

Land at Jersey Cottages Heyford Road, Kirtlington Oxfordshire

Archaeological Evaluation



for
Wilbraham Associates Ltd

on behalf of
Manor Farm Developments (UK) Ltd

CA Project: 660560
CA Report: 16093

Site Code: JER15
Accession No: OXCMS: 2015.170

February 2016



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Document Control Grid						
Version	Date	Author	Checked by	Status	Reasons for revision	Approved by
Draft	18/02/2016	PB	SRJ	Draft		SCC

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SUMMARY

Project Name:	Jersey Cottages, Kirtlington, Oxfordshire
NGR:	SP 5012 2024
Type:	Evaluation
Date:	25th – 28th January 2016
Planning ref:	Cherwell District Council 15/01128/OUT
Location of Archive:	Banbury Museum
Accession no:	OXCMS: 2015.170
Site Code:	JER15

In January 2016, Cotswold Archaeology carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at Jersey Cottages, Heyford Road, Kirtlington, Oxfordshire. The work was undertaken to inform a planning application to Cherwell District Council for the residential development of the land.

The trenches were spread across one large and one small field, five of them positioned to investigate linear anomalies detected during an earlier geophysical survey. The remaining trenches were located either in proximity to geophysical anomalies or in geophysically 'blank' areas.

The geophysical anomalies were exposed with varying levels of success but each positively identified anomaly appeared to be either of natural origin or associated with field drains of relatively modern date.

In addition to the geophysical anomalies, further features were also identified, including a number of discrete pits, as well as natural features, including tree throws. Features of archaeological interest were mostly confined to the northern half of the site and produced evidence of 16th to 18th-century activity, with later occupation also evident and occasional sherds of residual medieval pottery indicating that there had been earlier occupation in the vicinity.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In January 2016, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at Jersey Cottages, Heyford Road, Kirtlington, Oxfordshire (NGR: SP 5012 2024; Fig. 1). The work was undertaken to inform a planning application to Cherwell District Council (CDC) for the development of the land to provide 34 dwellings, open space and associated services, outline planning consent for which has already been granted (planning ref. 15/01128/OUT).
- 1.2 Geophysical survey (Stratascan 2015) had previously taken place, indicating the presence of a number of linear and curvilinear, positive and negative anomalies across the site area. The results of the survey informed the development of an archaeological trial trenching evaluation strategy, which was agreed with Richard Oram, Planning Archaeologist at the Oxfordshire County Council Archaeological Service (OCCAS). The strategy was designed to minimise the impact of intrusive archaeological works on the Grade II Registered Parkland that forms much of the site.
- 1.3 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) prepared by CA (2016). The project abided by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation* (CIfA 2014) 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 site

- 1.4 The proposed development site, which covers an area of c. 1.4ha, is located at the northern edge of the village of Kirtlington, approximately 9km south-west of Bicester town centre (Figs 1 & 2). It comprises a block of Grade II Registered parkland to the east of Heyford Road (A4095) and four cottages, with their associated gardens and driveway, in the north-west corner (Figs 3 – 5). The site is bounded by Heyford Road to the west, a belt of trees to the south, Home Farm and its yard and farm buildings to the east and farmland to the north.

- 1.5 The site is situated on relatively level ground, at c. 102m above Ordnance Datum (aOD), at the top of a ridge that overlooks the valley of the River Cherwell to the west. The solid geology comprises undifferentiated Jurassic mudstone, siltstone and sandstone of the Kellaways Formation and Oxford Clay Formation. There are no superficial deposits within the site, although Pleistocene sands and gravels of the Hanborough Gravel Member have been mapped to the south of the site, beyond the tree belt (BGS 2016).

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Reference to the Oxfordshire Historic Environment Record (HER) shows that the site is situated in an area of significant archaeological potential, close to the route of a major Roman road. The following is a summary of information obtained from the HER and published sources:

Prehistoric (pre-AD 43)

- 2.2 Passing within 0.9km to the north of the site is the linear earthwork known as Aves Ditch, which extends for a distance of c. 4km over a plateau of high ground in a north-easterly direction from the vicinity of Manor Farm, Kirtlington to a point east of Caulcott. The ditch has been the subject of two major investigations (Sauer 2005; CA 2010) and is considered to date to the Late Iron Age, possibly delineating the tribal boundary of the *Catuvellauni*.
- 2.3 In the 1960s, an Iron Age kiln or oven and two inhumation burials were found during construction works for a water main, approximately 150m to the north-west of the site (HER958, 960; Benson 1966). Subsequent works on the water main, carried out between 2004 and 2005, revealed further evidence for Iron Age activity in the vicinity, including parts of three farming settlements and the graves of three young children (CA 2010); geophysical survey and aerial photographs show that two of these settlements were enclosed and are comparable to a number of other sites in the area that have been identified from cropmarks.

Roman (AD 43–410)

- 2.4 The route of Akeman Street, the major Roman road from Cirencester (*Corinium Dobunorum*) to St Albans (*Verulamium*), passes within 120m of the northern boundary of the site; the remains of the road were observed during investigations in

1966 (Benson 1966). It has been suggested that a second Roman road, the Port Way (not to be confused with the Roman road of the same name between Silchester and Old Sarum), passes through Kirtlington on a north to south alignment and crosses Akeman Street to the north of the village, although its route is disputed (Sauer 1998). The finding of two Roman inhumation burials, Roman pottery and coins have been recorded approximately 400m to the west of the site, found in 1896 on allotments north-west of the village (HER 1762).

Early medieval (AD 410–1066) and medieval (1066–1539)

- 2.5 In the 19th century, two Saxon burials were uncovered c. 300m to the west of the site boundary; one of the inhumations was accompanied by grave goods, including a brooch (HER1763; VCH 1939).
- 2.6 Kirtlington is first mentioned in historical documents in relation to a payment made there to King Edmund I in 945 (VCH 1959). King Edward the Martyr held a *witenagemot* at Kirtlington in 977 that was attended by Dunstan, Archbishop of Canterbury and in the 11th century Kirtlington (*Cherielintone*) was a royal manor of Edward the Confessor. By the mid 12th century, the manor had come into the possession of Richard de Humez, Constable of Normandy.
- 2.7 In the centre of the village, to the north of the Church of St Mary the Virgin, an archaeological investigation undertaken by Thames Valley Archaeological Services identified medieval pits and the remains of a stone wall in a trench dug for a soakaway; pottery from the features dates to the 11th–12th century and a 14th-century coin was recovered from the overburden (HER 16824; TVAS 2004). The remains of a medieval moated site are situated to the north of the church, adjacent to the school (HER5358).

Post-medieval/modern

- 2.8 The site is located within a Grade II Registered park and garden that was designed by Capability Brown as the setting for Kirtlington Park, built in 1742 for the Dashwood family by the architect James Gibbs.
- 2.9 The site has recently been the subject of a geophysical survey, which detected a possible sub-circular enclosure in the northern part of the site, to the east of the cottages, and a curving length of ditch in the central and southern part (Stratascan 2015). These anomalies were investigated by the current evaluation.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 As outlined in the WSI (CA 2015), the objectives of the evaluation were to provide information about the archaeological resource within the site, including its presence/absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality. In accordance with *Standard and Guidance: Archaeological Field Evaluation* (ClfA 2014), the evaluation was designed to be minimally intrusive and minimally destructive to archaeological remains. The information gathered will enable Cherwell District Council, as advised by OCCAS, to identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset within the site, consider the impact of the proposed development upon that significance, 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).
- 3.2 If significant archaeological remains were identified, reference would be made to *Solent-Thames Research Framework for the Historic Environment: Resource Assessments and Research Agendas* (Hey and Hind 2014), so that the remains could, if possible, be placed within their local and regional context.

4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 The original proposal was for the evaluation to comprise the excavation of seven trenches, each 30m long and 1.8m wide; however, the proposed location of one trench towards the south-west of the site was below overhead electricity cables so was divided into two 15m trenches, one either side of the cables. Consequently six 30m trenches and two 15m trenches were excavated in the locations shown on the attached plans (Figs 2, 6 & 7). The trench plan was designed to sample potential archaeological features recorded by the geophysical survey, as well as providing a sample of the areas devoid of geophysical anomalies. 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). The trench locations were scanned for live services by trained CA staff using CAT & Genny equipment in accordance with the *CA Safe System of Work for Avoiding Underground Services*. The final 'as dug' trench plan was recorded with GPS.

- 4.2 The trenches were excavated using a JCB 3CX 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 Banbury Museum along with the site archive, under accession no. OXCMS: 2015.170. A summary of information from this project, as set out within Appendix C, 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, finds and biological evidence are to be found in Appendices A and B respectively.
- 5.2 A broadly similar stratigraphic sequence was recorded in all of the evaluation trenches, with a simple sequence of geological deposits overlain by subsoil and capped with modern topsoil evident at each location. Geological deposits in each trench generally comprised Jurassic clays or silty clays, varying in colour from light yellowish brown, through mid orangey brown to light bluish grey, though there were also localised patches of sandstone within the clay. The majority of features investigated were cut into the clay and sealed by subsoil between 0.12m and 0.45m thick, which generally comprised a mid yellowish/greyish brown, silty clay, though exhibited a little variation across the site. A single investigated feature in Trench 2

was cut into the subsoil but in general the deposit was directly overlain by a dark or very dark greyish brown, silty clay or silty sand topsoil between 0.15m and 0.30m thick, which was quite uniform across the site.

- 5.3 A number of the anomalies identified by the geophysical survey were exposed in the evaluation trenches; two anomalies in Trench 1 appeared to be natural in origin, features in Trenches 3 and 4 were field drains of relatively recent origin, and linear anomalies targeted by Trenches 2 and 5 were not seen at all. There was no evidence for archaeological features in Trenches 5, 6 and 8 but a number of smaller, discrete features, not identified during the geophysical survey were identified in the other trenches. Some of these features were almost certainly natural in origin but others, particularly in Trench 1 were of post-medieval date and of some archaeological interest.

Post-medieval (16th – late 18th century)

- 5.4 A small number of residual, medieval pottery sherds were recovered, which indicate activity on the site from as early as the 11th century; none of the excavated features is likely to have pre-dated the post-medieval period and only one feature in Trench 1 appears to have been pre-18th century in date.

Trench 1 (Figs 2, 6 & 8)

- 5.5 Close to the northern end of Trench 1 and extending west of the trench was a slightly irregular pit 103, which measured at least 2.6m by 1.1m but was just 0.2m deep. The single fill of the feature comprised a firm, mid greyish brown, silty clay 104 that yielded a small finds assemblage, including two sherds of medieval pottery, though later material indicated a 16th to 18th-century date for the deposit. The function of the feature was unclear and it had probably been heavily horizontally truncated prior to development of the subsoil which sealed it.

Modern (late 18th – 19th century)

- 5.6 Evidence of 18th-century and later activity was restricted to Trenches 1, 2 and 7 towards the north of the site. Material of this date was recovered from features in Trenches 1 and 2, and the subsoil in Trenches 1 and 7.

Trench 1 (Figs 2, 6 & 8)

- 5.7 A short distance to the north-east of the large, irregular pit in Trench 1 was small, oval pit 105, which had gently sloping, slightly concave sides and a concave base. It measured 0.45m by 0.32m but was just 0.08m deep, having filled with a friable, mid greyish brown, silty clay 106 that yielded two fragments of indeterminate animal bone and a single sherd of black-glazed red earthenware pottery. The function of the feature was unclear but had evidently been heavily horizontally truncated. All of the backfilled features in Trench 1 were sealed by 0.24m thick subsoil 101, which also produced a small finds assemblage, including pottery and ceramic building material (CBM) dating to the 18th century and later.

Trench 2 (Figs 2, 6 & 10)

- 5.8 A number of features were identified within Trench 2, though only one of these, pit 207, which cut through the subsoil, produced any dateable artefacts. The pit was somewhat irregular in both plan and profile, measuring 1.15m north to south by at least 0.55m east to west, having extended beyond the eastern edge of the trench, and was just 0.20m deep. It was filled with a hard, mid brownish grey, silty clay 208, which produced a small pottery assemblage suggesting a mid to late 18th-century date of deposition, along with three indeterminate fragments of animal bone. The function of the pit was unclear, though given its irregular form and shallowness, may actually have been a depression caused by agricultural activity rather than a deliberately excavated feature.

Trench 7 (Figs 2, 6 & 9)

- 5.9 A number of features were identified within Trench 7, none of which produced artefactual material (see below); however, a small finds assemblage was recovered from the subsoil 701 that sealed these features. The assemblage included residual medieval pottery along with post-medieval pottery and CBM indicating an 18th-century date of deposition.

Undated

- 5.10 A number of features were present in Trenches 1, 2, 3, 4 and 7 which produced no dateable artefactual material. These were mostly, small discrete features that had not been identified during the geophysical survey and some may have been natural in origin, though two linear geophysical anomalies targeted by Trench 1 may also have had natural origins. All of the features were sealed by subsoil.

Trench 1 (Figs 2 & 6)

- 5.11 Trench 1 had been positioned to investigate two curvilinear, positive anomalies that may have been elements of a more substantial feature. Both anomalies were located within the trench but were not of the form expected, appearing to be negative rather than positive features, though with abundant stone fillings, which may have given rise to the positive interpretation. Both the wide 'ditch' 107 located towards the centre of the trench and the much narrower 'ditch' 109 to the south were irregular in form and profile, and appeared to have been naturally formed.

Trench 2 (Figs 2, 6 & 10)

- 5.12 In addition to the one dateable feature in Trench 2, there were three further features that produced no dateable artefactual material. Towards the south of the trench was a feature 203 that was irregular in both plan and profile. It measured 1.6m north to south by 1.04m east to west but was just 0.11m deep, having been filled with a compact, mid greyish brown, silty clay with some gravel 204. It was interpreted as natural tree-rooting. A short distance to the north-east was a small, sub-circular feature 205, measuring 0.50m by 0.44m and just 0.11m deep, which was also interpreted as being of natural origin. A further sub-circular feature 209 was exposed towards the north of the trench and extending beyond the eastern trench edge. This was also interpreted as the result of natural tree-rooting.

Trench 3 (Figs 2, 7 & 11)

- 5.13 In addition to two stone-filled field drains of relatively recent origin in Trench 3 (one of which, appears to have given rise to a positive linear anomaly towards the eastern end of the trench), two small and discrete features were also recorded. In the western half of the trench was a small, sub-circular pit 303 with steep, almost vertical sides and a pointed base. The diameter varied between 0.27m and 0.25m, whilst the feature was 0.16m deep. It was filled with a friable, light greyish brown, silty sand 304, though this produced no finds. This was possibly the base of a posthole, though no further associated features were evident in this part of the trench. Towards the eastern end of the trench was a small, oval pit 305 that extended beyond the southern trench edge. It measured at least 0.74m across but was just 0.13m deep. Again, no dateable finds were recovered from its friable, mid orangey brown, silty clay fill 306, though a fragment of cattle bone was retrieved. Again, the feature may have been the base of a posthole, though no further associated features were evident in this area.

Trench 4 (Figs 2, 7 & 12)

- 5.14 Trench 4 was positioned to target a positive, linear geophysical anomaly, but in common with that in Trench 3, this appears to have been a stone-filled land drain of relatively recent origin. However, a further, discrete feature 403 was recorded towards the western end of the trench. This was somewhat irregular in both plan and profile, measuring 1.3m east to west by at least 0.94m north to south, extending beyond the southern edge of the trench. It was 0.19m deep and had been filled with a compact, mid greyish brown silty clay with blue clay lenses. No finds were present and it appears to have been a natural feature that silted up naturally.

6. THE FINDS *by Ed McSloy*

- 6.1 Artefactual material recovered from the evaluation is listed in Appendix B, Table 1. The quantities of medieval and later pottery and ceramic building material are described further below. Medieval pottery type codes given in parenthesis correspond to those of the Oxfordshire pottery type series described by Mellor (1994).

Pottery

- 6.2 A total of 22 sherds (370g) of pottery dating to the medieval and post-medieval/modern periods was recorded. Medieval sherds, from deposits 104 and 701 occur with later-dated ceramics and would seem to be redeposited. The two sherds from deposit 104 occur in the same calcareous gravel-tempered fabric (OXCX) a type common to north-west Oxfordshire and dateable across the mid 13th to 15th centuries (Mellor 1994, 173). A rim sherd in this type comes from a large, wheel-finished jar with a distinctive lipped rim top and pale green lead glaze to the inner surface of the rim. This rim form is close to that on a vessel in the same fabric from Shipton under Wychwood, Oxon (*ibid.* fig. 45, no. 4). The three medieval sherds from deposit 701 consist of bodysherds in sandy fabric OXY, a type common from the Oxford area and dateable across the 11th to 13th centuries.
- 6.3 The remainder of the recovered pottery comprises post-medieval/modern material in a range of (probably) local and regional types (Appendix B). The majority consists of body sherds, exceptions being a rim sherd from a bowl in a glazed earthenware fabric (deposit 104) and from a plate in Creamware from layer 701. Some among the glazed earthenwares may date as early as the late 16th/17th centuries, however the opaque black-glazed type from deposits 101 and 106 dates after c. 1700. The

Staffordshire combed yellow slipware (layer 208) dates to the very late 17th or 18th century, and the Creamware plate, also from 208, to the second half of the 18th century.

Ceramic Building Material

- 6.4 Ceramic building material comprising three flat tile fragments in a hard, orange-firing fabric were recorded from topsoil deposits 101 and 701. None of the fragments preserved peg holes, nibs or other features and only broad dating across the late medieval and post-medieval periods is possible.

7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE *by Andy Clarke*

Animal Bone

- 7.1 A small assemblage of seven fragments (258g) of animal bone was recovered from site (Appendix B, Table 2). The bone was moderately well preserved, making possible the identification of cattle (*Bos taurus*) from two metacarpal (a bone of the lower forelimb) fragments, recovered from post-medieval layer 101 and deposit 306, the fill of undated pit 305. No butchery marks were observed, and all remaining fragments in the assemblage were unidentifiable. No further useful interpretative data beyond species identification was obtainable and it is likely that the assemblage is residual in nature.

8 DISCUSSION

- 8.1 The evaluation produced archaeological evidence most likely dating to the post-medieval period, though residual artefactual material also indicated that there had been occupation in the vicinity of the site since at least the medieval period; probably agricultural-related activity associated with the medieval settlement located close to the current village core and subject to previous investigation by TVAS (see above) and/or an early forerunner to Home Farm at the east of the site. A number of undated features were also exposed though the majority of these appear to have been of natural origin. A number of anomalies highlighted by geophysical survey and targeted by some of the evaluation trenches invariably proved not to be of archaeological origin or were not visible archaeologically; positive curvilinear anomalies targeted by Trench 1 were found to be negative natural features, positive linear features targeted by Trenches 3 and 4 were found to be stone-filled field

drains and negative linear anomalies targeted by Trenches 2 and 5 were not visible within the trenches. Conversely however, a number of features not detected by the geophysical survey were exposed in evaluation trenches, particularly in northern areas of the site, some of which were of archaeological interest.

Post-medieval (16th – late 18th century)

- 8.2 A single feature in Trench 1 at the north of the site produced a small finds assemblage suggesting a 16th to 18th-century date of deposition though residual earlier material was also present. The function of the feature was unclear and it had no obvious associations, though was probably related to early post-medieval agricultural activity. The feature lay very close to Jersey Cottages but these buildings date to the mid 20th century and there is no indication from historic cartographic sources that there was earlier occupation here. Home Farm to the east however, may have had earlier origins and the feature could have been associated with activity here.

Modern (Late 18th century and later)

- 8.3 A small number of features in Trenches 1 and 2 along with the subsoil in Trenches 1 and 7 yielded finds assemblages dating to the 18th century and later, which may attest to activity associated with Home Farm, though as before, feature function and therefore the nature of activity is unclear. Residual medieval material was again present in the Trench 7 subsoil further alluding to activity in the vicinity pre-dating any of the features recorded and possibly indicating an early date for Home Farm.

Undated

- 8.4 A number of features, both those highlighted by the geophysical survey and those only exposed during the course of the evaluation, produced little or no artefactual evidence and therefore remain undateable. The majority of these, including linear features in Trench 1 and more discrete features in Trenches 2, 3, 4 and 7, were almost certainly natural in origin, comprising natural gullies and tree-rooting features.

Summary and Conclusion

- 8.5 Despite the archaeological and historical background to the site indicating moderate levels of activity in the vicinity from the late prehistoric to early modern periods, there was little evidence for any of this activity extending onto the site. There was certainly no evidence for a prehistoric, Roman or early medieval presence, whilst later medieval finds were only recovered residually and are more suggestive of

agricultural manuring rather than more specific domestic or other occupation, though the unabraded condition of some of the sherds may suggest a direct association with an early forerunner of Home Farm at the eastern edge of the site. The earliest feature on the site probably dated to the earlier post-medieval period, though its function was unclear. There was also evidence for activity from the 18th century onwards though much of this was from poorly-defined features and broad subsoil deposits, again suggesting agricultural manuring rather than more specific site-based activities. Whilst the broad aims and objectives outlined in the WSI have been met, little evidence of archaeological importance was exposed by the evaluation and none of the geophysical anomalies targeted by the trial trenching appears to have been of any archaeological significance.

9. CA PROJECT TEAM

The fieldwork was undertaken by Peter Boyer, assisted by Ralph Brown, Alice Krausova and Jon Whitmore. The report was written by Peter Boyer, with contributions by Ed McSloy and Andy Clarke, and the illustrations were prepared by Lucy Martin. 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.

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APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No	Context	Type	Fill of	Context Interpretation	Context Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth/thickness (m)	Spot Date
1	100	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty sand			0.16	
1	101	Layer		Subsoil	Mid yellowish to light greyish brown silty clay			0.24	C18+
1	102	Layer		Natural	Mid brownish yellow clay			>0.1	
1	103	Cut		Pit	Irregular plan, irregular sides, flat base	2.6	>1.1	0.2	
1	104	Fill	103	Fill of pit	Firm, mid greyish brown silty clay	2.6	>1.1	0.2	MC16 – C18
1	105	Cut		Pit	Oval with slightly concave sides and base	0.45	0.32	0.08	
1	106	Fill	105	Fill of pit	Friable, mid greyish brown silty clay	0.45	0.32	0.08	C18+
1	107	Cut		Ditch	Irregular linear feature	>1.8			
1	108	Fill	107	Fill of ditch		>1.8			
1	109	Cut		Ditch	Irregular linear feature	>1.8			
1	110	Fill	109	Fill of ditch		>1.8			
2	200	Layer		Topsoil	Friable, very dark greyish brown silty clay			0.08 – 0.3	
2	201	Layer		Subsoil	Compact, mid greyish brown silty clay			0.12 – 0.28	
2	202	Layer		Natural	Mid orangey grey silty clay			>0.1	
2	203	Cut		Pit	Sub-circular in plan and irregular profile	1.6	1.04	0.11	
2	204	Fill	203	Fill of pit	Compact, mid greyish brown silty clay	1.6	1.04	0.11	
2	205	Cut		Pit	Sub-circular in plan and irregular profile	0.5	0.44	0.11	
2	206	Fill	205	Fill of pit	Compact, mid greyish brown silty clay	0.5	0.44	0.11	
2	207	Cut		Pit	Irregular plan and profile	1.15	>0.55	0.2	
2	208	Fill	207	Fill of pit	Hard, mid brownish grey silty clay	1.15	>0.55	0.2	MLC18
2	209	Cut		Pit	Sub-circular in plan				
2	210	Fill	209	Fill of pit	Hard, mid brownish grey silty clay				
3	300	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty sand			0.25	
3	301	Layer		Subsoil	Mid yellowish/greyish brown silty sand			0.3	
3	302	Layer		Natural	Light yellowish brown/mid orangey brown/light yellowish blue-grey clay			>0.1	

Trench No	Context	Type	Fill of	Context Interpretation	Context Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth/thickness (m)	Spot Date
3	303	Cut		Pit	Sub-circular, near vertical sides, pointed base	0.27	0.25	0.16	
3	304	Fill	303	Fill of pit	Friable, light greyish yellow silty sand	0.27	0.25	0.16	
3	305	Cut		Pit	Oval, slightly convex sides and concave base	>0.74	0.7	0.13	
3	306	Fill	305	Fill of pit	Friable, mid orangey brown silty clay	>0.74	0.7	0.13	
4	400	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay			0.15	
4	401	Layer		Subsoil	Mid yellowish brown sandy clay/mid orangey brown silty clay			0.4	
4	402	Layer		Natural	Light yellowish/greyish brown/bluish grey clay			>0.1	
4	403	Cut		Pit	Irregular plan and profile	1.3	>0.94	0.19	
4	404	Fill	403	Fill of pit	Compact, mid greyish brown silty clay with orange and blue clay lenses	1.3	>0.94	0.19	
5	500	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay			0.26	
5	501	Layer		Subsoil	Light yellowish/greyish brown/ mid orangey grey silty clay			0.3	
5	502	Layer		Natural	Mid/light orangey yellow clay			>0.1	
6	600	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay			0.2	
6	601	Layer		Subsoil	Mid yellowish brown sandy clay			0.4	
6	602	Layer		Natural	Mid orangey brown to light greyish/bluish orange clay			>0.1	
7	700	Layer		Topsoil	Friable, dark greyish brown silty clay			0.2 – 0.3	
7	701	Layer		Subsoil	Compact, mid greyish brown silty clay			0.2 – 0.4	C18
7	702	Layer		Natural	Compact, mid greyish orange/ yellow silty clay			>0.1	
7	703	Cut		Pit	Irregular plan and profile	>1	>0.8	0.2	
7	704	Fill	703	Fill of pit	Friable, mid orangey grey silty clay	>1	>0.8	0.2	
7	705	Cut		Pit	Irregular plan and profile	2.3	0.52	0.08	
7	706	Fill	705	Fill of pit	Compact, mid brownish grey silty clay	2.3	0.52	0.08	

Trench No	Context	Type	Fill of	Context Interpretation	Context Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth/thickness (m)	Spot Date
7	707	Cut		Pit	Irregular plan and profile				
7	708	Fill	707	Fill of pit	Hard, mid orangey grey silty clay				
8	800	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay			0.19	
8	801	Layer		Subsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay			0.45	
8	802	Layer		Natural	Mid orangey brown/light bluish grey clay			>0.1	

APPENDIX B: THE FINDS AND PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE*Table 1: Finds concordance table*

Context	Class	Description	Ct.	Wt. (g)	Date
101	Pmed pottery	Black-glazed red earthenware	1	13	C18+
	Pmed pottery	Glazed red earthenware	1	7	
	Pmed pottery	Unglazed red earthenware	3	13	
	CBM	Med/pmed flat tile	1	75	
104	Med. pottery	Oolitic limestone/quartz-tempered	2	108	MC16-C18
	Pmed pottery	Glazed red earthenware	1	30	
106	Pmed pottery	Black-glazed red earthenware	1	3	C18+
208	Pmed pottery	Creamware	3	17	MLC18
	Pmed pottery	Staffs/Bristol combed yellow slipware	1	9	
	Pmed pottery	Glazed red earthenware	2	45	
701	Med. pottery	Unglazed and glazed sandy (OXY)	3	23	C18
	Pmed pottery	Glazed red earthenware	4	102	
	CBM	Med/pmed flat tile	2	218	

Table 2: Identified animal species by fragment count (NISP) and weight and context.

Cut	Fill	BOS	Ind	Total	Weight (g)
Post-medieval					
-	101	1		1	159
105	106		2	2	1
207	208		3	3	27
Subtotal		1	5	6	
Undated					
305	306	1		1	71
Subtotal					
Total		2	5	7	
Weight		230	28	258	

BOS = Cattle; Ind = indeterminate

APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project name	Land at Jersey Cottages, Heyford Road, Kirtlington, Oxfordshire	
Short description	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in January 2016 on land at Jersey Cottages, Heyford Road, Kirtlington, Oxfordshire. Eight trenches were excavated. The trenches were spread across one large and one small field, five of them positioned to investigate linear anomalies detected during an earlier geophysical survey. The remaining trenches were located either in proximity to geophysical anomalies or in geophysically 'blank' areas. The geophysical anomalies were exposed with varying levels of success but each positively identified anomaly appeared to be either of natural origin or associated with field drains of relatively modern date. In addition to the geophysical anomalies, further features were also identified, including a number of discrete pits, as well as natural features, including tree throws. Features of archaeological interest were mostly confined to the northern half of the site and produced evidence of 16 th - to 18 th -century activity, with later occupation also evident and occasional sherds of residual medieval pottery indicating that there had been earlier occupation in the vicinity.	
Project dates	25th January 2016 – 28th January 2016	
Project type	Field evaluation	
Previous work	Geophysical survey (Stratascan 2015)	
Future work	Unknown	
Monument type	Ditch – post-medieval Pit – post-medieval	
Significant finds	Pottery – medieval Pottery – post-medieval	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site location	Jersey Cottages/Kirtlington/Cherwell/Oxfordshire	
Study area	1.4ha	
Site co-ordinates	SP 5012 2024	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology (CA)	
Project Brief originator	-	
Project Design (WSI) originator	CA	
Project Manager	Simon Carlyle (CA)	
Project Supervisor	Peter Boyer (CA)	
PROJECT ARCHIVE		
	Accession no. OXCMS: 2015.170	Content
Physical	Banbury Museum	Pottery, animal bone
Paper		Site records
Digital	Oxfordshire HER	Report, digital photos
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2016 Land at Jersey Cottages, Heyford Road, Kirtlington, Oxfordshire: Archaeological Evaluation. CA typescript report 16093		

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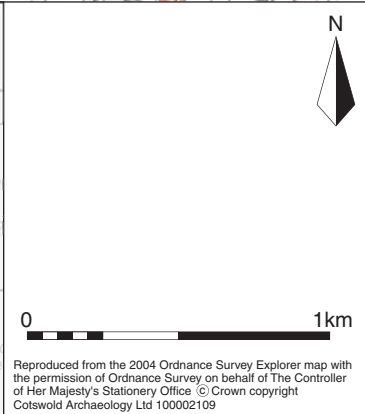
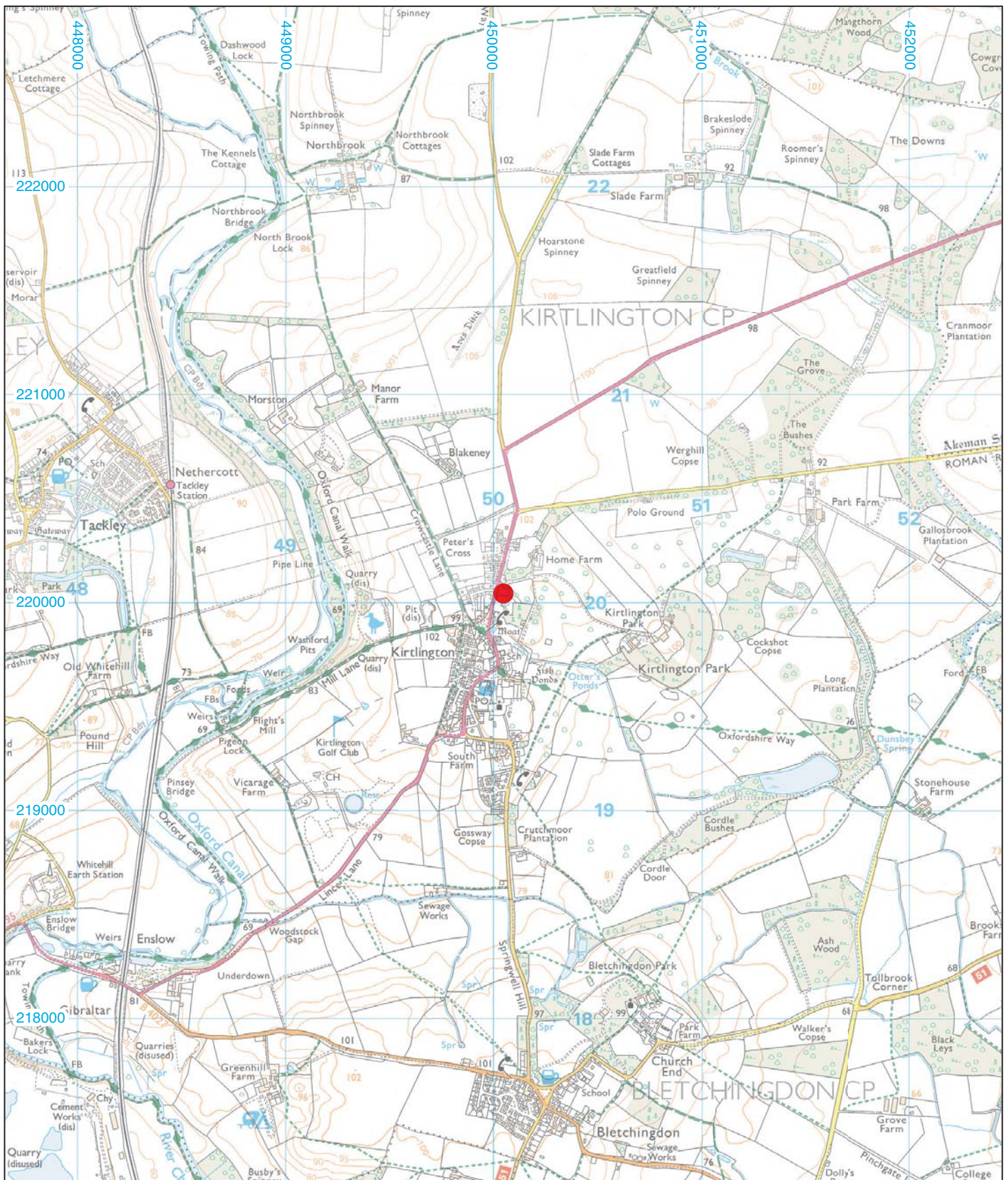
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PROJECT TITLE
 Land at Jersey Cottages, Heyford Road
 Kirtlington, Oxfordshire

FIGURE TITLE
 Site location plan

DRAWN BY	LM	PROJECT NO.	660560	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DB	DATE	16-02-2016	
APPROVED BY	SCC	SCALE@A4	1:25,000	1

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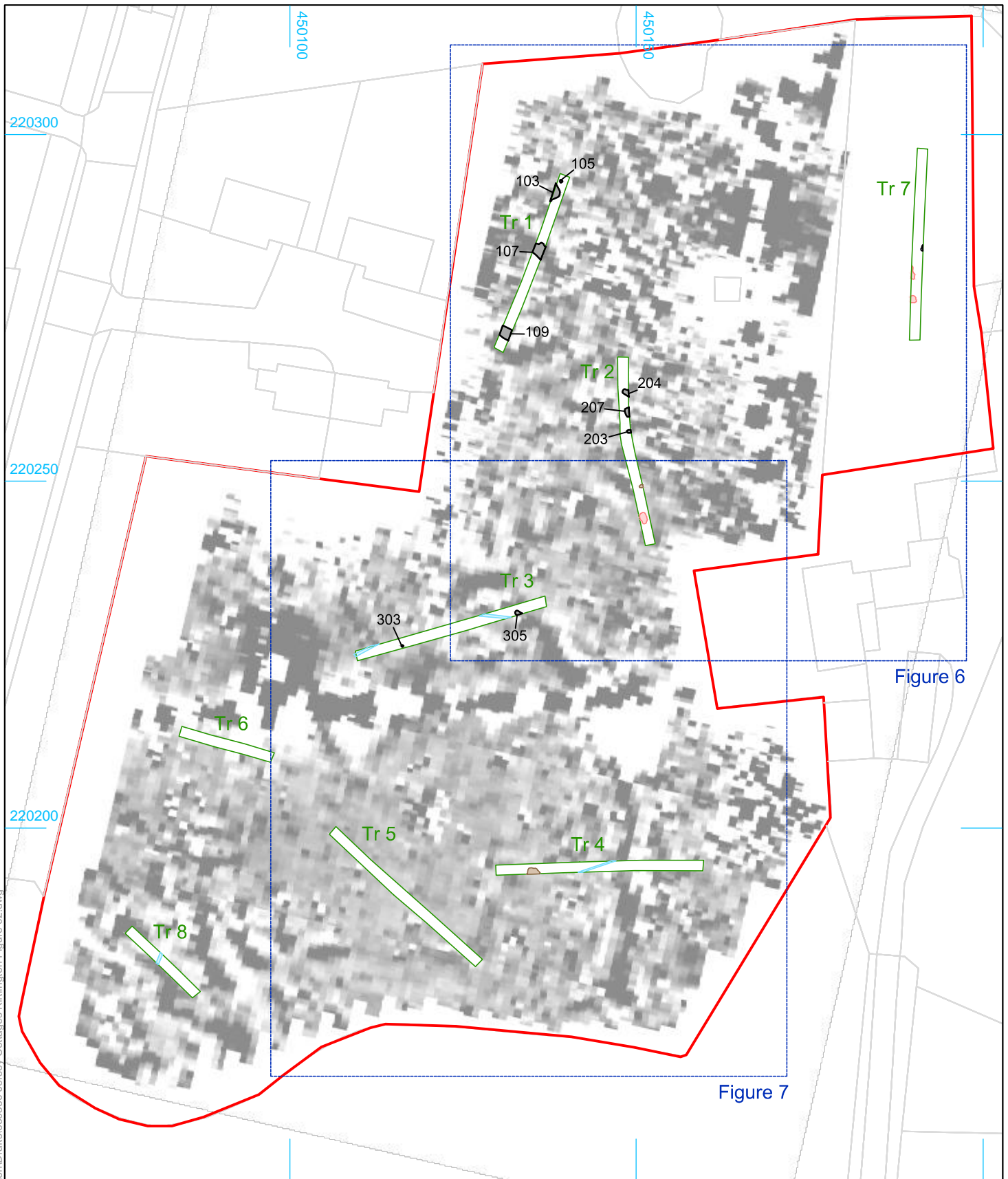


Figure 6

Figure 7

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



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PROJECT TITLE

Land at Jersey Cottages, Heyford Road Kirtlington, Oxfordshire

FIGURE TITLE

Trench location plan, showing archaeological features geophysical survey results

DRAWN BY LM PROJECT NO. 660560
 CHECKED BY DB DATE 16/02/2016
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FIGURE NO.

2





3



4

3 General view of the site looking south-west

4 General view of the site looking north-north-west



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PROJECT TITLE

Land at Jersey Cottages, Heyford Road
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FIGURE TITLE

Photographs

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CHECKED BY	DB	DATE	16-02-2016	3 & 4
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5

5 General view of the site looking north-north-east



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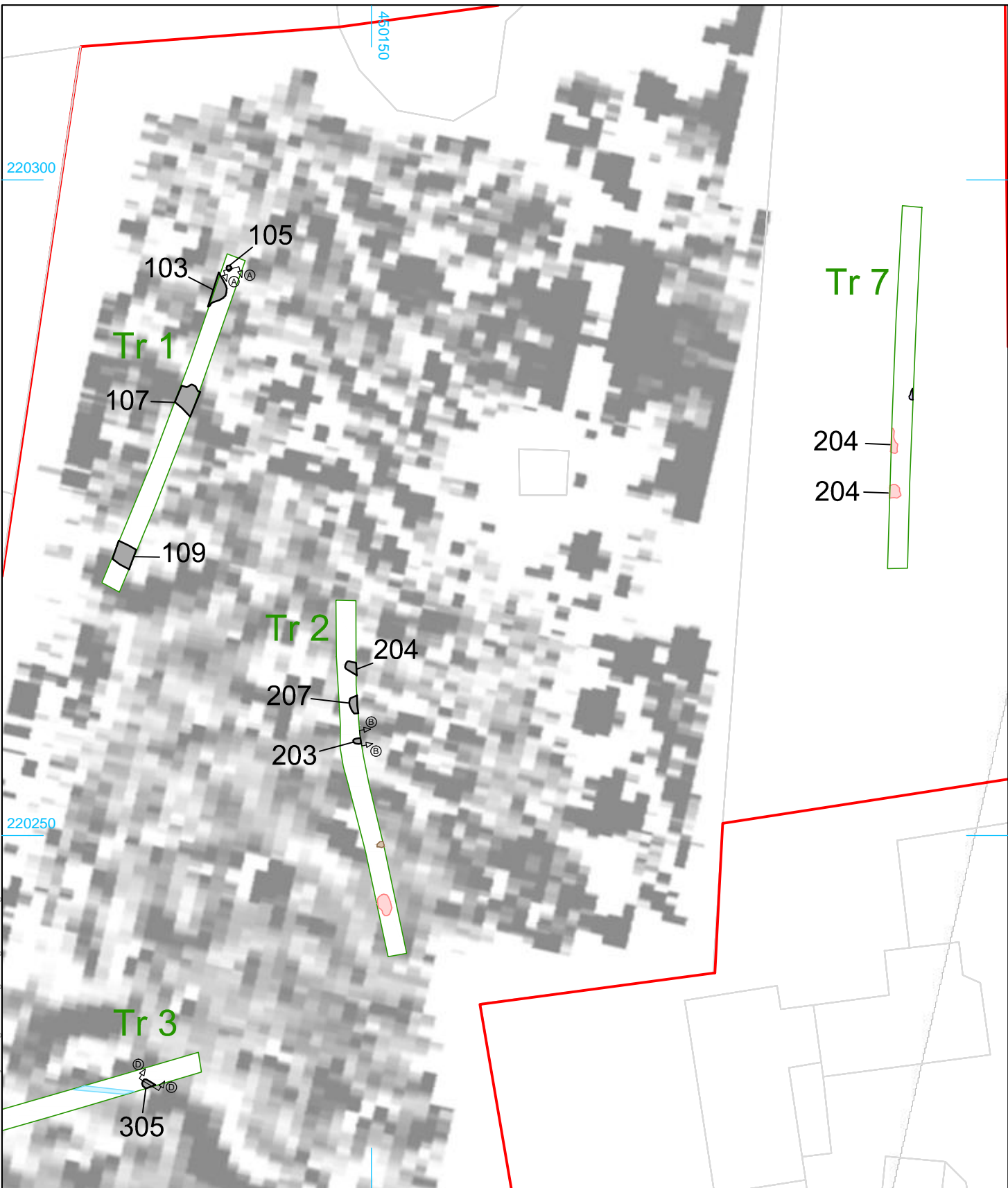
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FIGURE TITLE

Photograph

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APPROVED BY	SCC			



P:\660560_Jersey Cottages, Kirtlington, Oxon EVAL\Illustration\Drafts\660560_Jersey Cottages Kirtlington Figure 02.dwg

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



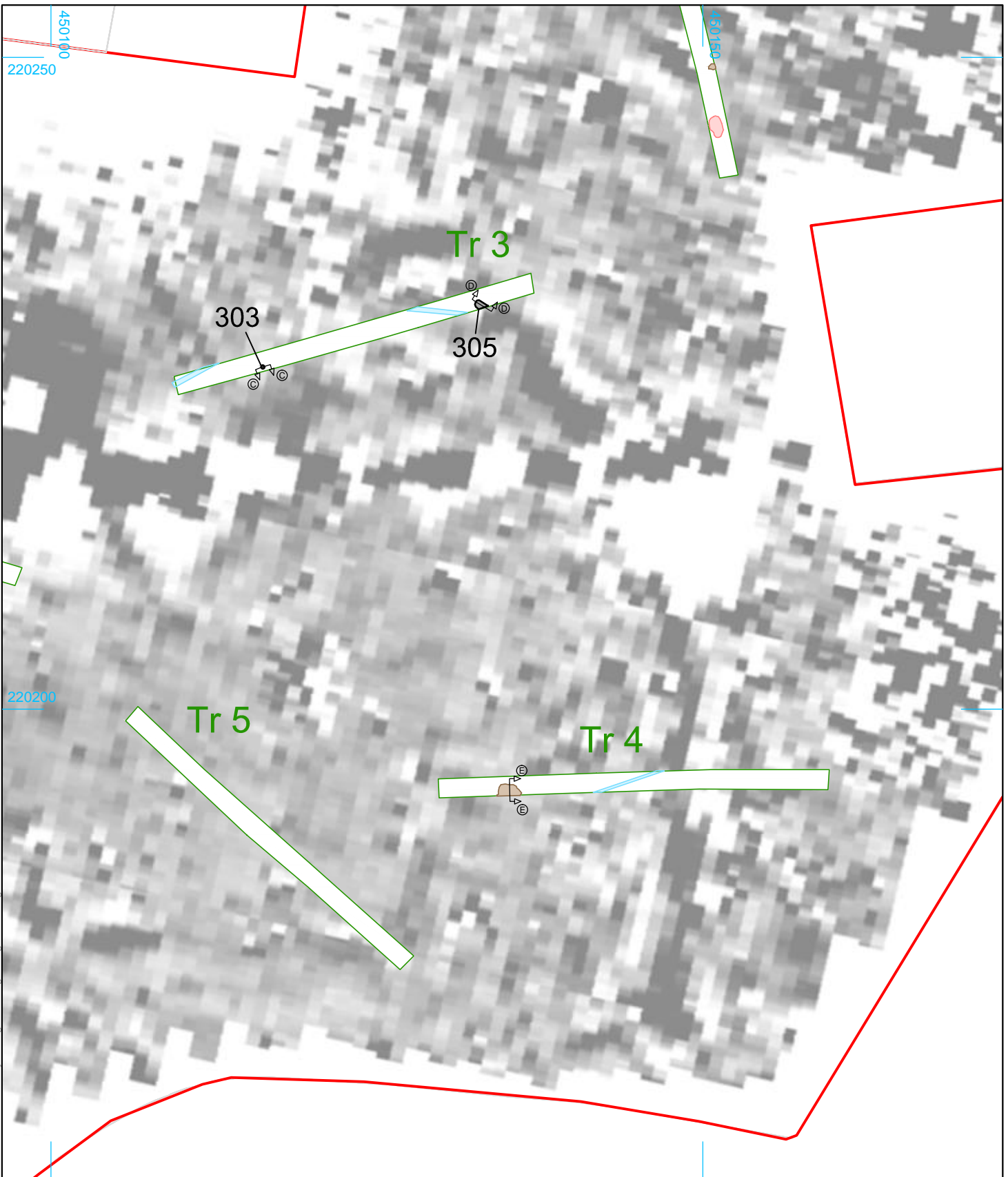
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PROJECT TITLE
Land at Jersey Cottages, Heyford Road Kirtlington, Oxfordshire

FIGURE TITLE
Detailed plan of trenches 1, 2 and 7



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CHECKED BY DB	DATE 16/02/2016	6
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- site boundary
- evaluation trench
- archaeological feature
- modern
- treethrow
- bioturbation



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PROJECT TITLE
**Land at Jersey Cottages, Heyford Road
 Kirtlington, Oxfordshire**

FIGURE TITLE
Detailed plan of trenches 3, 4 and 5



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Trench 1, looking south (1m scales)

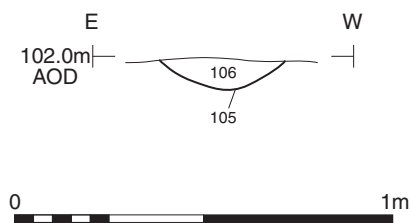


Pit 103, looking west (1m scale)



Pit 105, looking south (0.4m scale)

Section AA



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PROJECT TITLE

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FIGURE TITLE

Trench 1, section and photographs

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Trench 7, looking north (1m scales)



Pit 703, looking west (1m scale)



Pit 705, looking west (1m scale)



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FIGURE TITLE

Trench 7, photographs

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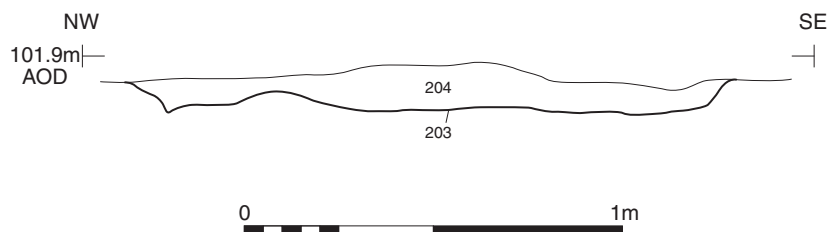


Trench 2, looking north-west (1m scales)



Pit 203, looking north-east (1m scale)

Section BB



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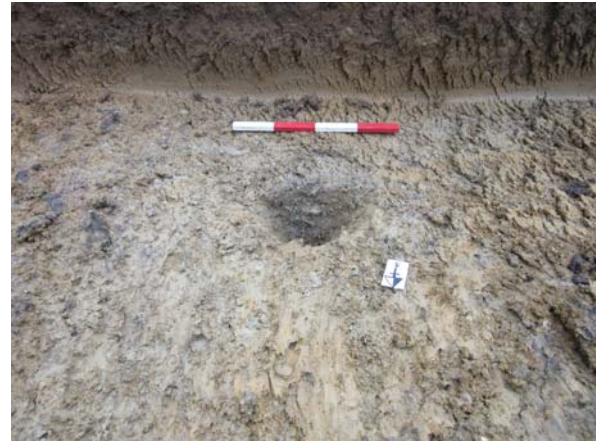
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Trench 2, section and photographs

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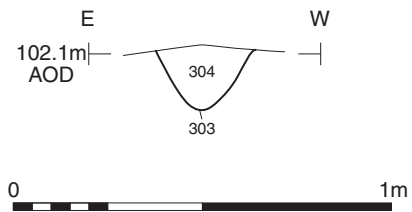


Trench 3, looking north-east (1m scales)

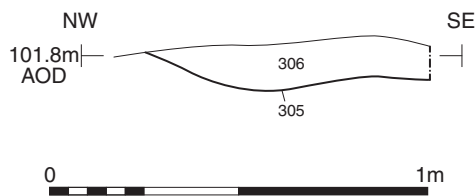


Pit 303, looking south-east (0.4m scale)

Section CC



Section DD



Pit 305, looking north-east (0.4m scale)



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FIGURE TITLE

Trench 3, sections and photographs

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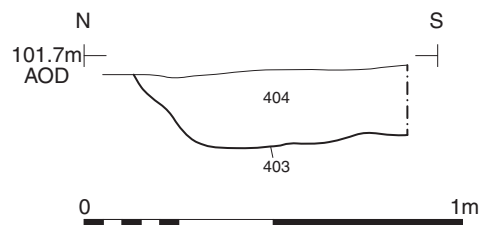


Trench 4, looking north-east (1m scales)



Pit 403, looking south-east (0.4m scale)

Section EE



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FIGURE TITLE

Trench 4, section and photographs

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