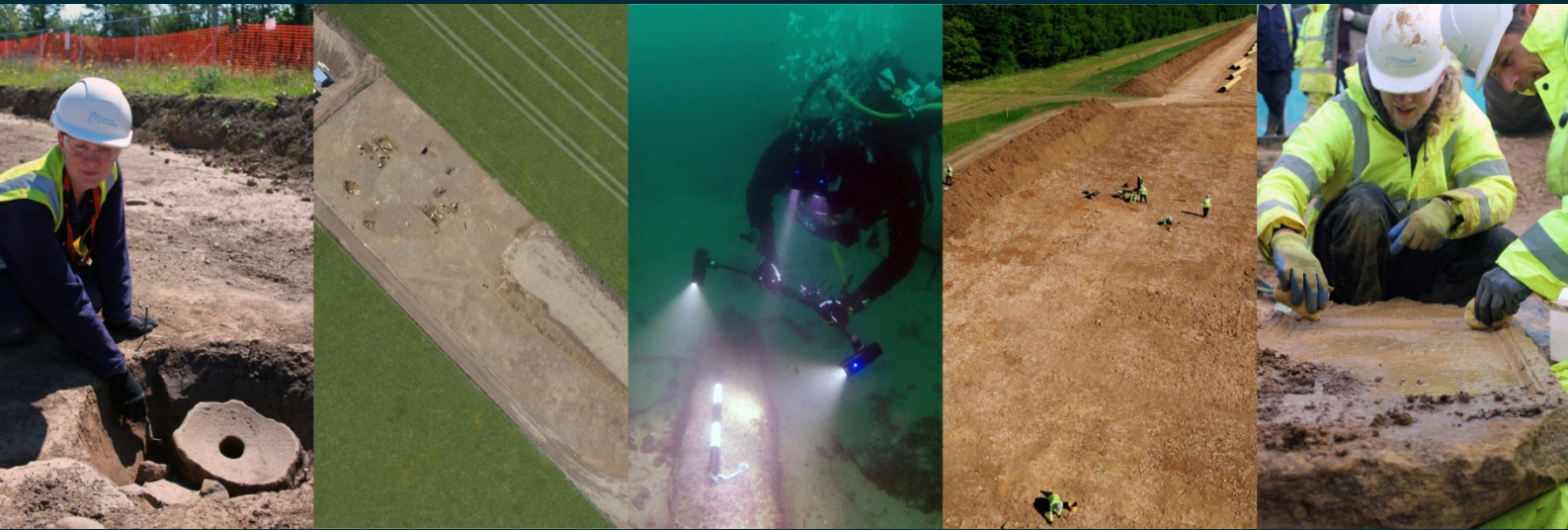


Land off Bircham Road Snettisham Norfolk

Archaeological Evaluation



for
DLP Planning Ltd

on behalf of
Solar Associates Ltd

CA Project: 660600
CA Report: 15815
Site Code: SSF15
Event No: ENF139396

December 2015



Land off Bircham Road
Snettisham
Norfolk

Archaeological Evaluation

CA Project: 660600
CA Report: 15815
Site Code: SSF15
Event No: ENF139396



Document Control Grid						
Version	Date	Author	Checked by	Status	Reasons for revision	Approved by
Draft	07/12/15	JSJ	SCC	Internal review		SCC
Final	17/12/15			Final	Client review	SCC

This report is confidential to the client. Cotswold Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability to any third party to whom this report, or any part of it, is made known. Any such party relies upon this report entirely at their own risk. No part of this report may be reproduced by any means without permission.

CONTENTS

1.	INTRODUCTION.....	3
2.	ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND.....	4
3.	AIMS AND OBJECTIVES.....	4
4.	METHODOLOGY.....	5
5.	EVALUATION RESULTS.....	6
6.	THE FINDS.....	8
7.	THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE.....	9
8.	DISCUSSION.....	10
9.	CA PROJECT TEAM.....	11
10.	REFERENCES.....	11
	APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS.....	13
	APPENDIX B: THE FINDS.....	16
	APPENDIX C: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE.....	17
	APPENDIX D: OASIS REPORT FORM.....	18

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

- Fig. 1 Site location plan, 1:25,000
- Fig. 2 Trench location plan showing archaeological features and geophysical survey results, 1:1500
- Fig. 3 Trenches 1 to 6 showing archaeological features and geophysical survey results, 1:500
- Fig. 4 Trench 2: section and photographs
- Fig. 5 Trench 3: sections and photographs
- Fig. 6 Trench 4: photographs
- Fig. 7 Trenches 5 and 6: sections and photographs

SUMMARY

Project Name:	Land off Bircham Road, Snettisham
Location:	Snettisham, Norfolk
NGR:	TF 6987 3403
Type:	Evaluation
Date:	16th-18th November 2015
Planning Reference:	15/01146/FM
Location of Archive:	Norfolk Museums Service
Site Code:	SSF15
Event No:	ENF139396

In November 2015, Cotswold Archaeology carried out an archaeological evaluation of land off Bircham Road, Snettisham, Norfolk. The evaluation, which was commissioned by DLP Planning Ltd, acting on behalf of Solar Associates Ltd, was carried out in support of a revised planning application for the construction of a solar farm at the site.

The earliest remains encountered by the evaluation comprised part of a probable Roman track, bounded by flanking ditches spaced c. 12m apart, that crossed the site on an east to west alignment. There was no evidence for metalling but tentative evidence for cartwheel ruts was identified between the ditches. A small assemblage of Roman pottery was recovered from the northern ditch.

In the medieval period the site lay within an open-field system to the east of the village of Snettisham, as demonstrated by the presence of a series of north to south aligned furrows across the site. The furrows were first identified by a geophysical survey and were subsequently identified and investigated in one of the trial trenches.

Ditches in the north-east corner of the site probably date to the late medieval or post-medieval period and are likely to form the junction of former field boundaries that post-date the open field system. The ditch fills contained post-medieval brick fragments and pottery; residual sherds of abraded Iron Age and Roman pottery were also recovered, suggesting activity in the vicinity during these periods.



1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In November 2015, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation of land off Bircham Road, Snettisham, Norfolk (site centred on NGR: TF 6987 3403; Fig. 1). The evaluation, which was commissioned by DLP Planning Ltd, acting on behalf of Solar Associates Ltd, was carried out in support of a revised planning application for the construction of a solar farm at the site. The original application was refused planning permission by Kings Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council (KLWNBC) in April 2015, partly on the grounds of the impact that the development may have on the setting of the nearby church of St Mary's, Snettisham, a Grade I Listed church.
- 1.2 The scope of the programme of archaeological investigation was determined following discussions between Adrian Hunter, Director, DLP and James Albone, Norfolk County Council's Planning Archaeologist (NCCPA), archaeological advisor to KLWNBC. The discussions were informed by the results of a geophysical survey (ArchaeoPhysica 2014) and heritage statement (Albion 2014) undertaken in support of the original planning application and a heritage desk-based assessment prepared by CA (2015a) for the revised scheme. The scope was formalised in a *Written Scheme of Investigation* prepared by CA (2015b).
- 1.3 The project was carried out in accordance with the WSI (*ibid.*) and abided by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation* (ClfA 2014), *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003) and the Historic England (formerly English Heritage) procedural documents *Management of Archaeological Projects 2* (EH1991) and *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (HE 2015). The fieldwork was monitored by NCCPA, with a site visit being made on 17th November 2015.

The site

- 1.4 The proposed development site, which covers an area of c. 6.6ha, is located to the north of Bircham Road, approximately 1km to the east of Snettisham and c. 8km north-east of Kings Lynn. It comprises an irregular block of arable farmland, consisting of parts of two large fields. The site is situated on a gentle south-facing slope, with ground levels lying between 35m and 45m above Ordnance Datum

(aOD). The surrounding landscape is characterised by gently undulating topography to the east, with flat coastal marshes to the west.

- 1.5 The geology comprises Cretaceous rocks of the Holywell Nodular Chalk Formation, New Pit Chalk Formation and Melbourn Rock Member (BGS 2015).

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The archaeological and historical background of the site has been presented in detail in the heritage desk-based assessment prepared by CA (2015). This concluded that there are no designated or non-designated heritage assets within the site, although a recent geophysical survey (ArchaeoPhysica 2014) identified a low density of potential archaeological features, all of which are thought to relate to former field boundaries. While it is not possible at present to fully establish the origin of these potential features, their alignments suggest that they pre-date the existing post-medieval or 19th-century field systems. No anomalies consistent with settlement, or other significant activity, were identified by the survey.
- 2.2 In the wider area, evidence of prehistoric occupation and activity comprises surface scatters and isolated finds, and further afield cropmarks of ring ditches, potentially representing the remains of Bronze Age round barrows, have been identified. During the Roman period, the site is likely to have formed part of the agricultural hinterland of nearby settlement, which was focused around a villa complex one kilometre to the south-west. Linear anomalies identified within the site by geophysical survey run on a similar alignment to a possible Roman-period enclosure to the south, suggesting a contemporary origin. From the medieval to the modern period, the site appears to have comprised part of the rural surroundings of the historic village settlement of Snettisham.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 The objectives of the evaluation, as stated in the WSI (CA 2015), were to:
 - Establish the location, extent, nature, and date of any archaeological features or deposits that may be present;
 - Determine the integrity and state of preservation of any archaeological features or deposits that may be present;

- Recover palaeoenvironmental remains (if present) through a programme of bulk soil sampling, to determine the palaeoenvironmental potential of the site;
- Test the effectiveness of the geophysical survey by comparing the results with those of the evaluation.

This information will enable the KLWNBC to identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset, consider the impact of the proposed development upon it, and to avoid or minimise conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the development proposal, in line with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 The fieldwork comprised the excavation of eight trenches in the locations shown in Figure 2. All trenches were 40 metres long and 1.8 metres wide. The trenches were positioned to investigate the nature of geophysical anomalies identified by the magnetometer survey and confirm the effectiveness of the survey by targeting apparently blank areas. The trenches were set out on OS National Grid (NGR) co-ordinates using Leica GPS and surveyed in accordance with *Technical Manual 4: Survey Manual* (CA 2014).
- 4.2 The trenches were excavated using a 360°-degree tracked mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless ditching bucket. All machine excavation was undertaken under constant archaeological supervision to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or the geological substrate, whichever was encountered first. Where archaeological deposits were encountered they were excavated by hand in accordance with *Technical Manual 1: Fieldwork Recording Manual* (CA 2007).
- 4.3 Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential in accordance with *Technical Manual 2: The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites* (CA 2003); no deposits were encountered that were suitable for sampling. All artefacts recovered were processed in accordance with *Technical Manual 3: Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation* (CA 2005).

- 4.4 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 the Norfolk Museums Service, along with the site archive. A summary of information from this project, as set out within Appendix D, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

5. EVALUATION RESULTS

- 5.1 This section provides an overview of the evaluation results; detailed summaries of the recorded contexts are to be found in Appendix A.
- 5.2 Within the trenches the geological substrate, predominately chalk, was revealed at depths of between 0.30m and 0.46m below present ground level (bpgl). In Trenches 1, 4, 5 and 6, this was overlain by mid-red brown silty sand subsoil, c. 0.1m thick, which may have formed by colluviation (hill wash). This was in turn overlain by ploughsoil ranging in thickness between 0.30m to 0.40m. All identified archaeological features cut the geological substrate, except where re-cutting of earlier features occurred, or where modern features cut through the overlying subsoil.
- 5.3 The results of the fieldwork broadly correlated with the preceding geophysical survey (ArchaeoPhysica 2014), although the linear anomalies targeted by Trench 1 were not encountered. No archaeological features or deposits were identified within Trenches 1, 7 and 8.

Roman (AD43-AD410)

Trench 4

- 5.4 The geological substrate was revealed at a depth of 0.40m bcgl, sealed by a layer of colluvium that had accumulated in the lee of the hill slope. At the south-west end of the trench the colluvium sealed an east-west aligned ditch (407), a continuation of ditch 603 in Trench 6 (Fig. 3).

Trench 5

- 5.5 The geological substrate was revealed at a depth of 0.44m bcgl. An east-west aligned ditch (503) at the north-western end of the trench (also recorded in Trench 6, ditch 605) was cut through the chalk substrate to a depth of 0.21m (Figs. 3 and 7). Its fill (504) comprised mid-red-brown friable silty sand.

Trench 6

- 5.6 A pair of east-west aligned ditches was recorded in the northern half of the trench. The northernmost ditch (603), which cut the substrate to a depth of 0.20m, had gently sloping sides and a flat base. The fill, which was similar to 504, the fill of ditch 503, contained a small assemblage of Romano-British pottery sherds. The southernmost ditch (605) was a continuation of ditch 503 in Trench 5.

Medieval furrows

Trench 4

- 5.7 Three linear features on a north to south alignment were recorded in the trench; where excavated they were shown to be 0.2m–0.3m deep and up to 3m wide. The sides and bases of the features were pitted, probably due to rooting (Fig. 6). They correspond with a series of parallel linear anomalies shown on the geophysical survey results.

Post-medieval/modern

Trench 2

- 5.8 Ditch 202 was aligned north-west to south-east and was cut through the chalk to a depth of 0.6m (Fig. 3). The profile of the ditch was raised in the centre, with parallel hollows forming a bipartite base (Fig. 4), suggesting that the ditch had been recut, although no evidence for recutting could be seen in the excavated section. The ditch was filled with mid-red brown sandy silt (204), containing sub-angular flint and chalk pebbles in a poorly sorted matrix. The fill contained abraded fragments of Iron Age and Romano-British pottery, and a single fragment of Roman box-flue tile. The ditch fill was sealed by modern ploughsoil (200).

- 5.9 Ditch 204 ran parallel and c. 2.0m to the north-east of ditch 202; it was cut into the chalk to a depth of 0.4m and had a steep-sided, V-shaped profile (Fig. 4). The fill (205) was mid-red brown sandy silt, similar to 204, with a poorly sorted matrix, including sub-angular chalk and flint pebbles. The pottery assemblage from the ditch dates to the Iron Age, although fragments of post-medieval brick were also recovered. The ditch fill was sealed by modern ploughsoil (200).

Trench 3

- 5.10 Ditch 302, which was cut to a depth of 0.7m through the chalk substrate, exhibited the same profile as ditch 202 (Figs. 3 and 5). The basal fill (303) was mid-grey brown silty sand, the greyish colour indicative of post-depositional gleying through

waterlogging at the base of the feature. The secondary fill (304) was mid-red brown silty sand, similar to 204 and 205; it contained a small assemblage of abraded ceramic building material and pottery dating between the mid-16th and 18th centuries. A modern plough scar (305) was evident in the surface of the ditch fill.

- 5.11 Ditch 307, which ran parallel and c. 3.5m to the north-east of ditch 302, was cut to a depth of at least 1.2m bcgl (Fig. 5). The sequence of fills was initiated by a deposit of loose mid-yellow brown sand (308), containing frequent sub-angular chalk pebbles. This was sealed by a tip line of well-sorted sub-angular chalk pebbles interspersed with mid-yellow brown sand (309); this is likely to represent a short episode of backfilling. Both fills contained a small assemblage of Iron Age pottery. A deposit of dark grey-brown silty sand (310) sealed the initial accumulation of weathered material and redeposited silt and chalk. This darker, humic material is likely to indicate a period of stability following the initial silting of the ditch. Deposit 310 was sealed by two distinct horizons of mid-red brown friable silty sand (311 and 312), which contained a sherd of Iron Age pottery.

6. THE FINDS *by Jacky Somerville*

- 6.1 Artefactual material was hand-recovered from ten deposits (ditch and trackway fills, and topsoil). The recovered material dates to the prehistoric, Roman and post-medieval periods. Quantities of the artefact types recorded are given in Appendix B, Table 1. The pottery has been recorded according to sherd count/weight by fabric.

Pottery: Late prehistoric

- 6.2 Eleven unfeatured bodysherds (46g) were recorded from this date range, which spans the Late Bronze Age and Iron Age. At 4g, the average sherd weight is low, suggesting the assemblage has been well broken up. In terms of edge abrasion and surface preservation, condition is mostly moderate to good.
- 6.3 The fabrics represented consist of quartz (QZ, QZF) or quartz-and-flint (QZFL) tempered types. Broad dating in the Iron Age is suggested, based upon fabric and firing characteristics.

Roman

- 6.4 Roman pottery totals seven bodysherds (110g) from fill 203 of trackway 202 and fill 604 of ditch 603. The mean sherd weight of 16g is quite high for a group of this date, indicating a low degree of fragmentation. Condition is otherwise moderate to good. The pottery presents in greyware (GW) and sandy oxidised fabrics (OXID), which are broadly Romano-British in date.

Post-medieval

- 6.5 Pottery of this date range consists of a bodysherd of glazed earthenware (GRE) in good condition. This ware type is dateable to the mid-16th to 18th centuries.

Lithics

- 6.6 Two worked flint flakes, retrieved from topsoil 200 and fill 309 of ditch 307, are in edge damaged condition. The example from fill 309 has been hard hammer struck and is fully re-corticated white. Neither flint can be dated more narrowly than to the prehistoric period.

Ceramic building material

- 6.7 Fill 203 of trackway 202 produced an abraded fragment of ceramic building material of Roman date, which is identifiable as box-flue tile.
- 6.8 Single fragments of post-medieval ceramic building material were recovered from fill 205 of ditch 204 and fill 304 of trackway 302. The latter derives from a brick and the item from fill 205 is too fragmentary for further classification.

7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE *by Andy Clarke*

Animal Bone

- 7.1 Fourteen fragments (115g) of animal bone were hand recovered from deposits 308, 309 and 310, the successive fill of ditch 307 (Appendix C, Table 1). The bone was very poorly preserved and highly fragmented, displaying surface erosion due to exposure to the elements as well as historical and modern damage. When combined, these factors have resulted in almost the entire assemblage being unidentifiable to species, including three fragments (3g) recovered from Iron Age deposit 309, the only material to be associated with any datable artefacts.

- 7.2 The remaining 11 fragments (112g) were recovered from deposits 308 and 310 which remain undated. However, it was possible to identify the presence of cattle (*Bos taurus*), sheep/goat (*Ovis aries/Capra hircus*) and horse (*Equus caballus*).

8. DISCUSSION

- 8.1 The evaluation demonstrated the presence of archaeological remains within the site and broadly confirmed the results of the geophysical survey carried out by ArchaeoPhysica in 2014. The remains comprised a Roman track, medieval furrows and the junction of several ditches that probably formed part of a medieval/post-medieval field system post-dating the earlier medieval open-field system.
- 8.2 The Roman track, which was c. 12m wide, was flanked by small ditches and crossed the site from east to west; there was no evidence for metalling between the ditches, but several shallow striations noted in two of the trenches may be the remains of cartwheel ruts. A Roman date for the track is suggested by a small assemblage of Roman pottery recovered from one of the excavated ditch sections. The track may have been associated with the agricultural estate of the Roman villa located c. 1km to the south-west of the site.
- 8.3 In the medieval period, the site lay within an open field to the east of the village of Snettisham, as demonstrated by the series of north to south aligned linear anomalies shown on the geophysical survey (ArchaeoPhysica 2014). These correlate with the pattern of furrows, remains of which were investigated in one of the trenches.
- 8.4 In the north-east corner of the site was a T-junction between a pair of parallel, closely spaced ditches on a north-west to south-east alignment and a ditch on a north-east to south-west alignment. The ditches do not conform to the layout of the modern field system or the medieval open field system, which suggests that they may be Roman or prehistoric in date. However, the finds from the ditches included sherds of post-medieval pottery and brick, indicating a more recent date. A small number of Iron Age and Roman sherds were also recovered but these were heavily abraded and are almost certainly residual; however, their presence does indicate activity dating to these periods in the vicinity. The ditches do not correspond with field boundaries shown on historic mapping, so they probably date to a period when

the open field system fell out of use and the land was enclosed for livestock, probably sheep-rearing. The pair of north-west to south-east ditches are unlikely to form a track as the spacing between them is less than 2m in places.

9. CA PROJECT TEAM

The fieldwork was undertaken by Jake Streatfeild-James, assisted by Matt Ferron, Alice Krausova, and Sam Bithell. The report was written by Jake Streatfeild-James, with contributions from Jacky Somerville and Andy Clarke, and the illustrations were prepared by Leo Heatley. The archive has been compiled by Emily Evans and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Simon Carlyle.

10. REFERENCES

Albion 2014 *Snettisham Solar Park, Bircham Road, Snettisham, Norfolk: Heritage Statement*, report **2014/146**

ArchaeoPhysica 2014 *Snettisham Solar Park, Norfolk: Geophysical Survey Report*, Project Code **SSN141**

BGS (British Geological Survey) 2015 *Geology of Britain Viewer* http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geology_viewer_google/googleviewer.html Accessed 7 December 2015

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2015a *Snettisham Solar Farm, Snettisham, Norfolk: Heritage Desk-Based Assessment*, report **15569**

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2015b *Land off Bircham Road Snettisham, Norfolk: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief*, unpublished document

DCLG (Department of Communities and Local Government) 2012 *National Planning Policy Framework*

Gurney, D 2003 *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*, East Anglian Occasional Paper **14**

NCCPA (Norfolk County Council) 2015 *Land off Bircham Road Snettisham: Brief for Archaeological Recording*



APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Context No.	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	D (m)	Spot-date
Trench 1						
100	Topsoil	Dark grey-brown sandy silt. Frequent, small pieces of chalk.	-	-	0.3	
101	Subsoil	Mid red-brown silty sand. Very abundant small-medium chalk pieces	-	-	0.10	
102	Geology	Mid yellow-brown sand. Very abundant small-medium chalk pieces.	-	-	-	
Trench 2						
-200	Topsoil	Mid grey-brown, friable, sandy silt. Occasional chalk inclusions.	-	-	0.4	
201	Geology	Light brown-white, compact, silty chalk. Crushed chalk stones.	-	-	-	
202	Ditch	SE-NW aligned linear. Irregular, moderately sloped side. Irregular, convex base. Edges and base show bioturbation.	>1	3.62	0.66	Post-med
203	Fill of 202	Mid red-brown, friable, sandy silt with sub-angular chalk and flint. Possible disuse backfilling. Contained fragments of weathered pot and a piece of Roman box flue.	>1	3.62	0.66	
204	Ditch	SE-NW aligned linear. Irregular, moderately sloped sides. Convex base.	>1	0.96	0.44	Post-med
205	Fill of 204	Mid red-brown, friable, sandy silt with sub-angular chalk and flint. Contained a few fragments of weathered pottery.	>1	0.96	0.44	
Trench 3						
300	Topsoil	Dark grey-brown sandy silty with frequent, small pieces of chalk.	-	-	0.4	
301	Geology	Mid yellow-brown sand. Very abundant chalk pieces. Some areas of packed chalk blocks.	-	-	-	
302	Ditch	NW-SE aligned linear. Straight, asymmetrical sides, moderate slope, rounded break. Concave base, sharp break. Single piece of medieval pot.	>1	>2	0.7	Post-med
303	Fill of 302	Mid grey-brown, loose-friable, silty sand with frequent pieces of chalk. Geology silting of possible trackway 302.	>1	>2	0.43	
304	Fill of 302	Mid red-brown, loose-friable silty sand with frequent pieces of chalk. Geology silting of possible trackway 302.	>1	>2	0.3	
305	Plough Scar	Cut of modern ploughing	>1.2		0.07	Modern
306	Fill of 305	Fill of modern ploughing 305	>1.2		0.07	
307	Ditch	NW-SE aligned linear. Steep sloped, straight sides with rounded break. Cut of possible boundary ditch. Several fragments of prehistoric pot from various fills. Not bottomed out due to depth exceeding 1.2m	>1	>2	>1.2	Post-med
308	Fill of 307	Mid yellow-brown, loose sand with very abundant chalk. Geology silting of 307 with possible eroded bank material. Sample no. 1 recovered from this fill.	>1	>1.9	0.85	
309	Fill of 307	Light yellow-white, very compact chalk.	>1	>1.52	0.69	
310	Fill of 307	Dark grey-brown, loose-friable silty sand. Geology silting, possibly a buried	>1	>1.35	0.54	

		topsoil, within 307.				
311	Fill of 307	Mid red-brown, friable silty sand with frequent pieces of chalk. Geology silting of 307 with possible eroded bank material.	>1	>1.76	0.47	
312	Fill of 307	Mid red-brown, friable silty sand with frequent pieces of chalk. Geology silting of 307 with possible eroded bank material.	>1	>2.05	0.24	
Trench 4						
400	Topsoil	Mid orange-brown clayed sand	-	-	0.3	
401	Subsoil	Light brown-orange clayed sand	-	-	0.1	
402	Geology	Chalk	-	-	-	
403	Furrow	N-S linear with moderate slope and concave base. Cut of probable plough furrow.	3	1.2	0.3	Medieval
404	Fill of 403	Mid orange-brown, friable sandy clay with occasional sub-rounded stones. Heavily rooted. Fill of probable plough furrow.	3	1.2	0.3	
405	Tree bole	Sub-oval, rounded corners, shallow slope, concave base. Cut of tree bole.	2	0.55	0.2	
406	Fill of 405	Mid orange-brown, friable sandy clay with some sub-rounded stones. Fill of tree bole.	2	0.55	0.2	
407	Ditch	Cut of unexcavated linear ditch	>1.8	0.78	n.e.	Roman
410	Furrow	N-S aligned linear ditch with very irregular sides, uneven slope, irregular base. Heavily rooted base.	>3	1.4	0.2	Medieval
411	Fill of 410	Mid grey-brown, friable silty sand with some small-medium stones, heavily bioturbated. Geology silting of 410.	>4	1.4	0.2	
412	Furrow	N-S linear with moderate slope and concave base. Cut of probable plough furrow.	3	1.2	0.3	Medieval
413	Fill of 412	Mid orange-brown, friable sandy clay with occasional sub-rounded stones. Heavily rooted. Fill of probable plough furrow.	-	-	0.3	
Trench 5						
500	Topsoil	Mid grey-brown, friable sandy silt with some small stones.	-	-	0.34	
501	Subsoil	Mid orange-brown, friable sandy silt with some small stones	-	-	0.1	
502	Geology	Light brown-white, compact silty chalk with pieces of chalk.	-	-		
503	Ditch	E-W aligned linear ditch with regular, symmetrical sides, rounded break and moderate slope. Convex base with rounded break. Cut of very narrow, shallow ditch.	>3.1	0.9	0.21	Roman
504	Fill of 503	Mid orange-brown, friable sandy silt with some small-medium stones. Geology silting of 503.	>3.2	0.9	0.21	
Trench 6						
600	Topsoil	Mid grey-brown, friable sandy silt with some medium stones.	-	-	0.30.	
601	Subsoil	Mid red-brown, friable, sandy silt with some small stones.	-	-	0.20	
602	Geology	Light brown-white, compact silty chalk with pieces of crushed chalk.	-	-	-	
603	Ditch	E-W aligned linear ditch with regular,	>1.8	0.66	0.20	Roman

		symmetrical sides, rounded break and moderate slope. Convex base with rounded break.				
604	Fill of 603	Mid red-brown, friable sandy silt with some small stones. Natural silting of 603. 6 pieces of wheel thrown pottery retained.	>1.8	0.66	0.20	
605	Ditch	E-W aligned linear cut, not excavated	>1.8	0.73	n.e.	Roman
606	Fill of 605	Mid red-brown, friable sandy silt with some small stones. Natural silting of 605.	-	-	n.e.	
Trench 7						
700	Topsoil	Mid orange-brown clayed sand	-	-	0.3	
701	Geology	Chalk	-	-	0.35	
Trench 8						
800	Topsoil	Mid orange-brown clayed sand	-	-	0.3	
801	Geology	Chalk	-	-	0.3	

APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Table 1: Quantification of finds by context

Context	Category	Description	Fabric Code	Count	Weight (g)	Spot-date
200	Worked flint	Flake		1	9	-
203	Roman pottery	Greyware	GW	1	11	RB
	Late prehistoric pottery	Fine, quartz-tempered fabric	QZF	1	3	
	Late prehistoric pottery	Quartz-and-flint tempered fabric	QZFL	3	8	
	Roman ceramic building material	Box flue tile		1	175	
205	Late prehistoric pottery	Quartz-and-flint tempered fabric	QZFL	1	2	Post-medieval
	Late prehistoric pottery	Quartz-tempered fabric	QZ	1	<1	
	Post-medieval ceramic building material	Fragment		1	3	
303	Slag			1	243	-
304	Post-medieval pottery	Glazed earthenware	GRE	1	12	MC16-C18
	Post-medieval ceramic building material	Brick		1	94	
308	Late prehistoric pottery	Quartz-and-flint tempered fabric	QZFL	2	11	IA
309	Late prehistoric pottery	Quartz-and-flint tempered fabric	QZFL	1	7	IA
309	Worked flint	Flake		1	12	-
311	Late prehistoric pottery	Fine, quartz-and-flint tempered fabric	QZFL	2	15	IA
604	Roman pottery	Sandy oxidised fabric	OXID	6	99	RB

APPENDIX C: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

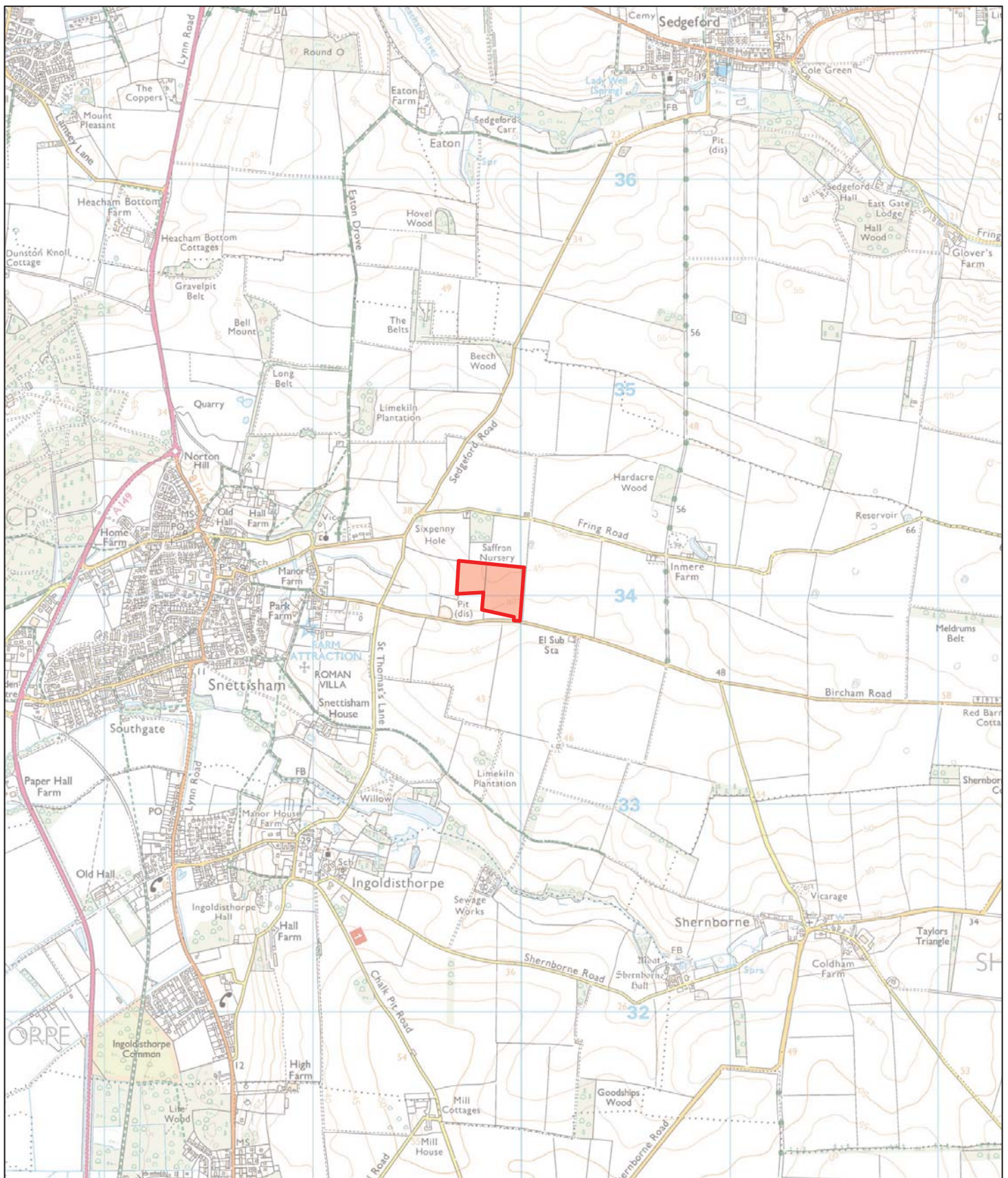
Table 1: Identified animal species by fragment count (NISP) and weight and context.

Cut	Fill	BOS	O/C	EQ	LM	Ind	Total	Weight (g)
Iron Age								
307	309					3	3	3
Undated								
307	308	1	1			7	9	38
307	310			1	1		2	74
Subtotal		1	1	1	1	7	11	112
Total		1	1	1	1	10	14	
Weight		19	6	32	42	16	115	

BOS = cattle; O/C = sheep/goat; EQ = horse; Ind = indeterminate

APPENDIX D: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project name	Land off Bircham Road, Snettisham, Norfolk	
Short description	The earliest remains comprised part of a probable Roman track, bounded by flanking ditches spaced c. 12m apart, that crossed the site on an east to west alignment. There was no evidence for metalling but tentative evidence for cartwheel ruts was identified between the ditches. A small assemblage of Roman pottery was recovered from the northern ditch. In the medieval period the site lay within an open-field system to the east of the village of Snettisham, as demonstrated by the presence of a series of north to south aligned furrows across the site. The furrows were first identified by a geophysical survey and were subsequently identified and investigated in one of the trial trenches. Ditches in the north-east corner of the site probably date to the late medieval or post-medieval period and are likely to form the junction of former field boundaries that post-date the open field system. The ditch fills contained post-medieval brick fragments and pottery; residual sherds of abraded Iron Age and Roman pottery were also recovered, suggesting activity in the vicinity during these periods.	
Project dates	16th–18th November 2015	
Project type	Field evaluation	
Previous work	Geophysical survey (ArchaeoPhysica 2014)	
Future work	Unknown	
Monument type	Roman track, medieval furrows, post-medieval agricultural ditches	
Significant finds	Roman pottery	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site location	Bircham Road, Snettisham, Norfolk	
Study area	6.6ha	
Site co-ordinates	TF 6987 3403	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology (CA)	
Project Brief originator	-	
Project Design (WSI) originator	CA	
Project Manager	Simon Carlyle (CA)	
Project Supervisor	Jake Streatfeild-James (CA)	
PROJECT ARCHIVE		
	Event no: ENF139396	Content
Physical	Norfolk Museums Service	Pottery, animal bone
Paper		Site records
Digital	Norfolk HER	Report, digital photos
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2015 <i>Land off Bircham Road, Snettisham, Norfolk: Archaeological Evaluation</i> . CA typescript report 15815		



Andover 01264 347630
 Cirencester 01285 771022
 Exeter 01392 826185
 Milton Keynes 01908 564660
www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE

Land off Bircham Road, Snettisham Norfolk

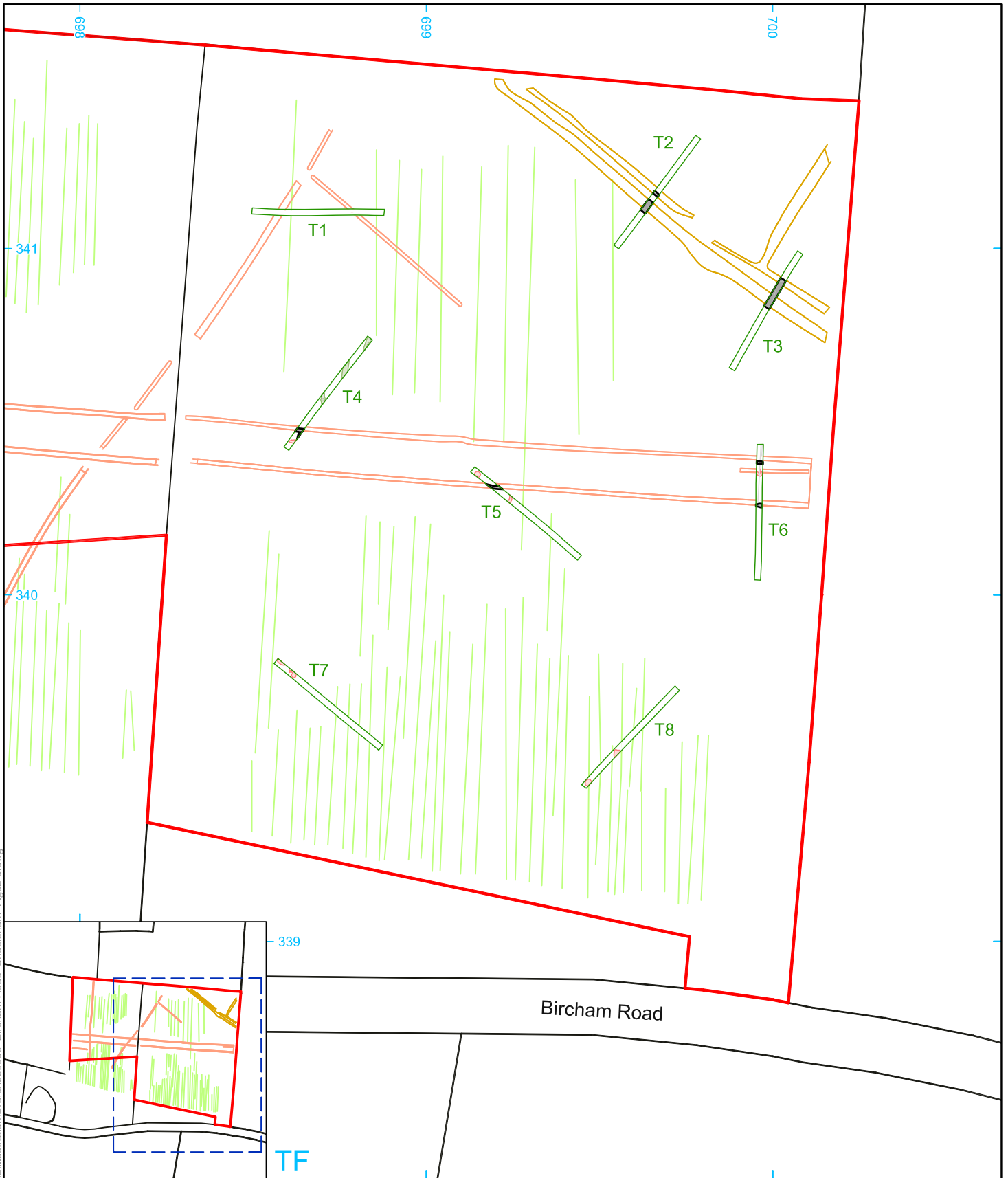
FIGURE TITLE

Site location plan



Reproduced from the 2015 Ordnance Survey Explorer map with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright Cotswold Archaeology Ltd 100002109

DRAWN BY	LJH	PROJECT NO.	660600	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	11/12/15	
APPROVED BY	SC	SCALE@A4	1:25,000	1



P:\660600\Bircham Rd, Snettisham Solar Farm, Norfolk\EVAL\Illustration\Drafts\660600 Bircham Road Snettisham Figs2-3.dwg

- site boundary
- evaluation trench
- archaeological feature
- furrow
- modern
- treethrow

- Geophysics Survey Results (ArchaeoPhysica 2014)**
- fill
 - Agricultural boundary
 - cultivation



Cotswold Archaeology

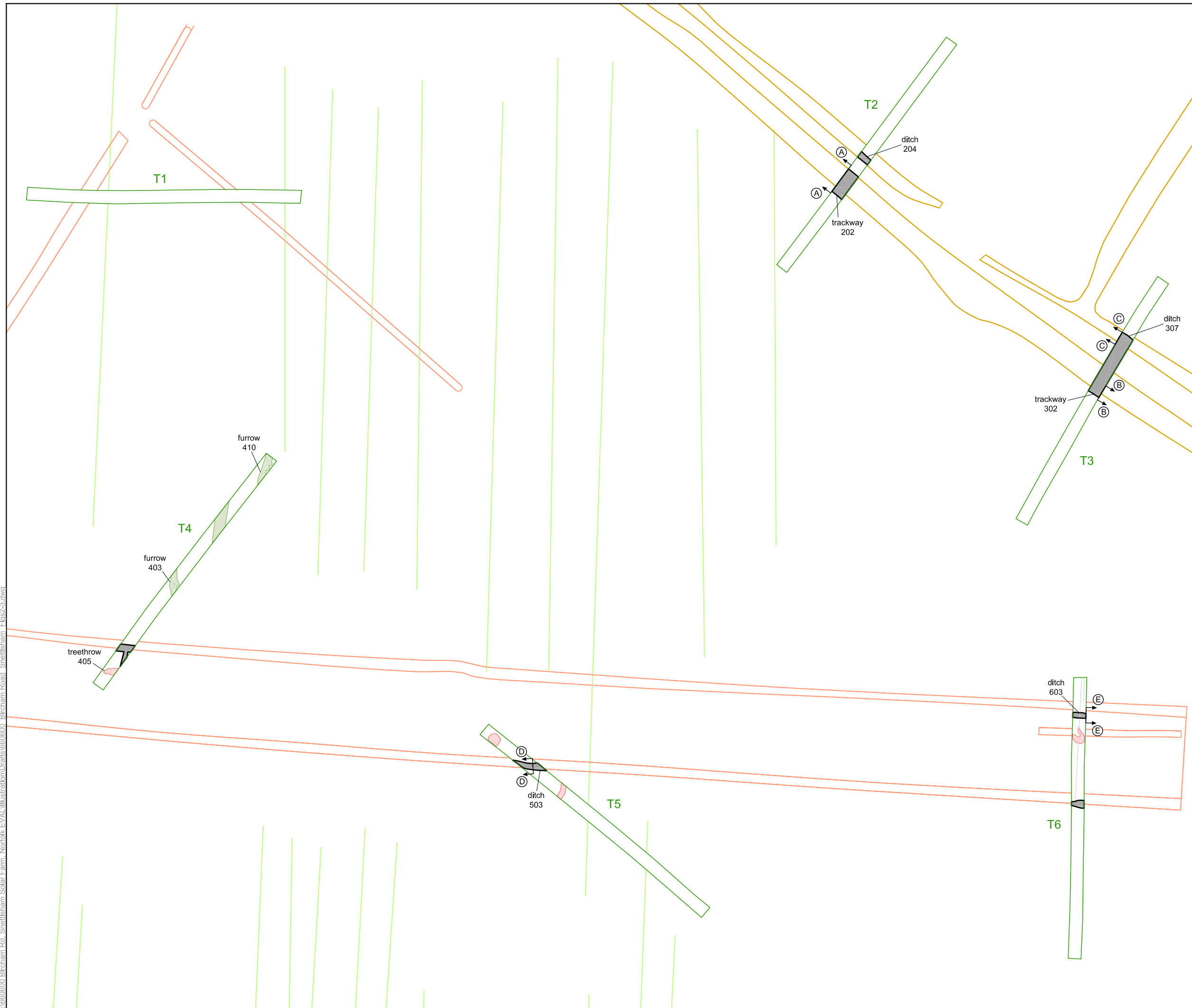
Andover 01264 347630
 Cirencester 01285 771022
 Exeter 01392 826185
 Milton Keynes 01908 564660
www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE
Land off Bircham Road, Snettisham Norfolk

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

<i>DRAWN BY</i> LJH	<i>PROJECT NO.</i> 660600	<i>FIGURE NO.</i>
<i>CHECKED BY</i> DJB	<i>REVISION</i> 01	2
<i>DATE</i> 11-12-2015	<i>SCALE@A4</i> 1:1500	

Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey 2015 mapping with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright Cotswold Archaeology Ltd 100002109.



- site boundary
- evaluation trench
- archaeological feature
- furrow
- modern
- treethrow

**Geophysics Survey Results
(ArchaeoPhysica 2014)**

- Archaeology**
- fill
- Agricultural**
- boundary
- cultivation



Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey 2015 mapping with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright Cotswold Archaeology Ltd 100002109.

Cotswold Archaeology

Andover	01264 347630
Cirencester	01285 771022
Exeter	01392 826185
Milton Keynes	01908 564660
www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk	
enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk	

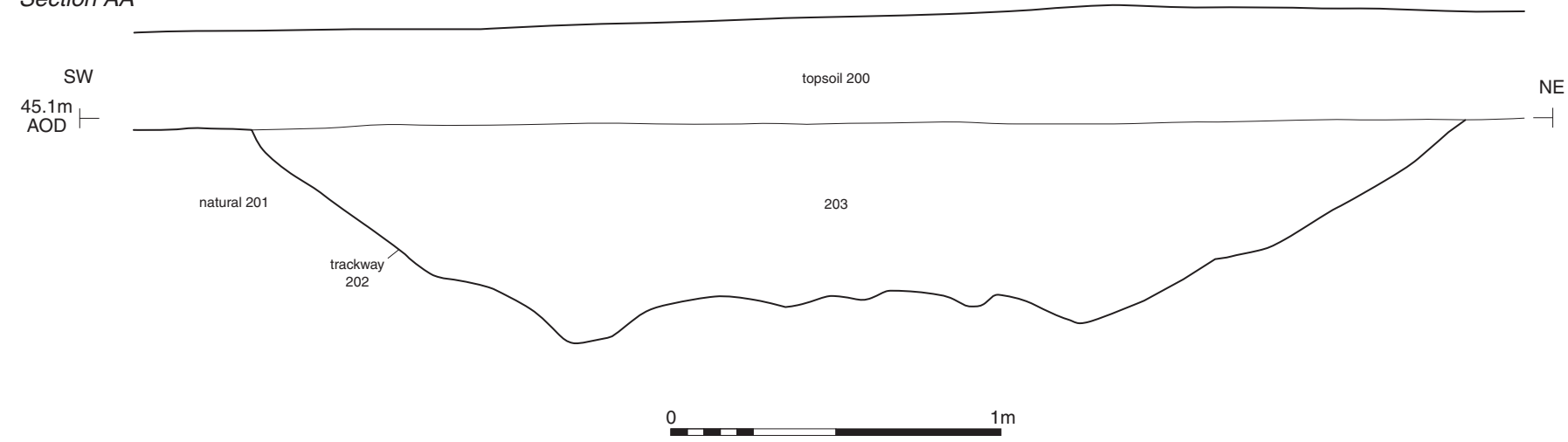
PROJECT TITLE
Land off Bircham Road, Snettisham Norfolk

FIGURE TITLE
Trenches 1 to 6 showing archaeological features and geophysical survey results

DRAWN BY	LJH	PROJECT NO.	660600	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	SCC	REVISION	02	3
DATE	14-12-2015	SCALE@A3	1:500	

P:\660600 Bircham Rd. Snettisham Solar Farm. Norfolk. EVAL\Illustration\Drawings\660600 Bircham Road. Snettisham. Figs2-3.dwg

Section AA



Trench 2, section of trackway [202], looking north-west (1m scales)



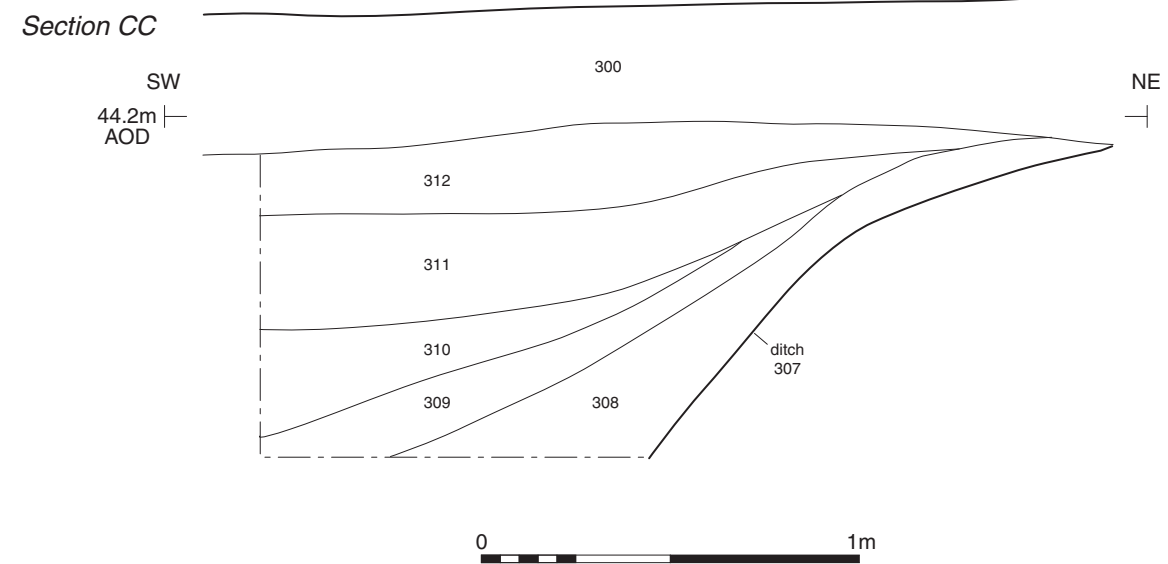
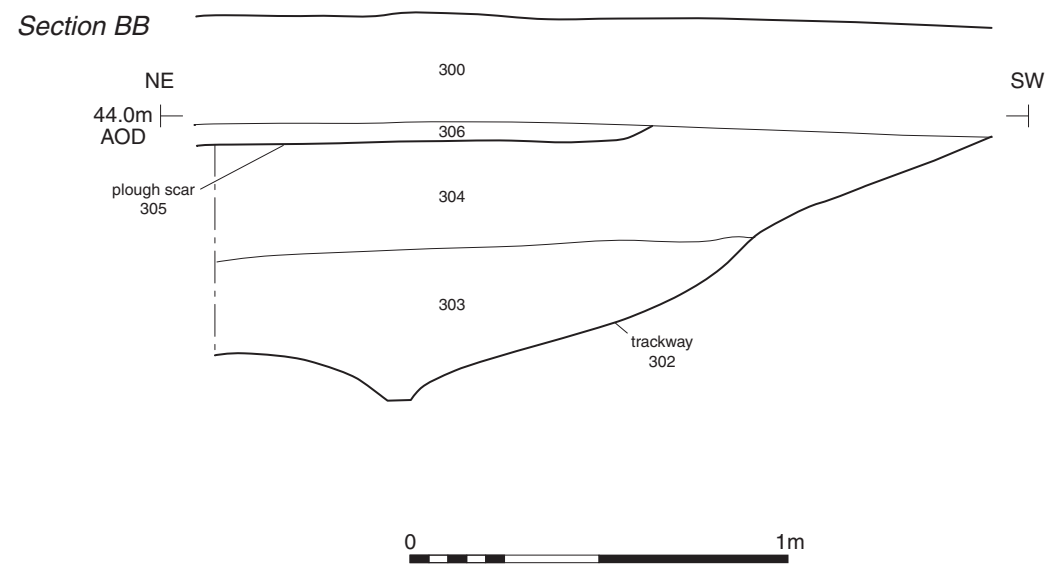
Trench 2, section of ditch [204], looking north-west (1m scale)


Cotswold Archaeology
 Andover 01264 347630
 Cirencester 01285 771022
 Exeter 01392 826185
 Milton Keynes 01908 564660
 www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
 enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE
 Land off Bircham Road, Snettisham
 Norfolk

FIGURE TITLE
Trench 2: section and photographs

DRAWN BY	LJH	PROJECT NO.	660600	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	14/12/15	4
APPROVED BY	SCC	SCALE@A3	1:20	



Trench 3, section of trackway [302], looking south-east (1m scale)



Trench 3, section of ditch [307], looking north-west (1m scale)

Cotswold Archaeology
 Andover 01264 347630
 Cirencester 01285 771022
 Exeter 01392 826185
 Milton Keynes 01908 564660
 www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
 enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE
 Land off Bircham Road, Snettisham
 Norfolk

FIGURE TITLE
Trench 3: sections and photographs

DRAWN BY	LJH	PROJECT NO.	660600	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	14/12/15	5
APPROVED BY	SCC	SCALE@A3	1:20	



Trench 4, section of [furrow 404], looking south (1m scale)



Trench 4, section of [furrow 410], looking south (1m scale)



Andover 01264 347630
 Cirencester 01285 771022
 Exeter 01392 826185
 Milton Keynes 01908 564660
 www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
 enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE

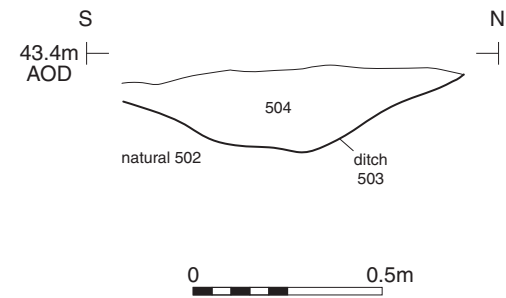
Land off Bircham Road, Snettisham
 Norfolk

FIGURE TITLE

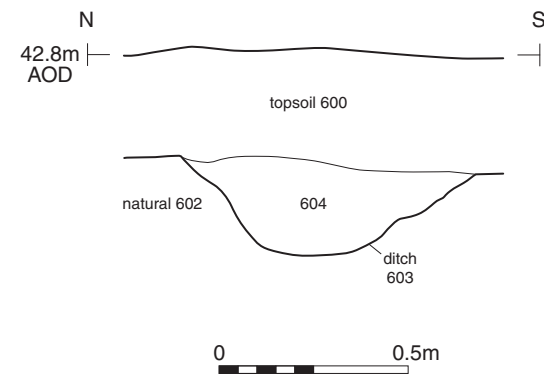
Trench 4: photographs

DRAWN BY	LJH	PROJECT NO.	660600	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	14/12/15	
APPROVED BY	SCC	SCALE@A4	n/a	6

Section DD



Section EE



Trench 5, section of ditch [503], looking west (1m scale)



Trench 6, section of ditch [603], looking east (1m scale)


Cotswold Archaeology
 Andover 01264 347630
 Cirencester 01285 771022
 Exeter 01392 826185
 Milton Keynes 01908 564660
www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
 enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE
**Land off Bircham Road, Snettisham
 Norfolk**

FIGURE TITLE
**Trenches 5 and 6: sections and
 photographs**

DRAWN BY	LJH	PROJECT NO.	660600	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	11/12/15	
APPROVED BY	SCC	SCALE@A3	1:20	7

Andover Office

Stanley House
Walworth Road
Andover
Hampshire
SP10 5LH

t: 01264 347630

Cirencester Office

Building 11
Kemble Enterprise Park
Cirencester
Gloucestershire
GL7 6BQ

t: 01285 771022

Exeter Office

Unit 53
Basepoint Business Centre
Yeoford Way
Marsh Barton Trading Estate
Exeter
EX2 8LB

t: 01392 826185

Milton Keynes Office

41 Burners Lane South
Kiln Farm
Milton Keynes
Buckinghamshire
MK11 3HA

t: 01908 564660