

**Land South-West of Brickkiln Wood
Offley
Hertfordshire**

Archaeological Evaluation

DRAFT

for

NJL Consulting

on behalf of

Bloor Homes

CA Project: 660018

CA Report: 11269

November 2011

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Offley
Hertfordshire

Archaeological Evaluation

CA Project: 660018
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CONTENTS

SUMMARY	2
1. INTRODUCTION	3
2. RESULTS (FIGS. 2-10)	5
3. DISCUSSION.....	8
4. CA PROJECT TEAM	10
5. REFERENCES	10
APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS.....	11
APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM	21

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

- Fig. 1 Site location plan
- Fig. 2 Trench location plan, showing archaeological features and geophysical survey results, 1:3,000
- Fig. 3 Trench location plan (Field 1), showing archaeological features and geophysical survey results, 1:1,000
- Fig. 4 Trench location plan (Field 2, north), showing archaeological features and geophysical survey results, 1:1,000
- Fig. 5 Trench location plan (Field 2, south, and Field 3), showing archaeological features and geophysical survey results, 1:1,000
- Fig. 6 Trench 189, looking west (scales 1m)
- Fig. 7 Trench 197, looking west (scales 1m)
- Fig. 8 Trenches 202 and 204: sections and photographs
- Fig. 9 Trenches 215 and 221: sections and photographs
- Fig. 10 Trench 223: section and photograph (scales 1m)

SUMMARY

Project Name:	Land South-West of Brickkiln Wood
Location:	Offley, Hertfordshire
NGR:	TL1290 2270
Type:	Evaluation
Date:	3 - 14 October 2010
Location of Archive:	North Hertfordshire Museums Service
Accession Number:	-
Site Code:	LEU11

In October 2011, Cotswold Archaeology carried out an archaeological evaluation, comprising the excavation of forty-seven trial trenches, of land south-west of Brickkiln Wood, Offley, Hertfordshire. The work was commissioned by NJL Consulting, acting on behalf of Bloor Homes, and was undertaken following the submission of planning proposals for the residential development of the land.

A small number of features was identified across the site, the majority probably associated with post-medieval and modern agricultural works, field boundaries and clay extraction. There was a possible enclosure near the centre of the site; this is undated but the character of the ditch fills suggests that it is comparatively recent in date. With the exception of a single, small pit near the centre of the site that may be prehistoric in date, no earlier features were identified and there were no residual finds from the topsoil and subsoil that predated the 19th century. However, four pieces of worked flint, one from a tree throw, one a residual find from the enclosure ditch and two from the surface of the substrate, indicate limited prehistoric activity in the area.



1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In October 2011, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation, comprising the excavation of 47 trial trenches, of land to the south-west of Brickkiln Wood, Offley, Hertfordshire (centred on NGR: TL 1290 2270; Fig.1). The evaluation, which was commissioned by NJL Consulting, acting on behalf of Bloor Homes, was undertaken following the submission of planning proposals to North Hertfordshire District Council for the residential development of the land. The site forms part of a larger residential and commercial development scheme to the east of Luton, and the surrounding area has been the subject of extensive archaeological evaluation (CA 2008).
- 1.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by CA (2011) and approved by Andy Instone, Archaeological Officer with Hertfordshire County Council's Historic Environment Unit (HCCHEU). The fieldwork also followed the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (IfA 2008), the *Management of Archaeological Projects 2* (EH 1991) and the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (EH 2006). The site was monitored by Andy Instone, with a site visit being made on the 7 October 2011.

The site

- 1.3 The site, a broadly rectangular block of land of approximately 20ha, is located on the south-eastern outskirts of Luton, to the east of the suburb of Wigmore and within the parish of Offley (Fig. 2). It comprises three arable fields, bounded by a housing estate to the west, Eaton Green Road to the south, Brickkiln Wood and a golf course to the east, and Cockernhoe village to the north.
- 1.4 The site lies on a gradual west to south-west facing slope, the ground descending from 155m to 135m aOD. The underlying geology is Cretaceous Upper Chalk, overlain by Clay-with-Flints, with a narrow tongue of glacial Head extending into the central part of the site within a shallow re-entrant (www.bgs.ac.uk/geoindex).

Archaeological background

- 1.5 The site has been the subject of fieldwalking (Hudspith 2008) and geophysical survey (PCG 2010), and a single trial trench (Trench 136), part of an earlier evaluation carried out by Cotswold Archaeology (2008), was excavated in the northern field (Field 1). In summary, earlier evaluations of the site and surrounding area have indicated that there is extensive but low density prehistoric and Romano-British archaeological remains in the area. Many of the Romano-British remains are likely to relate to the extraction of clay. Recent survey in Brickkiln Wood has demonstrated the existence of a large, undated sub-rectangular earthwork enclosure, possible occupation platforms, field and woodland boundaries and also steep-sided clay extraction hollows associated with the former Cockernhoe Brickworks (Pullen and McOmish 2010). The earthworks represent a rare survival within an otherwise widely and extensively farmed landscape.

Archaeological objectives

- 1.6 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 North Hertfordshire District Council in making an informed judgement on the significance of the archaeological resource, and the likely impact upon it of the proposed development.

Methodology

- 1.8 The fieldwork comprised the excavation of forty-seven 30m trenches (1,410 linear metres at 1.8m wide) in the locations shown in Figure 2. Nine trenches targeted geophysical anomalies, interpreted as possible archaeological features, detected by the geophysical survey; the remainder were evenly spaced across the site to investigate apparently blank areas. Trenches were set out on OS National Grid (NGR) co-ordinates using a Leica 1200 series SmartRover GPS and surveyed in accordance with CA's *Technical Manual 4: Survey Manual* (2009).
- 1.9 All 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 *Technical Manual 1: Fieldwork Recording Manual* (2007).

- 1.11 The archive and artefacts from the evaluation are currently held by CA at their offices in Milton Keynes. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner, the artefacts will be deposited with North Hertfordshire Museums under its accession number, along with the site archive. 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

General stratigraphy

- 2.1 This section provides an overview of the evaluation results; detailed summaries of the recorded contexts are to be found in Appendix A. The trenches were located in three arable fields: Trenches 185-187, 189-200 and 205 were located in the northernmost field, bordering Brickkiln Wood (Field 1); Trenches 201-204, 206-224 in the central field, to the north of Ivy Cottages (Field 2); and Trenches 225-231 in the southernmost field, adjacent to Eaton Green Road (Field 3).
- 2.2 The geology across the entire site was typically light to mid yellowish- or orangey-brown clay, containing nodular flint and other rock varieties (Clay-with-Flints). On the lower slope, in the vicinity of trenches 200 and 205, there was an outcrop of weathered chalk. The subsoil, which was intermittent across the site, was mid brown silty clay; at the base of the slope it was up to c. 1.25m thick and was largely colluvial in origin. The ploughsoil was approximately 0.3m thick and comprised mid brownish-grey clayey silt.

Trench 189 (Figs. 2, 3 & 6)

- 2.3 An undated gully, 18902, which was aligned north-west to south-east and measured 0.5m wide by 0.16m deep, was encountered at the western end of the trench. It followed the contour of the slope and may be associated with drainage.

Trench 202 (Figs. 2, 4 & 8)

- 2.4 At the south-east end of the trench there was an undated ditch, 20202, which appeared to form the northern corner of a possible enclosure. It may be a continuation of the ditch investigated in Trench 204, which turned sharply to the south-east, possibly forming the eastern corner of the same enclosure. The ditch was over 0.3m wide and 0.43m deep, and was largely filled with a mid brown silty clay, not dissimilar to the subsoil, suggesting that the ditch is probably medieval or later in date.

Trench 203 (Figs. 2 & 4)

- 2.5 At the northern end of the trench was a north-west to south-east aligned gully, 20302. The gully, which is undated, measured 0.73m wide by 0.15m deep. Its fill, 20303, was flecked with manganese, suggesting fluctuation in the water table.

Trench 204 (Figs. 2, 4 & 8)

- 2.6 At the north-west end of the trench there were two intercutting ditches. The earlier of the two ditches, 20404, measured 1.5m wide by 0.18m deep and appeared to curve sharply from the north-west to the south-west. It is possible that this ditch forms the east corner of an enclosure, also investigated in Trench 202. Its fill, 20403, contained a waste flint flake. The outer edge of the ditch was cut by an undated ditch 20409, which was aligned north to south and was 1.2m wide and 0.10m deep. Towards the southern end of the trench there was a north-east to south-west aligned ditch, 20406, measuring 1.0m wide by 0.32m deep. The location of the ditch corresponds with a linear geophysical survey anomaly, which suggests that it may be a former field boundary.

Trench 205 (Figs. 2 & 4)

- 2.6 An oval pit, 20502, measuring 1.3m long by 0.5m wide by 0.2m deep, was identified towards the north-western end of the trench. Although no finds were retrieved, its charcoal-flecked fill, 20503, was very leached, characteristic of some prehistoric soils and deposits.

Trench 215 (Figs. 2, 5 & 9)

- 2.7 Two stone-filled field drains, which were aligned north-west to south-east, were located towards the southern end of the trench. Between the two drains was the edge of an undated feature, 21503, possibly a pit or a curving ditch, measuring over 0.6m wide by 0.35m deep.

Trench 220 (Figs. 2 & 5)

- 2.8 A north-east to south-west aligned ditch, 22004, possibly a former field boundary, was identified in the northern end of the trench. The ditch, which is undated, measured 2.0m wide by 0.65m deep.

Trench 221 (Figs. 2, 5 & 9)

- 2.9 Towards the south-west end of the trench there was an undated, sub-oval pit, 22103, measuring 3.3m long, over 1m wide and 0.3m deep. It may be a post-medieval clay extraction pit that was backfilled after use, and corresponded with a ferrous litter signal on the geophysical survey plot. A second pit, 22105, was also recorded and was 3.5m long, at least 1.2m wide and 0.3m deep.

Trench 223 (Figs. 2, 5 & 10)

- 2.10 At the south-western end of the trench a large, undated sub-oval pit, 22105, was identified. It had irregular edges and was 8.8m long, 1.5m wide and 0.61m deep. Since it was located against the south edge of the trench only a small part was exposed. It was possibly a post-medieval clay extraction pit, similar to the one identified in Trench 221.

Trench 224 (Figs. 2 & 5)

- 2.11 A large, undated oval pit, 22403, was identified at the south end of the trench. It was aligned north to south and measured 2.65m long, over 0.80m wide and 0.42m deep. The basal fill, 22405, contained abundant sub-angular well-sorted flint nodules (<100mm) and was 0.34m thick. The secondary fill, 22404, was 0.08m thick and contained small amounts of charcoal. This large pit lies close to an area where clay extraction was suggested as being highly probable by analysis of the geophysical

survey results; it is possible that after its use it was backfilled with farming waste, A tree throw, 22406, was located approximately 11m to the north of pit 22403. It was sub-circular in plan, and had irregular edges and base due to bioturbation. It was 2.0m long, 1.4m wide and 0.20m deep and its fill, 22407, contained a fragment of worked flint (possibly a blade).

- 2.12 No archaeological features were encountered in Trenches 185 to 187, 190 to 201, 206 to 214, 216 to 219, 222, and 225 to 232.

The Finds Evidence

- 2.13 Artefactual material, comprising quantities of ceramic building material and worked stone, was recovered from four separate deposits.

- 2.12 Ceramic building material was recovered from the subsoil, 22002, in Trench 220. The material comprised ten post-medieval roof tile fragments, between 12 to 15mm thick, one with a round peg hole and one with raised 'nib'. The recovered material is not considered to be archaeologically significant and has been discarded.

- 2.13 Two fragments of worked flint were recovered from the surface of the natural substrate, 19701, in Trench 197. The largest fragment may be an unfinished scraper of late prehistoric date.

- 2.14 One flint flake was recovered from ditch 20404, fill 20403.

- 2.15 A single fragment of an unfinished blade was found in tree throw 22406, fill 22407. It has clearly been retouched and is of possible Bronze Age date.

3. DISCUSSION

- 3.1 The evaluation of the three fields between Brickkiln Wood and Eaton Green Road has demonstrated marginal activity on the land, probably associated with post-medieval and modern agricultural works, field boundaries and clay extraction. The possible enclosure near the centre of the site, at the northern end of Field 2, is undated but the character of the ditch fills suggests that it is comparatively recent in date. With the exception of a single, small pit near the centre of the site that may be

prehistoric in date, no earlier features were identified and there were no residual finds from the topsoil and subsoil that predated the 19th century. However, four pieces of worked flint, one from a tree throw, one a residual find from the enclosure ditch and two from the surface of the substrate, indicate limited prehistoric activity in the area.

- 3.2 Given the steepness of the slope and the heavy clay soils, the land may have been wooded until the medieval period, if not later. The 1658 estates map and 1884 first edition Ordnance Survey map of the area show the land being used for arable farming and clay extraction.
- 3.3 Where buried remains correlated with geophysical anomalies, the majority of the anomalies were shown by excavation to be related to modern features or dumps of modern material in the plough soil, or variations in the geology. Many geophysical anomalies were not represented by buried deposits and many buried deposits had not been detected by the geophysical survey.
- 3.4 The results reflect those of the more extensive evaluation to the north and east in 2008 (CA 2008) but the range and date of buried remains and finds is even more limited for the 2011 evaluation. The impression is of decreasing activity from north to south in the wider site area and this may partly reflect the steepness of slope in the current evaluation which may not have been conducive to past land use and settlement.
- 3.5 The results of the evaluation are in stark contrast with the survival of extensive, complex and sometimes slight earthworks in the adjacent Brickkiln Wood (Pullen and McOmish 2010). Recent survey work has demonstrated how the historic woodland of Brickkiln Wood has served to preserve and protect even the slightest of earthworks unlike the evaluation area where intensive agriculture has largely erased any traces of earlier land use. To what extent the activities evident from the earthworks in Brickkiln Wood were once also present within the evaluation area is unknown. The potential for the survival of more substantial and robust features, such as clay extraction pits, kilns and other industrial features, was not realised beyond a small number of possibly clay extraction pits.

4. CA PROJECT TEAM

- 4.1 The fieldwork was undertaken by Simon Carlyle, Jeremy Mordue, Daniel Riley, Vasileios Tsamis and Andrew Baines. The report was written by Vasileios Tsamis and the illustrations were prepared by Jonathan Bennett. The archive has been compiled by Vasileios Tsamis, and prepared for deposition by Kathryn Price. The project was managed for CA by Simon Carlyle.

5. REFERENCES

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APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench 185

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
18500	Layer	Topsoil			0.28	
18501	Layer	Subsoil			0.24	
18502	Layer	Natural			>0.1	

Trench 186

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
18600	Layer	Topsoil			0.31	
18601	Layer	Subsoil			0.47	
18602	Layer	Natural			>0.08	

Trench 187

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
18700	Layer	Topsoil			0.19	
18701	Layer	Natural			>0.04	
18703	Cut	Tree throw	1.5	1.1	0.19	
18704	Layer	Tree throw fill	1.5	1.1	0.32	

Trench 189

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
18900	Layer	Topsoil			0.17	
18901	Layer	Natural			>0.22	
18902	Cut	Gully terminus	1.6	0.33	0.16	
18903	Deposit	Secondary fill			0.16	

Trench 190

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
19000	Layer	Topsoil			0.26	
19001	Layer	Subsoil			0.56	
19002	Layer	Natural			>0.10	

Trench 191

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
19100	Layer	Topsoil			0.36	
19101	Layer	Subsoil			0.1	
19102	Layer	Natural			>0.04	

Trench 192

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
19200	Layer	Topsoil			0.38	
19201	Layer	Subsoil			0.38	

19201	Layer	Natural			>0.02	
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Trench 193

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
19300	Layer	Topsoil			0.24	
19301	Layer	Natural			>0.17	

Trench 194

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
19400	Layer	Topsoil			0.26	
19401	Layer	Natural			>0.01	

Trench 195

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
19500	Layer	Topsoil			0.26	
19501	Layer	Natural			>0.04	

Trench 196

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
19600	Layer	Topsoil			0.26	
19601	Layer	Natural			>0.01	

Trench 197

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
19700	Layer	Topsoil			0.3	
19701	Layer	Natural			>0.03	

Trench 198

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
19800	Layer	Topsoil			0.36	
19801	Layer	Subsoil			0.10	
19802	Layer	Natural			>0.10	

Trench 199

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
19900	Layer	Topsoil			0.34	
19901	Layer	Subsoil			0.23	
19902	Layer	Natural			>0.01	

Trench 200

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
20000	Layer	Topsoil			0.36	
20001	Layer	Natural			>0.01	

Trench 201

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
20100	Layer	Topsoil			0.3	
20101	Layer	Natural			>0.01	

Trench 202

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
20200	Layer	Topsoil			0.3	
20201	Layer	Natural			>0.01	
20202	Cut	Ditch	0.6	0.3	0.43	
20203	Deposit	Secondary fill			0.43	
20204	Deposit	Secondary fill			0.43	
20205	Layer	Subsoil			0.36	

Trench 203

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
20300	Layer	Topsoil			0.32	
20301	Layer	Natural			>0.01	
20302	Cut	Ditch	>1.8	0.73	0.15	
20303	Deposit	Secondary fill			0.15	

Trench 204

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
20401	Layer	Topsoil			0.3	
20402	Layer	Subsoil			0.1	
20403	Deposit	Secondary fill			0.18	
20404	Cut	Ditch	0.14	0.15	0.18	Flint flake
20405	Deposit	Secondary fill			0.32	
20406	Cut	Field boundary ditch	>1.8	1	0.32	
20407	Layer	Natural			>0.1	
20408	Layer	Secondary ditch			0.1	
20409	Cut	Field boundary ditch	>3	1.2	0.1	

Trench 205

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
20500	Layer	Topsoil			0.25	
20501	Layer	Natural			>0.01	
20502	Cut	Pit	1.3	0.5	0.2	
20503	Deposit	Secondary fill			0.2	

Trench 206

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
20600	Layer	Topsoil			0.29	
20601	Layer	Subsoil			0.31	
20602	Layer	Natural			>0.01	

Trench 207

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
20700	Layer	Topsoil			0.4	
20701	Layer	Natural			>0.02	

Trench 208

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
20800	Layer	Topsoil			0.31	
20801	Layer	Natural			>0.22	

Trench 209

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
20900	Layer	Topsoil			0.35	
20901	Layer	Natural			>0.01	

Trench 210

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
21000	Layer	Topsoil			0.3	
21001	Layer	Subsoil			1.25	
21002	Layer	Natural			>0.01	

Trench 211

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
21100	Layer	Topsoil			0.3	
21101	Layer	Subsoil			1.25	
21102	Layer	Natural			>0.01	

Trench 212

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
21200	Layer	Topsoil			0.35	
21201	Layer	Subsoil			0.65	
21202	Layer	Natural			0.35	

Trench 213

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
21300	Layer	Topsoil			0.3	
21301	Layer	Natural			>0.01	

Trench 214

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
21400	Layer	Topsoil			0.35	
21401	Layer	Natural			>0.01	

Trench 215

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
21501	Layer	Topsoil			0.3	
21502	Deposit	Secondary fill			0.35	
21503	Cut	Ditch/pit	3.35	0.6	0.35	
21504	Deposit	Secondary fill			n/k	
21505	Cut	Field drain	2	0.3	n/k	
21506	Deposit	Secondary fill			n/k	
21507	Cut	Field drain	2	0.5	n/k	
21508	Layer	Natural			>0.05	

Trench 216

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
21600	Layer	Topsoil			0.3	
21601	Layer	Natural			>0.01	

Trench 217

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
21700	Layer	Topsoil			0.35	
21701	Layer	Natural			>0.01	

Trench 218

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
21801	Layer	Topsoil			0.4	
21802	Layer	Natural			>0.1	

Trench 219

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
21900	Layer	Topsoil			0.3	
21901	Layer	Natural			>0.01	

Trench 220

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
22001	Layer	Topsoil			0.45	
22002	Layer	Subsoil			0.52	Post-medieval
22003	Deposit	Primary fill			0.10	
22004	Cut	Boundary ditch	1.8	2	0.65	
22005	Layer	Natural			>0.05	

Trench 221

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
22101	Layer	Topsoil			0.3	
22102	Deposit	Deliberate backfill			0.37	
22103	Cut	Pit	3.3	1	0.37	post-medieval
22104	Deposit	Secondary fill			0.3	
22105	Cut	Pit	3.5	1.2	0.3	post-medieval
22106	Layer	Natural			>0.1	

Trench 222

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
22200	Layer	Topsoil			0.35	
22201	Layer	Natural			>0.01	

Trench 223

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
22300	Layer	Topsoil			0.3	
22301	Layer	Natural			>0.01	
22302	Cut	Pit	8.8	1.5	0.61	
22303	Deposit	Secondary fill			0.61	

Trench 224

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
22400	Layer	Topsoil			0.35	
22401	Layer	Subsoil			>.25	
22402	Layer	Natural			>0.01	
22403	Cut	Pit	2.65	0.8	0.42	
22404	Deposit	Deliberate backfill			0.08	
22405	Deposit	Secondary fill			0.4	
22406	Cut	Tree throw	2	1.4	0.2	
22407	Deposit	Tree throw fill			0.05	Worked flint
22408	Deposit	Tree throw fill			0.15	

Trench 225

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
22500	Layer	Topsoil			0.4	
22501	Layer	Subsoil			0.4	
22502	Layer	Natural			>0.12	

Trench 226

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
22600	Layer	Topsoil			0.34	
22601	Layer	Subsoil			0.56	
22602	Layer	Natural			>0.01	



Trench 227

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
22700	Layer	Topsoil			0.32	
22701	Layer	Subsoil			0.23	
22702	Layer	Natural			>0.01	

Trench 228

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
22800	Layer	Topsoil			0.32	
22801	Layer	Natural			0.23	

Trench 229

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
22900	Layer	Topsoil			0.35	
22901	Cut	Natural feature	1.45	0.7	0.1	
22902	Fill	Secondary fill			0.1	
22903	Layer	Natural			>0.01	

Trench 230

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
23000	Layer	Topsoil			0.45	
23001	Layer	Natural			>0.01	
23002	Cut	Natural feature	2.15	1	0.1	
23003	Deposit	Secondary fill			0.1	

Trench 231

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
23100	Layer	Topsoil			0.4	
23101	Layer	Natural			>0.01	
23102	Cut	Tree bole	1.5	1.5	n/k	
23103	Deposit	Secondary fill			n/k	
23104	Cut	Tree bole	3	1.8	n/k	
23105	Deposit	Secondary fill			n/k	

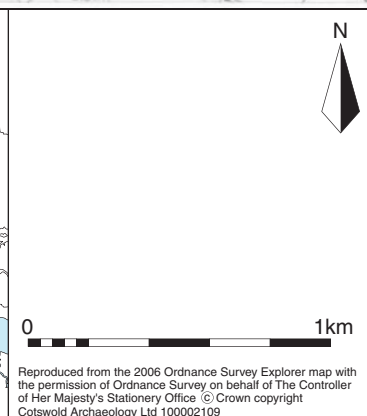
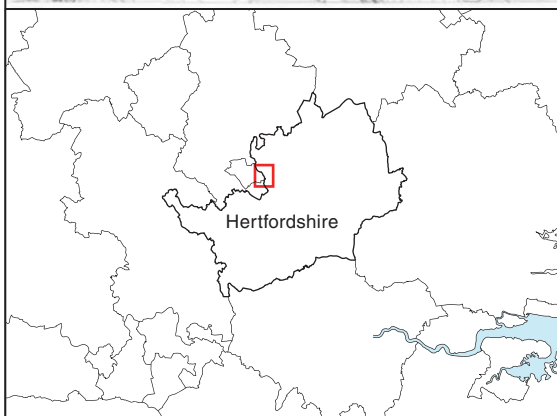
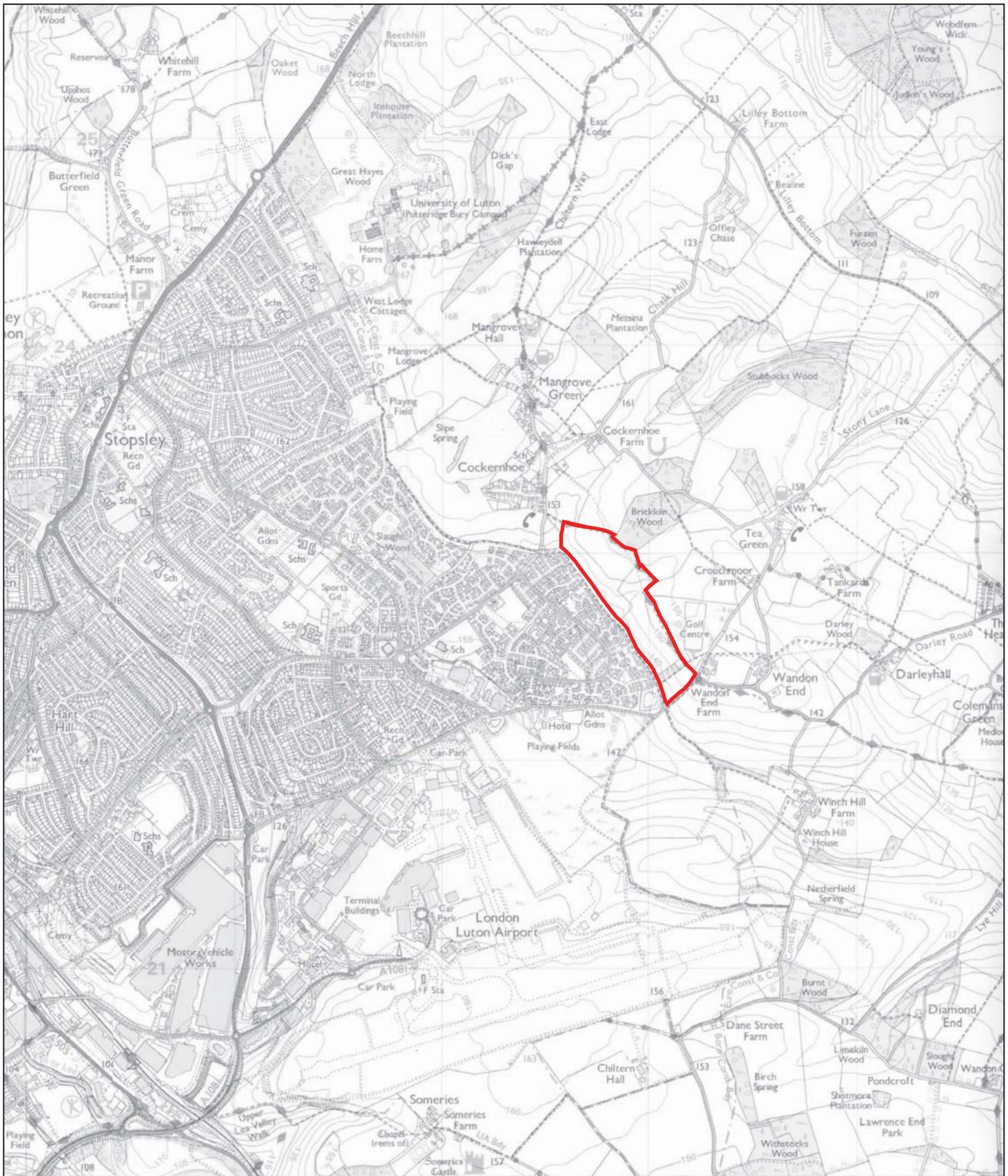
Trench 232


No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
23200	Layer	Topsoil			0.34	
23201	Layer	Subsoil			0.14	
23202	Layer	Natural			>0.2	



APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project name	Land South-West of Brickkiln Wood, Offley, Hertfordshire	
Short description (250 words maximum)	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in October 2011 at the request of NJL Consulting on behalf of Bloor Homes at land south-west of Brickkiln Wood. Forty seven trenches were excavated. A small number of features was identified across the site, the majority probably associated with post-medieval and modern agricultural works, field boundaries and clay extraction. There was a possible enclosure near the centre of the site; this is undated but the character of the ditch fills suggests that it is comparatively recent in date. With the exception of a single, small pit near the centre of the site that may be prehistoric in date, no earlier features were identified and there were no residual finds from the topsoil and subsoil that predated the 19th century. However, four pieces of worked flint, one from a tree throw, one a residual find from the enclosure ditch and two from the surface of the substrate, indicate limited prehistoric activity in the area.	
Project dates	3-14 October 2011	
Project type	Trial trench evaluation	
Previous work (reference to organisation or SMR numbers etc)	Fieldwalking Geophysics LiDAR terrain data	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site location	Land south-west of Brickkiln Wood, Offley, Hertfordshire	
Study area (m ² /ha)	20ha	
Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference)	TL1290 2270	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Team	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Simon Carlyle	
Project Supervisor	Jeremy Mordue	
MONUMENT TYPE		
None		
SIGNIFICANT FINDS		
None		
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive (museum/Accession no.)	Content
	North Hertfordshire Museums Service and Resource Centre	
Physical		Worked flint x 4
Paper		Site archive
Digital		Report, digital photos
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2011 <i>Land South-West of Brickkiln Wood, Offley, Hertfordshire: Archaeological Evaluation</i> . CA Typescript report 11269		



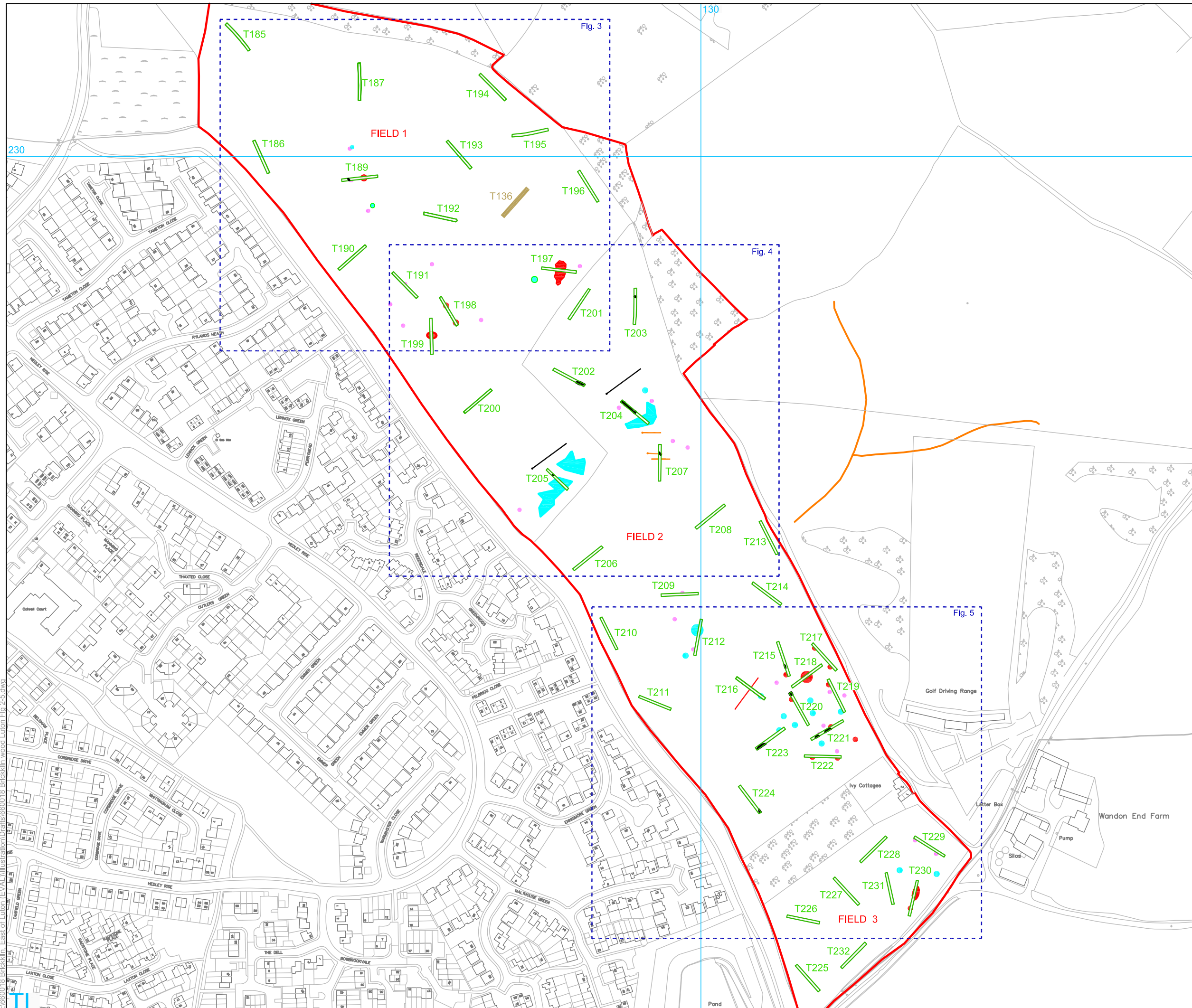

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enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE
 Land south-west of Brickkiln Wood, Luton
 Hertfordshire

FIGURE TITLE
 Site location plan

PROJECT NO.	660018	DATE	02-11-2011	FIGURE NO.	1
DRAWN BY	JB	REVISION	00		
APPROVED BY	PJM	SCALE@A4	1:25,000		

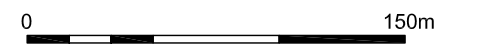
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- site
- evaluation trench
- archaeological feature
- previous evaluation trench (2008)

geophysics key

- 1 potential kiln/hearth
- potential pit
- potential ditch
- service
- former boundary
- cultivation
- natural
- ferrous litter



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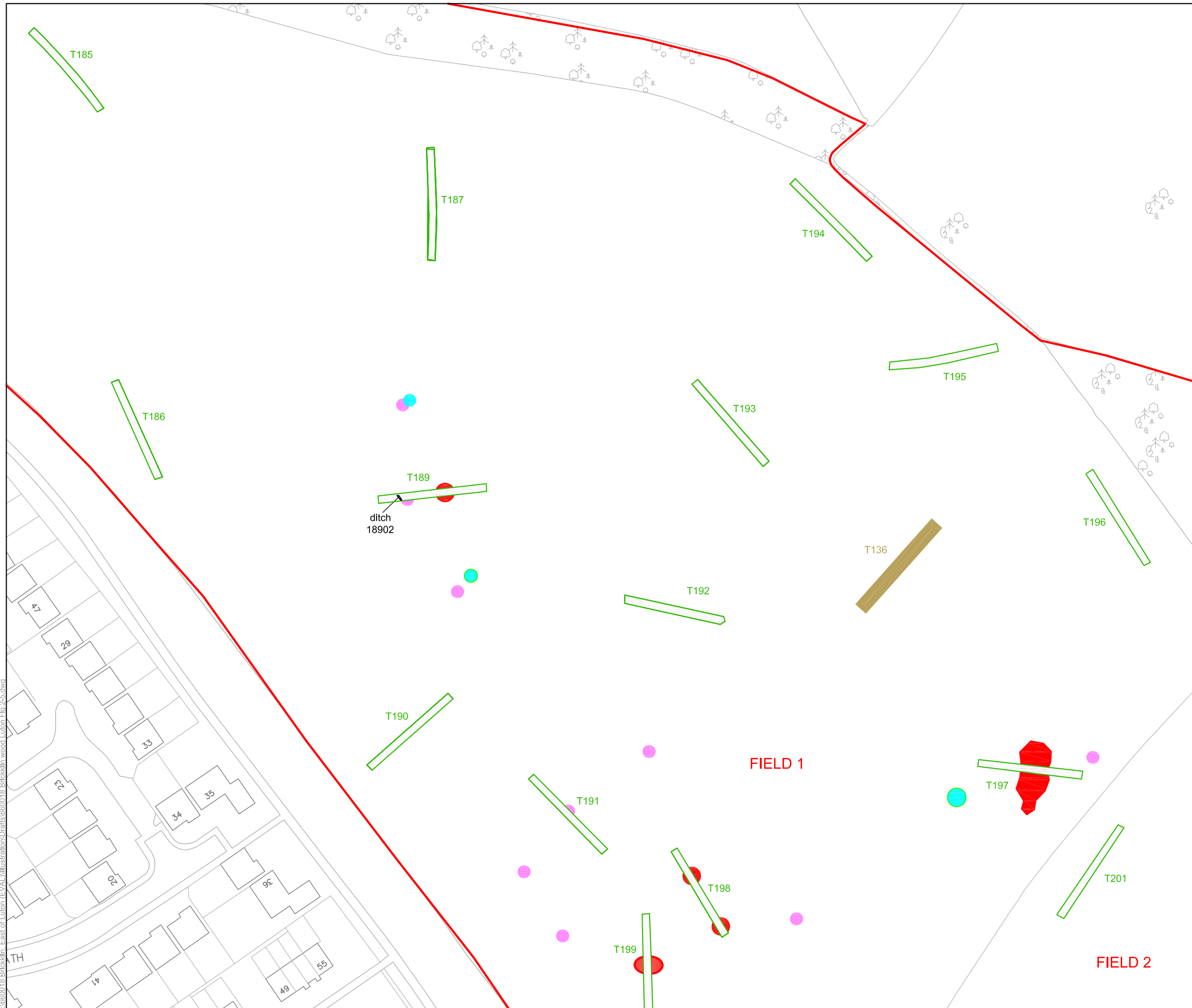
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 Milton Keynes 01908 218320
 www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
 enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE
 Land south-west of Brickkiln Wood, Luton
 Hertfordshire

FIGURE TITLE
 Trench location plan, showing
 archaeological features and
 geophysical survey results

PROJECT NO.	660018	DATE	28-10-2011	FIGURE NO.
DRAWN BY	JB	REVISION	00	2
APPROVED BY	PJM	SCALE@A3	1:3000	

P:\660018_Brickkiln_East of Luton (EVAL Illustration)\Drafts\660018_Brickkiln_wood Luton Fig 2-5.dwg



- site
- evaluation trench
- archaeological feature
- previous evaluation trench (2008)

geophysics key

- potential kiln/hearth
- potential pit
- potential ditch
- service
- former boundary
- cultivation
- natural
- ferrous litter



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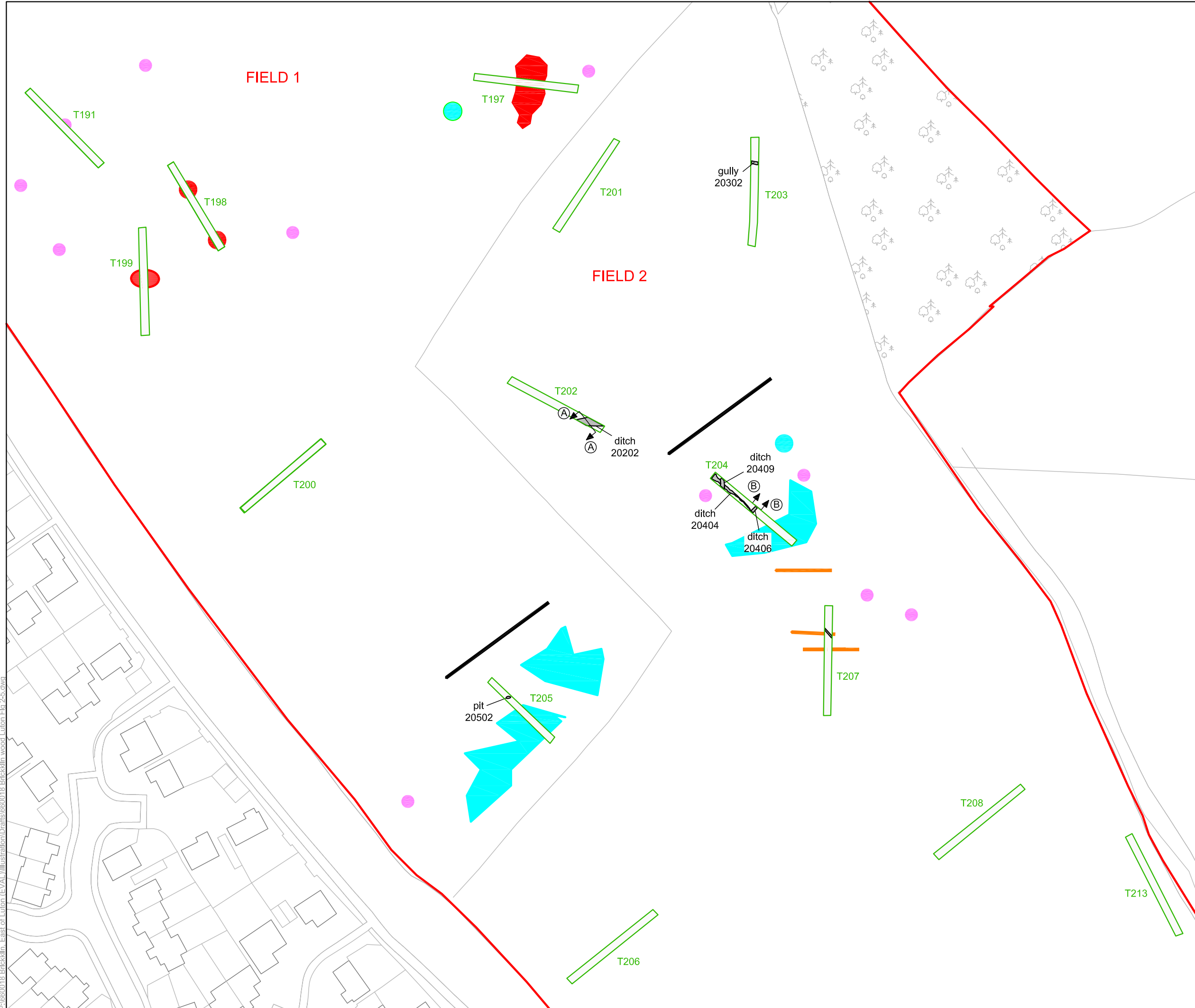
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PROJECT TITLE
 Land south-west of Brickkiln Wood, Luton
 Hertfordshire

FIGURE TITLE
 Trench location plan, showing
 archaeological features and
 geophysical survey results

PROJECT NO. 660018	DATE 28-10-2011	FIGURE NO.
DRAWN BY JB	REVISION 00	3
APPROVED BY PJM	SCALE@A3 1:1000	

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- site
- evaluation trench
- archaeological feature

geophysics key

- ⬮ potential kiln/hearth
- potential pit
- potential ditch
- service
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- ferrous litter



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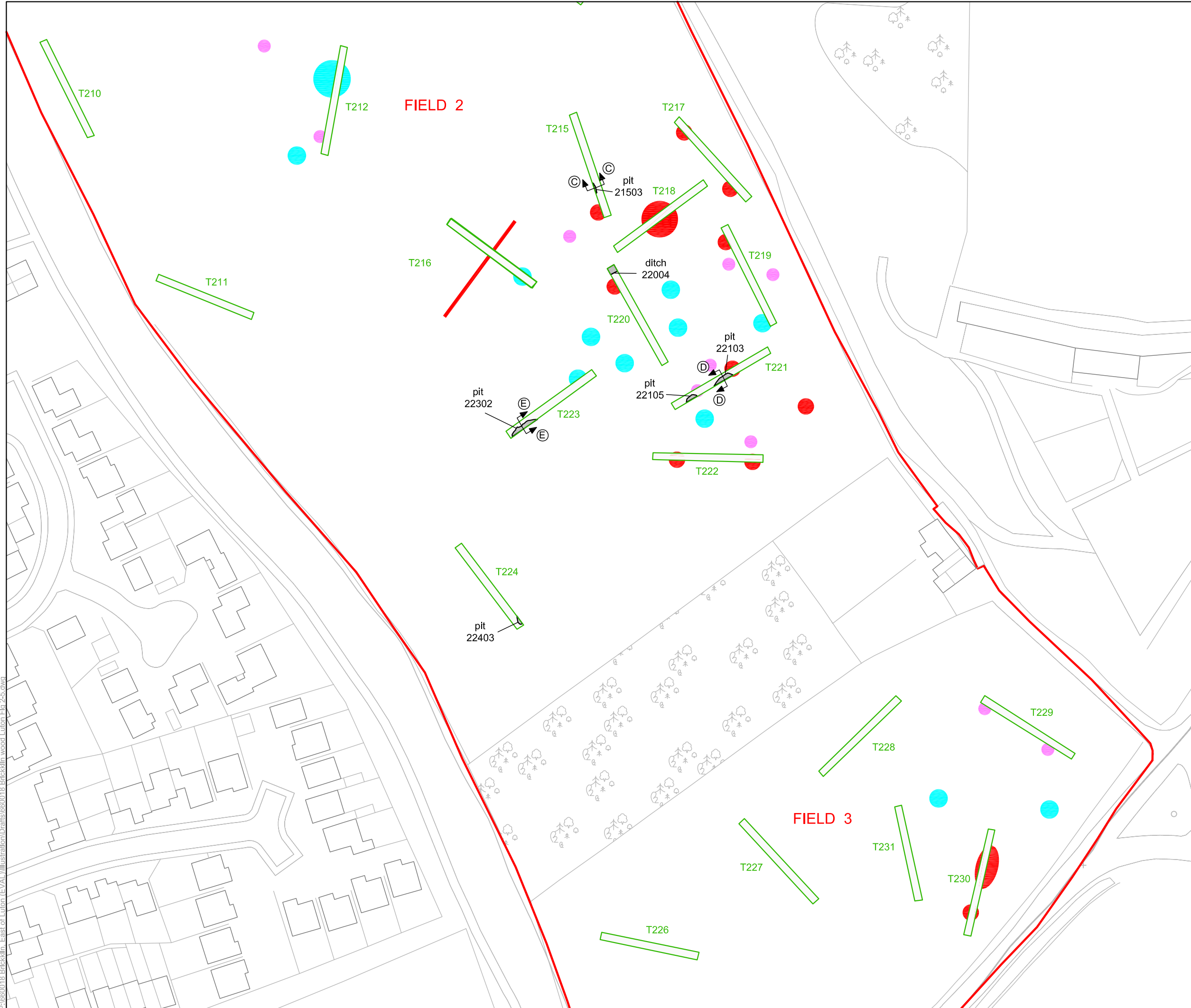
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PROJECT TITLE
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 Hertfordshire

FIGURE TITLE
 Trench location plan, showing
 archaeological features and
 geophysical survey results

PROJECT NO. 660018	DATE 28-10-2011	FIGURE NO.
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APPROVED BY PJM	SCALE@A3 1:1000	

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- site
- evaluation trench
- archaeological feature

geophysics key

- potential kiln/hearth
- potential pit
- potential ditch
- service
- former boundary
- cultivation
- natural
- ferrous litter



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PROJECT TITLE
 Land south-west of Brickkiln Wood, Luton Hertfordshire

FIGURE TITLE
 Trench location plan, showing archaeological features and geophysical survey results

PROJECT NO.	660018	DATE	28-10-2011	FIGURE NO.
DRAWN BY	JB	REVISION	00	5
APPROVED BY	PJM	SCALE@A3	1:1000	

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6

Trench 189, looking west (scales 1m)



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PROJECT TITLE

Land south-west of Brickkiln Wood, Luton
Hertfordshire

FIGURE TITLE

Photograph

PROJECT NO. **660018** DATE **01-11-2011**
DRAWN BY **JB** REVISION **00**
APPROVED BY **PJM** SCALE@A4 **N/A**

FIGURE NO.

6



7

Trench 197, looking west (scales 1m)



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PROJECT TITLE

Land south-west of Brickkiln Wood, Luton
Hertfordshire

FIGURE TITLE

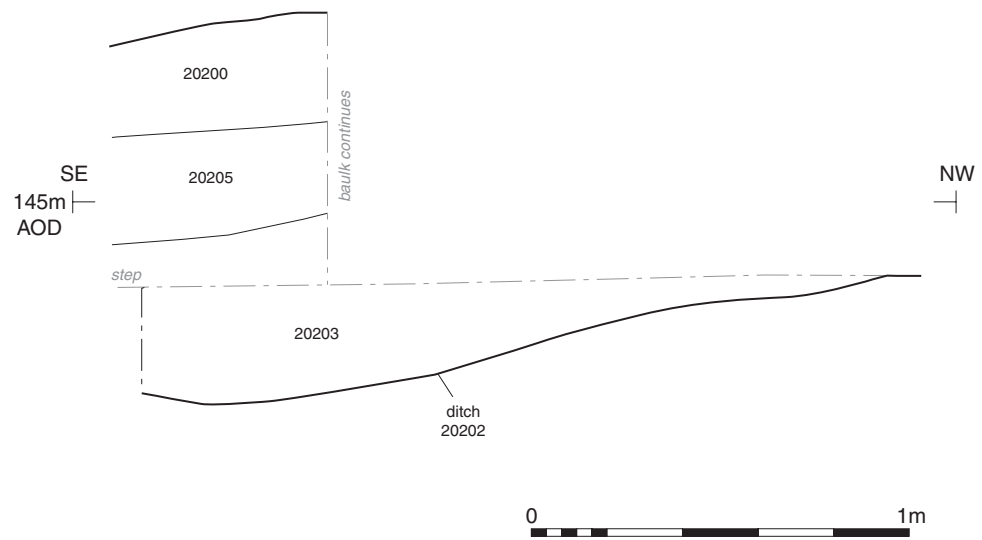
Photograph

PROJECT NO. **660018** DATE **01-11-2011**
DRAWN BY **JB** REVISION **00**
APPROVED BY **PJM** SCALE@A4 **N/A**

FIGURE NO.

7

Trench 202, section AA



Trench 202, looking north-west (scales 1m)



Trench 202, ditch 20202 (scale 1m)

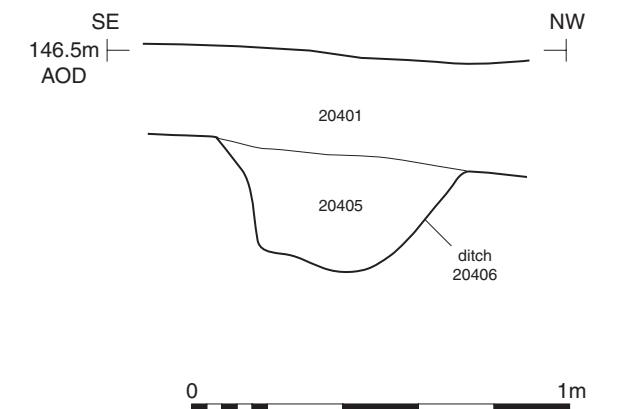


Trench 204, looking west (scale 1m)

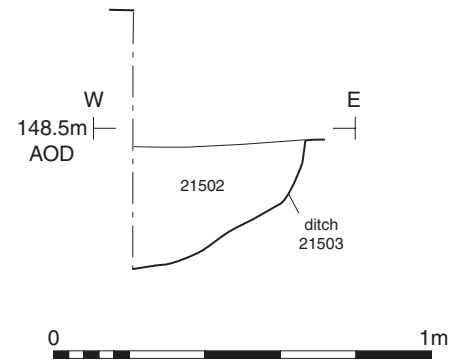


Trench 204, ditch 20406, looking south-west (scale 1m)

Trench 204, section BB



Trench 215, section CC



Trench 215, ditch 21503, looking north (scale 0.2m)



Trench 215, looking north-west (scales 1m)

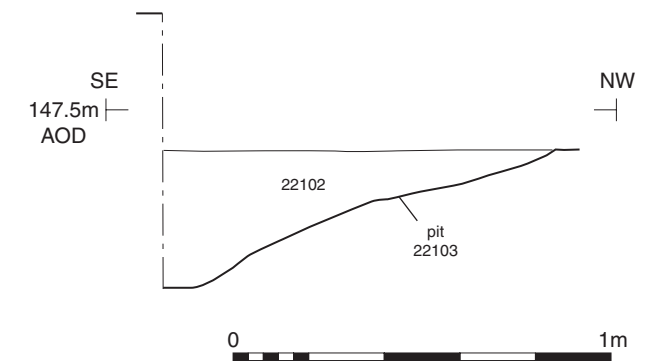


Trench 221, looking south-west west (scales 1m)

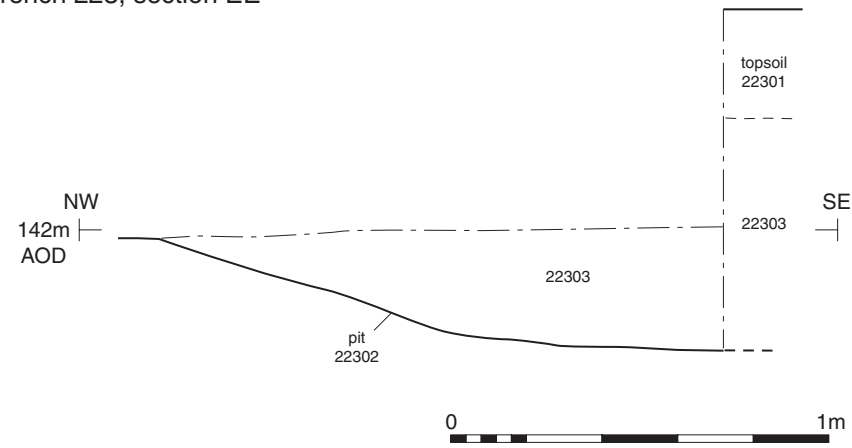


Trench 221, pit 22103, looking south-west (scale 1m)

Trench 221, section DD



Trench 223, section EE



Trench 223, pit 22302, looking north-east (scale 1m)



Trench 223, looking north-east (scales 1m)