



**Long Newnton Dairy Farm
Brokenborough
Wiltshire**

Archaeological Evaluation

for

The Carbon Catalyst Group


CA Project: 3522
CA Report: 11190

August 2011

Long Newnton Dairy Farm
Brokenborough
Wiltshire

Archaeological Evaluation

CA Project: 3522
CA Report: 11190

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|-------------|---|
| prepared by | Diarmuid O Seaneachain, Project Supervisor |
| date | 8 August 2011 |
| checked by | Cliff Bateman, Project Manager |
| date | 11 August 2011 |
| approved by | Simon Cox, Head of Fieldwork |
| signed |  |
| date | 11 August 2011 |
| issue | 01 |

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SUMMARY

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Project Name: | Long Newton Dairy Farm |
| Location: | Brokenborough, Wiltshire |
| NGR: | ST 9283 9245 |
| Type: | Evaluation |
| Date: | 05 August 2011 |
| Planning Reference: | 11/01683/FUL |
| Location of Archive: | Devizes Museum |
| Site Code: | LND11 |

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in August 2011 at Long Newton Dairy Farm, Brokenborough, Wiltshire. Two trenches were excavated.

The evaluation revealed two simple stone field drains in both trenches, with a third possible drain or a pit within Trench 2. The location and alignments of the stone drains suggests they are likely to be the origin of previously identified cropmarks and are most probably associated with the Second World War airfield, RAF Long Newton.



1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In August 2011 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation for The Carbon Catalyst Group at Long Newton Dairy Farm, Brokenborough, Wiltshire (centred on NGR: ST 9283 9245; Fig. 1). The evaluation was undertaken to comply with condition 10 attached to planning permission granted by Wiltshire County Council for the construction of a Solar PV farm (planning ref: 11/01683/FUL).
- 1.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with instructions contained in e-mail correspondence between Melanie Pomeroy-Kellinger, the archaeological advisor to the Local Planning Authority (Wiltshire Council) and Tim Haines, Cotswold Archaeology (dated 21 July 2011) , and with a subsequent detailed Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by CA 2011 and approved by Ms. Pomeroy-Kellinger. The fieldwork also followed the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (IfA 2008), the *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991) and the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (EH 2006). It was monitored by Ms. Pomeroy-Kellinger.

The site

- 1.3 The development area is approximately 2.4ha and comprises parts of three agricultural fields and an access road within the former RAF Long Newton airfield. The site lies at c. 120m AOD on relatively flat ground and is bounded to the west by a complex of farm buildings, to the north and east by an access road and to the south by further fields. The underlying solid geology of the site is mapped as Forest Marble of the Middle Jurassic era (BGS 2011) and was observed in both trenches.

Archaeological background

- 1.4 A desk-based assessment of the site previously undertaken by South West Solar Parks Ltd identified a low potential for buried archaeological remains (SWSP 2011). However, a previously identified cropmark suggests the presence of a possible double-ditched enclosure of uncertain date may survive within the site (Wilts HER ST99SW604). The cropmark appears to follow the alignment of the perimeter track



of the former Second World War airfield (RAF Long Newton) and may therefore be of modern origin.

Archaeological objectives

- 1.5 The objectives of the evaluation were to establish the character, quality, date and extent of any archaeological remains or deposits surviving within the site. This information will assist Ms Melanie Pomeroy-Kellinger, the archaeological advisor to Wiltshire Council Planning Authority, in making an informed judgement on the significance of the archaeological resource, and the likely impact upon it of the proposed development.

Methodology

- 1.6 The fieldwork comprised the excavation of 2 trenches, each measuring 30m in length and 2m in width, in the locations shown on the attached plan (Fig. 2). Both trenches targeted the cropmark and were set out on OS National Grid (NGR) co-ordinates using a Leica 1200 series SmartRover GPS and surveyed in accordance with CA Technical Manual 4 *Survey Manual* (2009).
- 1.7 Both trenches were excavated by mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket. All machine excavation was undertaken under constant archaeological supervision to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or the natural substrate, whichever was encountered first. Where archaeological deposits were encountered they were excavated by hand in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual* (2007).
- 1.8 Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential in accordance with CA Technical Manual 2: *The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites* (2003) and no deposits were identified that required sampling. No artefacts were recovered during the evaluation.
- 1.9 The archive from the evaluation is currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble and will be deposited with Devizes Museum. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix B, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

2. RESULTS (FIGS 2-3)

Trench 1 (Figs 2 & 3)

- 2.1 Natural clay substrate 102 was typically encountered 0.35m below the present ground level (bpgl). It was cut by two parallel, undated stone field drains, 104 and 106, aligned north-east to south-west. Both drains were overlain by subsoil 101, which in turn was sealed by topsoil/turf 100.

Trench 2 (Figs 2 & 4)

- 2.2 Natural clay substrate 202 was encountered 0.38m bpgl. It was cut by two parallel, undated stone field drains, 204 and 207, aligned north-east to south-west. The positions of these two drains correlated closely with the previously identified cropmark. The terminal of a third stone field drain or a possible pit, 205, was revealed centrally within the trench. As in Trench 1, the stone field drains in Trench 2 were overlain by subsoil 201, which in turn was sealed by topsoil/turf 200.

The Finds and Palaeoenvironmental Evidence

- 2.3 No finds were recovered in the course of the evaluation and no deposits were identified that required environmental sampling.

3. DISCUSSION

- 3.1 The stone field drains identified in both evaluation trenches broadly correlate, allowing for a small error in its plotting, with the cropmark previously revealed from aerial photographs of the site (Wilts HER ST99SW604). This finding, along with the absence of any other archaeological evidence, suggests that the drains are most probably associated with the Second World War airfield, RAF Long Newton.



4. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Diarmuid O Seaneachain assisted by Tom Weavill. The report was written by Diarmuid O Seaneachain. The illustrations were prepared by Jon Bennett. The archive has been compiled by Diarmuid O Seaneachain and prepared for deposition by James Johnson. The project was managed for CA by Cliff Bateman.

5. REFERENCES

- BGS (British Geological Survey) 2011 Geology of Britain Viewer. Online resource at http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyviewer_google/googleviewer.html viewed 09 August 2011
- CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2011 *Long Newnton Dairy Farm, Brokenborough, Wiltshire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief*
- SWSP (South West Solar Parks) 2011 *Long Newnton Dairy Farm, Brokenborough: Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment for a Solar PV Array (ref no: DOC/LN/004)*



APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS**Trench 1**

| No. | Type | Description | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Spot-date |
|-----|-------|--|------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| 100 | Layer | Topsoil: light brownish grey clayey silt | | | 0.2m | |
| 101 | Layer | Subsoil: light greyish brown silty clay | | | 0.15m | |
| 102 | Layer | Natural substrate: mid-brown clay with occasional manganese flecks. Friable. | | | >0.35m bpgl | |
| 103 | Fill | Single fill of stone field drain 104. Pitched angular and sub-angular limestone stones arranged to form a simple stone drain | | 0.2m | 0.27m | |
| 104 | Cut | Cut of stone field drain aligned north-east to south-west | | 0.2m | 0.27m | |
| 105 | Fill | Single fill of stone field drain 106, very similar to 103. Not excavated. | | 0.2m | | |
| 106 | Cut | Cut of stone field drain aligned north-east to south-west. Very similar to 104. Not excavated. | | 0.2m | | |

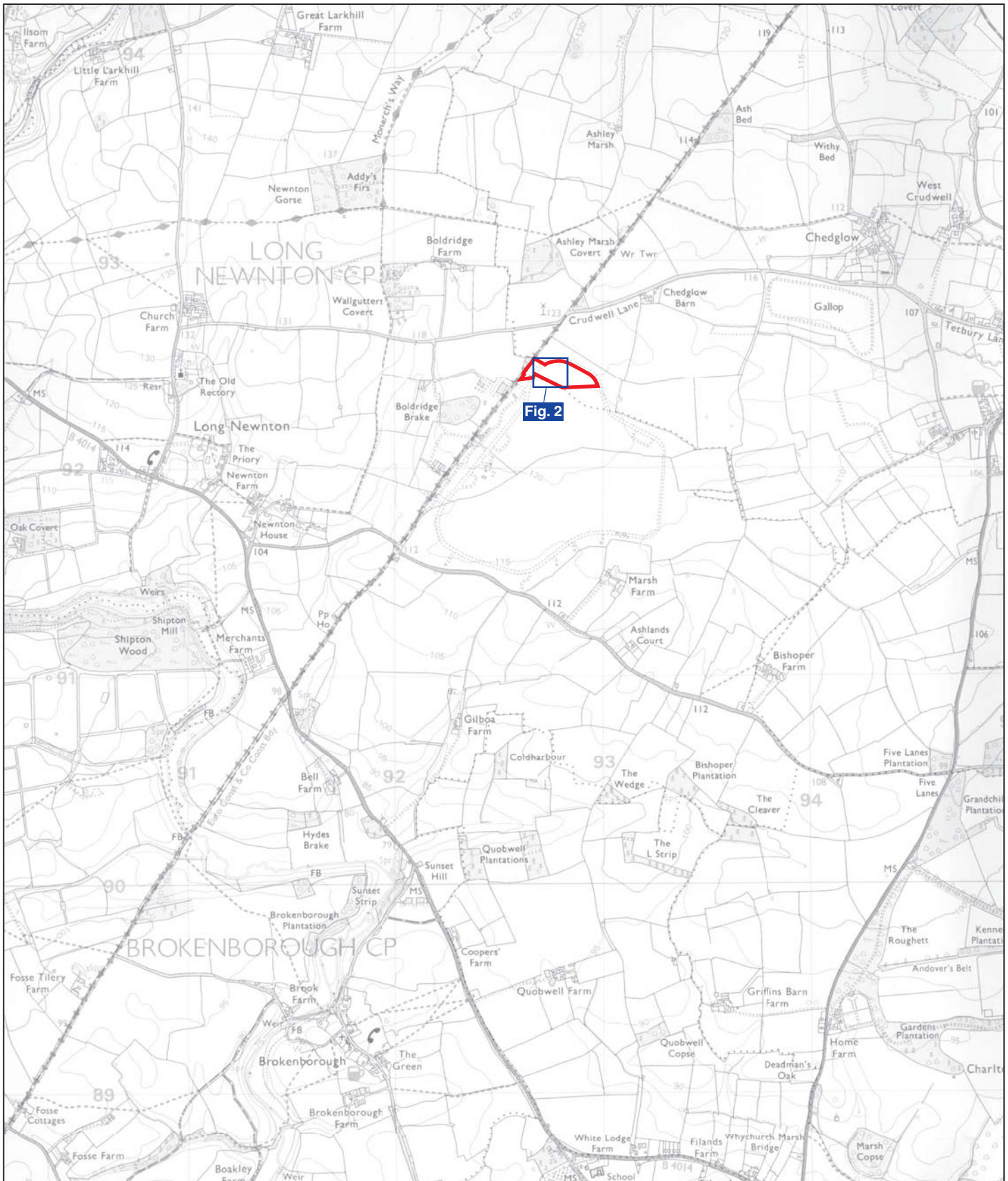
Trench 2

| No. | Type | Description | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Spot-date |
|-----|-------|---|------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| 200 | Layer | Topsoil: light brownish grey clayey silt | | | 0.2m | |
| 201 | Layer | Subsoil: light greyish brown silty clay | | | 0.15m | |
| 202 | Layer | Natural substrate: mid-brown clay with occasional manganese flecks. Friable. | | | >0.38m bpgl | |
| 203 | Cut | Cut of linear stone field drain orientated north-east to south-west. | >2m | 0.3m | 0.26m | |
| 204 | Fill | Single fill of stone field drain 203. Pitched angular and sub-angular limestone stones in a silty clay matrix arranged to form a simple stone drain | >2m | 0.3m | 0.26m | |
| 205 | Cut | Terminus cut stone field or pit | >0.2m | 0.3m | | |
| 206 | Fill | Single fill of pit/stone field drain 205, very similar to 204. Not excavated. | | 0.3m | | |
| 207 | Cut | Cut of stone field drain aligned north-east to south-west. Very similar to 203. Not excavated. | >2m | 0.3m | | |
| 208 | Fill | Single fill of stone field drain 207, very similar to 204. Not excavated. | >2m | 0.3m | | |



APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM

| PROJECT DETAILS | | |
|---|--|---|
| Project Name | Long Newton Dairy Farm, Brokenborough, Wiltshire | |
| Short description | An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in August 2011 at Long Newton Dairy Farm, Brokenborough, Wiltshire. Two trenches were excavated. The evaluation revealed two simple stone field drains in both trenches, with a third possible drain or a pit within Trench 2. The location and alignments of these stone drains suggests they are likely to be the origin of previously identified cropmarks and are most probably associated with the Second World War airfield, RAF Long Newton. | |
| Project dates | 05 August 2011 | |
| Project type | Archaeological Evaluation | |
| Previous work | SWSP (South West Solar Parks) 2011 Long Newton Dairy Farm, Brokenborough: Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment for a Solar PV Array (ref no: DOC/LN/004) | |
| Future work | Unknown | |
| PROJECT LOCATION | | |
| Site Location | Long Newton Dairy Farm, Brokenborough, Wiltshire | |
| Study area (M ² /ha) | 2.4ha | |
| Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference) | ST 9283 9245 | |
| PROJECT CREATORS | | |
| Name of organisation | Cotswold Archaeology | |
| Project Brief originator | None | |
| Project Design (WSI) originator | Cotswold Archaeology | |
| Project Manager | Cliff Bateman | |
| Project Supervisor | Diarmuid O Seaneachain | |
| MONUMENT TYPE | | |
| None | | |
| SIGNIFICANT FINDS | | |
| None | | |
| PROJECT ARCHIVES | | |
| | Intended final location of archive (museum/Accession no.) | Content |
| Physical | | None |
| Paper | | Photographic and drawings registers, trench sheets, context sheets, permatrace drawings, report |
| Digital | | Digital photos, digital copy of the report. |
| BIBLIOGRAPHY | | |
| CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2011 <i>Long Newton Dairy Farm, Brokenborough, Wiltshire: Archaeological Evaluation</i> . CA typescript report 11190 | | |



t 01285 771022
 f 01285 771033
 www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
 enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

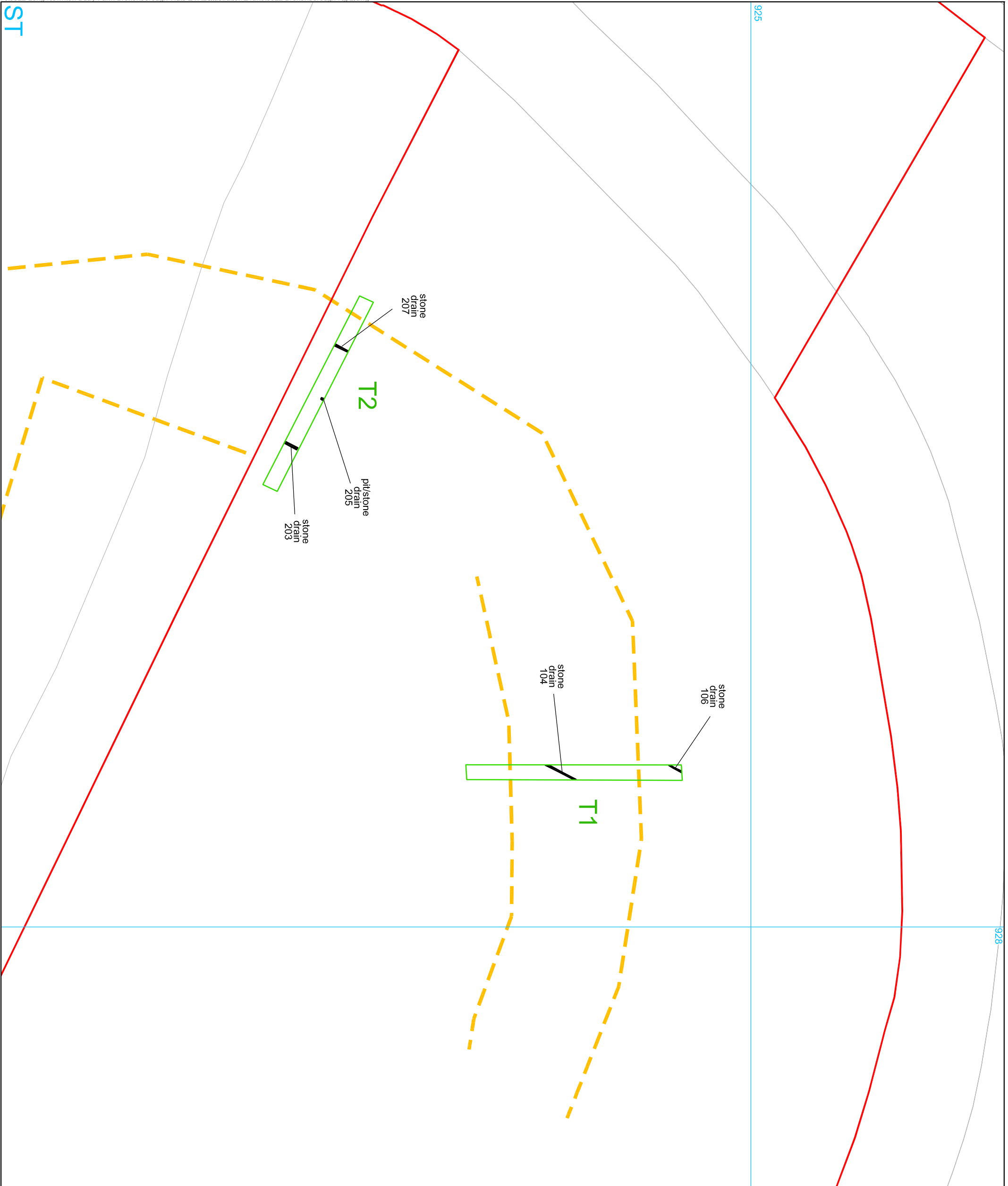
PROJECT TITLE
 Long Newton Dairy Farm
 Brokenborough, Wiltshire

FIGURE TITLE
 Site location plan

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PROJECT NO. 2522 DATE 10-08-2011
 DRAWN BY JB REVISION 00
 APPROVED BY PJM SCALE@A4 1:25,000

FIGURE NO.
1



- site
- evaluation trench
- stone drains
- Wiltshire HER ST99SW604



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 Cotswold Archaeology
 t 01296 771022 f 01296 771033
 w www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk e enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE
 Long Newton Dairy Farm
 Brokenborough, Wiltshire

FIGURE TITLE
 Trench location plan showing
 archaeological features

| | | | | | |
|-------------|------|----------|------------|------------|---|
| PROJECT NO. | 3522 | DATE | 10-08-2011 | FIGURE NO. | 2 |
| DRAWN BY | JB | REVISION | 00 | | |
| APPROVED BY | PJM | SCALE | @A3 1:500 | | |



3

3 Trench 1, showing stone drains 106 (foreground) and 104 (background), looking south (scales 1m)



**Cotswold
Archaeology**

t 01285 771022
f 01285 771033
w www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
e enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE

Long Newton Dairy Farm
Brokenborough, Wiltshire

FIGURE TITLE

Photograph

PROJECT NO. 3522 DATE 10-08-2011
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APPROVED BY PJM SCALE@A4 N/A

FIGURE NO.

3



**4 Trench 2: section through stone field drain 203
(scale 0.4m)**



t 01285 771022
f 01285 771033
w www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
e enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE

Long Newton Dairy Farm
Brokenborough, Wiltshire

FIGURE TITLE

Photograph

PROJECT NO. 3522 DATE 10-08-2011
DRAWN BY JB REVISION 00
APPROVED BY PJM SCALE@A4 N/A

FIGURE NO.

4