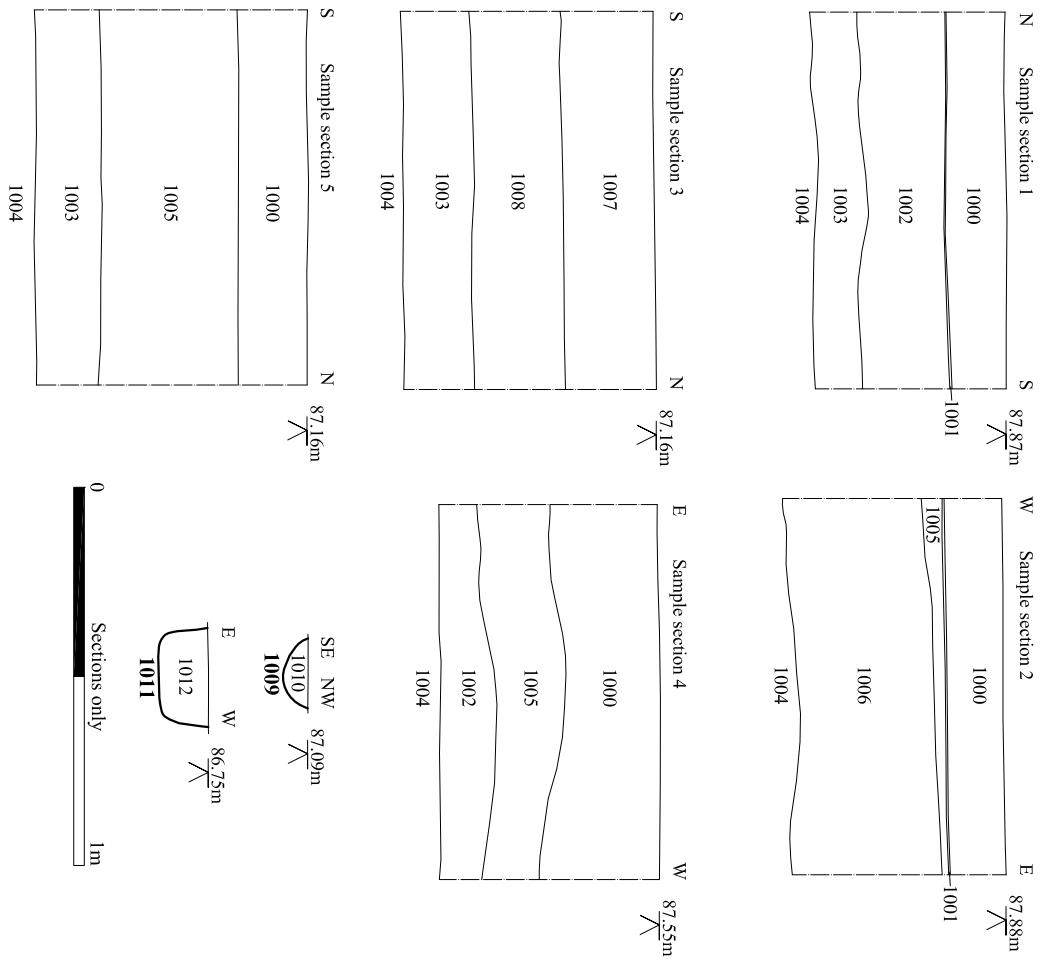
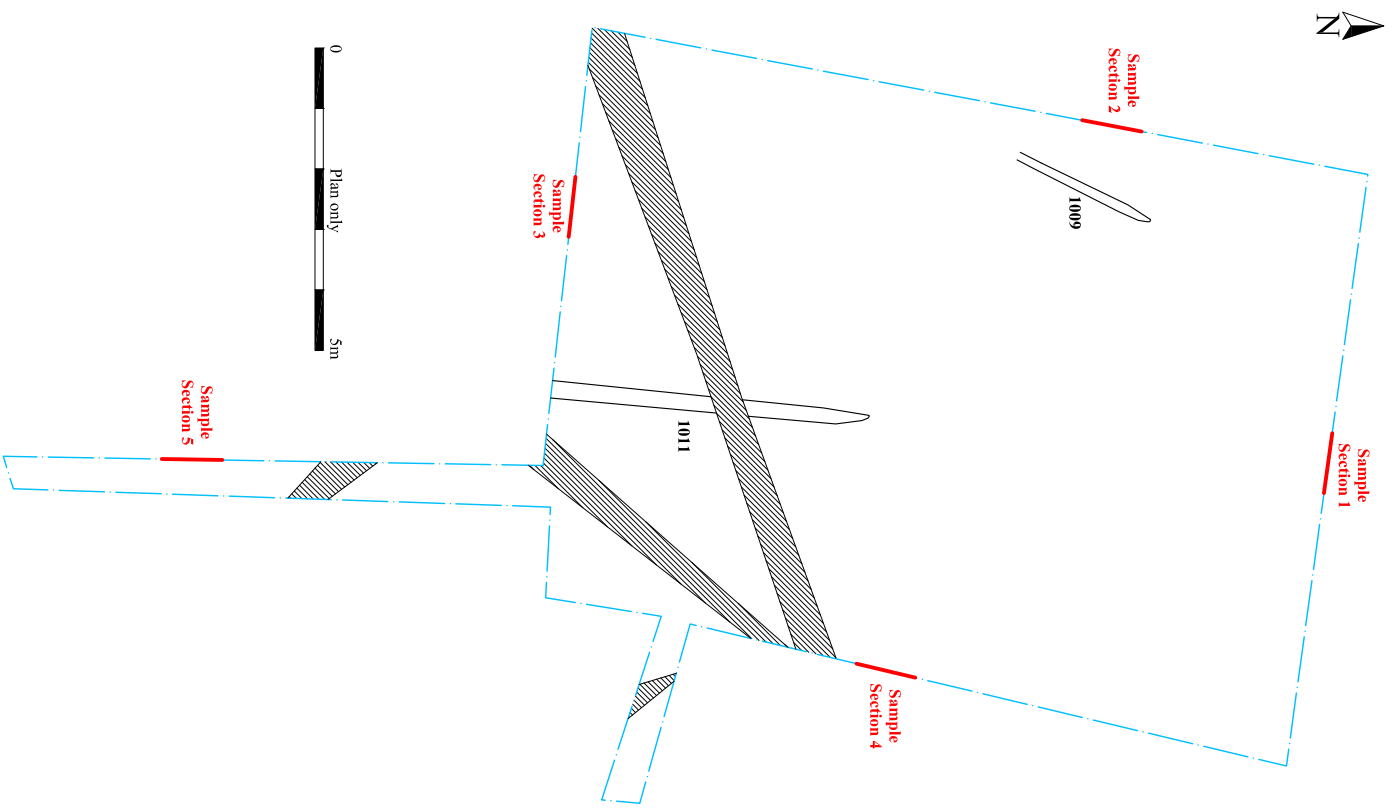


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Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan

Scale 1:1000 at A4

Dalmonds Wood Farm, Hertfordshire (P7008)



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Fig. 3 Site plan and sections
 Scale 1:125 and 1:20 at A4
 Dalmonds Wood Farm, Hertfordshire (P7008)