

**Land at Draycott Lane
Blockley
Gloucestershire**
Archaeological Evaluation



for
CALA Homes

CA Project: 6436
CA Report: 17667

November 2017



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SUMMARY

Project Name:	Land at Draycott Lane
Location:	Blockley, Gloucestershire
NGR:	417020 135320
Type:	Evaluation
Date:	6-9 November 2017
Location of Archive:	To be deposited with Corinium Museum, Cirencester
Site Code:	DLBL 17

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in November 2017 on land at Draycott Lane, Blockley, Gloucestershire. Four trenches were excavated.

A number of ditches and pits were identified on the site, predominantly dating to the Iron Age and Roman periods, potentially representing an area of agricultural and settlement activity.

In the central area of the site, a possibly butchered horse, highly burnt animal bone and a bronze pin were recovered from a ditch. While not a conclusive interpretation, this may represent ritual activity such as a pyre.

These remains were heavily truncated by ridge and furrow and modern activity.



1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In November 2017 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation for CALA Homes on land at Draycott Lane, Blockley, Gloucestershire (centred at NGR: 417020 135320; Fig. 1). The evaluation was undertaken to supplement a previous trial trench evaluation (CA 2015), which was undertaken to support a planning application made to Cotswold District Council (CDC) for residential development and associated infrastructure (CDC planning ref: 15/01020/OUT).
- 1.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2017) and approved by Charles Parry, Archaeologist, Gloucestershire County Council (GCC). The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014).

The site

- 1.3 The proposed development area is approximately 2.2ha in extent, and comprises two agricultural fields. The site is bounded to the west by the village of Blockley, to the south by Draycott Lane and fields to the east. The site lies at approximately 126m AOD. The southern half of the site is broadly level and the northern portion slopes steeply down to the Blockley Brook, which forms the northern boundary of the site.
- 1.4 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as Charmouth Mudstone Formation – Mudstone of the Jurassic era. No superficial deposits are recorded (BGS 2017). The natural substrate encountered consisted of clays and gravels.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The proposed development site has been subject to a Heritage Assessment (CA 2014), geophysical survey (PCG 2014) and trial trench evaluation (CA 2015). The following is a summary of those investigations.
- 2.2 No prehistoric or Roman finds were recorded from within the proposed development site prior to the archaeological investigations in 2015 (see below). A large scatter of

- several hundred flint tools is recorded c.700m south-west of the proposed development site near Park Farm. This assemblage includes Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age tools, suggestive of long-term occupation. No prehistoric finds have been recovered within the area of the modern settlement of Blockley (CA 2014).
- 2.3 The nearest major Roman centre was Dorn, located c.5km to the east of the proposed development site. The nearest known Roman roads are the Fosse Way, which passes c.5km to the east of the site, and the road linking Alcester and the Fosse Way which passes c.2km to the west (*ibid*).
- 2.4 No medieval finds are recorded from within the proposed development site, and it lies beyond the foci of medieval settlement. Blockley had a minster by AD 855, which was granted a privilege by King Burgred. Eight Saxon inhumation burials were unearthed at the Bell Inn (c.700m south-west of the proposed development site). Settlement at Blockley itself is recorded in the Domesday Survey of AD 1086. Remnants of large areas of ridge and furrow are known surrounding the site (*ibid*).
- 2.5 The Blockley Parish Tithe Map of 1843 depicts the proposed development site in agricultural use, with the present-day field boundary between the western and eastern fields in place, but no eastern boundary. None of the details recorded in the Tithe apportionments for these fields are suggestive of non-agricultural usage, and no buildings are depicted within the site (*ibid*).
- 2.6 The geophysical survey identified a number of anomalies of potential archaeological origin, including two parallel possible ditches in the central region of the proposed development site (PCG 2014).
- 2.7 During the trial trench evaluation in 2015 a number of ditches and pits that may represent areas of agricultural and settlement activity were identified, all dating to the 1st and 2nd centuries. A limestone rubble foundation of possible Roman date was identified towards the north-east extent of the site. This was not directly dated, but a rubble spread thought to have originated as part of the footing contained pottery spanning the Roman, medieval and Early-Modern periods. These remains were heavily truncated by ridge and furrow earthworks (CA 2015).

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 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 *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014). This information gathered will supplement existing archaeological evidence available for the site as previously submitted to CDC as part of the planning application, which sought 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 four trenches (Trenches 7-10), measuring between 20-32m in length, in the locations shown on the attached plan (Fig. 2). Trenches 8-10 were targeted on anomalies highlighted by the preceding geophysical survey, while Trench 7 was targeted on a geophysically sterile area. During the course of the current evaluation Trenches 8 and 9 were extended to further explore the identified archaeological features. The trenches were set out on OS National Grid (NGR) co-ordinates using Leica GPS and surveyed in accordance with CA Technical Manual 4 *Survey Manual*.
- 4.2 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 CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual*.
- 4.3 Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential in accordance with CA Technical Manual 2: *The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites*: two deposits were sampled and processed. All artefacts recovered were processed in accordance with Technical Manual 3 *Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation*.

- 4.4 The archive and artefacts from the evaluation are currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner the artefacts will be deposited with Corinium Museum, along with the site archive. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix D, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

5. RESULTS (FIGS 2-7)

- 5.1 This section provides an overview of the evaluation results; detailed summaries of the recorded contexts, finds and environmental samples (palaeoenvironmental evidence) are to be found in Appendices A, B and C respectively.
- 5.2 The natural geological substrate was broadly similar throughout Trenches 8-10 and consisted of silty clays and gravels that were revealed at an approximate depth of 0.43m below present ground level (bpgl). Within Trench 7 the natural consisted of gravel, at a depth of 1.14m bpgl, which was overlain by 0.47m of colluvial material. All pre-medieval archaeological features cut the natural substrate and were sealed by either colluvium (in Trench 7) or ploughsoil. In all trenches, the natural substrate or colluvium was sealed by approximately 0.29m of ploughsoil. Medieval/post-medieval furrows were noted to cut the ploughsoil in Trenches 8-10. Modern dump deposits, 701 and 1005, were identified overlying the ploughsoil in Trenches 7 and 10 respectively. These deposits were in turn sealed by c. 0.21m of modern topsoil.

Trench 7 (Figs 2, 3 & 4)

- 5.3 Three intercutting ditches were identified at the eastern end of Trench 7, each extending beyond the limits of excavation. Despite surface cleaning, it was not possible to discern the relationships between the features. Ditch 706 was observed running north-east/south-west and measured 0.92m in width and 0.28m in depth (Fig. 4, Section AA). It contained a silty clay fill 707, from which 12 sherds of late 1st to 2nd century Roman pottery and animal bone were recovered. Ditch 708 was recorded with a north/south alignment and measured 1.51m in width and 0.11m in depth (Fig. 3, Section AA). It contained silty clay fill 709, from which two sherds of mid-1st to 2nd century pottery, a piece of fired clay and a crucible fragment were recovered. Ditch 710 was recorded on a broadly north-east/south-west alignment and measured at least 8m in length, 0.38m in width and 0.16m in depth (Fig. 3, Section BB); it contained silty clay fill 711, from which animal bone was recovered.

Trench 8 (Figs 2, 3 & 5)

- 5.4 Ditch 805 and re-cut 809 (Figs. 3 and 5: Section CC) correspond to an anomaly highlighted in the preceding geophysical survey. Measuring at least 4m in length, 2.2m in width and over 0.75m in depth, ditch 805 contained three fills (806, 807 and 808). This ditch was then re-cut along its length by ditch 809, which measured 1.95m in width and 0.52m in depth. It contained clayey silt fill 810, from both prehistoric and Roman pottery and animal bone was recovered. It is probable that this ditch is the continuation of ditch 222 within Trench 2 of the previous evaluation, located approximately 10m to the south-west.
- 5.5 Ditch 813 was identified at the south-eastern end of Trench 8, and is a re-exposed section of ditch 320 within Trench 3 of the previous evaluation (see Fig. 3). It was therefore not re-excavated.

Trench 9 (Figs 2, 3, 5 & 6)

- 5.6 Ditch 905 was identified running on a north/south alignment (Fig. 3). Extending beyond the limits of excavation, this ditch measured 1.16m in width and 0.43m in depth. It contained silty clay fill 906, from which animal bone and 14 sherds of Roman pottery, fired clay and burnt stone were recovered. This was cut by north-west/south-east aligned ditch 903, which measured 0.72m in width and 0.33m in depth and contained silty clay fill 904, from which Roman and likely intrusive medieval pottery and animal bone were recovered. These ditches broadly correlate to an anomaly highlighted by the geophysical survey and may represent a continuation of features seen in Trench 3 of the earlier evaluation, located 15m to the north-west.
- 5.7 North/south to north-west/south-east aligned curvilinear ditch 907, located in the central area of the trench, measured 0.73m in width, 0.74m in depth and had very steep sides and a flat base (Figs. 3 and 5, Section DD). Each of its three fills (clay silt 908, silty clay 917 and clay silt 918) contained Roman pottery. The middle fill of the ditch, 918, contained animal bone (including two articulate cow legs) and RA 1, a probable ring head copper pin of Iron Age date. The upper (908) and middle (918) fills were also sampled, the analysis suggesting possible domestic waste in addition to animal bone which had been subjected to high temperature burning.

- 5.8 Sub-ovoid pit 913 measured 1.04m in length, 0.5m in width and 0.16m in depth (Figs. 3 and 6: Section EE). It contained silty clay fill 914 from which eight sherds of Roman pottery were recovered.
- 5.9 Ditch 909 (Figs. 3 and 6: Section EE) was aligned north-west/south-east and measured at least 1.7m in length, 0.77m in width and 0.27m in depth. It contained a clay silt fill 910 from which two flint flakes, animal bone and sherds of prehistoric and Roman pottery were recovered. This ditch was truncated to the south and east by furrow 911, which had fully removed the ditch at its south-eastern extent.
- 5.10 North-east/south-west aligned ditch 915, measuring at least 2.3m in length and 1m in width, was identified at the western end of Trench 9 and represents the continuation of ditch 813 seen in Trench 8, and as such was not excavated.

Trench 10 (Figs 2 & 6)

- 5.11 Ditch 1009 (Fig. 6, Section GG) was observed running on an east/west alignment. It measured at least 1m in length and 1.27m in width and 0.59m in depth and contained two fills (silty clay 1010 and clay silt 1011); 11 sherds of Roman pottery and animal bone were recovered from the latter. North/south aligned furrow 1002 was identified cutting the top of ditch 1009 to the east. It contained silty clay fill 1003, from which nine sherds of presumably residual Roman pottery were recovered.

6. THE FINDS

- 6.1 Artefactual material was hand-recovered from 12 deposits (a furrow fill, a pit fill and ditch fills). The recovered material dates to the prehistoric, Roman and medieval periods. Quantities of the artefact types are given in Appendix B. The pottery has been recorded according to sherd count/weight per fabric. Recording also included form/rim morphology and a note of any evidence for use in the form of carbonised/other residues. Pottery fabric codes, in parenthesis in the text, are equated to the Gloucester type series (Vince unpublished). Where applicable, National Roman Fabric Reference Collection codes are also given in Appendix B (Tomber and Dore 1998).

Pottery: Late prehistoric

- 6.2 An unfeatured bodysherd (11g) in a fine, quartz-tempered fabric (QZ) was recorded from fill 810 of ditch 809. In the absence of form or decoration, this is considered most likely to be of Iron Age date, based on fabric and firing characteristics.

Late Iron Age/Early Roman transition

- 6.3 A total of 25 sherds (120g) was retrieved from this date range. The majority of this pottery was in moderate condition in terms of edge abrasion and surface preservation, and carbonised (burnt food) residue was noted on two sherds. However, the pottery has been well broken-up, with a low average sherd weight of 5g. Represented fabrics are Malvernian limestone-tempered ware (TF34), dating to the Late Iron Age to 1st century AD, and grog-tempered wares (TF2), dating to the 1st century AD. A rimsherd from a lid-seated jar in fabric TF2, from fill 908 of ditch 907, can be more closely dated to the mid to late 1st century.

Roman

- 6.4 Roman pottery totals 118 sherds (1181g). A moderate degree of fragmentation is suggested by the relatively low sherd weight of 10g. Otherwise, condition has mostly been recorded as moderate and 22% is in good condition. Eight sherds retain carbonised residues. Coarsewares, probably of relatively local manufacture, are well represented – greywares (TF 26), black-firing, sand-tempered fabric (TF 201), oxidised fabrics and whiteware (TF20). The latter, includes a mis-fired (reduced) ring-necked flagon – a type common to the late 1st to mid 2nd centuries – from ditch 905 (fill 906), and from ditch 903 (fill 904), a jug or flagon, with a bifid rim. Also common are Severn Valley ware (TF11b), of broad Romano, and a charcoal-tempered variant (TF17), which typically dates to the mid 1st to 2nd centuries. One carinated bowl was present in each of these fabrics (from fill 918 of ditch 907 and fill 810 of ditch 809): this form dates to the mid 1st to 2nd centuries (Webster 1976, 33–4). Similar dating can be applied to Savernake Grog-tempered ware (TF6), which was manufactured at Savernake Forest and other sites in north Wiltshire (Tomber and Dore 1998, 191). The only continental import is one sherd (<1g) of south Gaulish samian (TF8a). Samian from this manufacturing zone was imported to Britain from the mid 1st to early 2nd centuries (Webster 1996, 2).

Medieval

- 6.5 An unfeatured bodysherd of Kingston-type ware (2g), in a moderately abraded condition, was retrieved from fill 904 of ditch 903. This is a type of Surrey/Hampshire

border ware which dates to the 13th to 14th centuries (Pearce and Vince 1988, 82, 88) and is intrusive in this deposit.

Lithics

- 6.6 Two broken, redeposited flint flakes were recorded from fill 910 of ditch 909.

Other finds

- 6.7 Fill 908 of ditch 907 produced a copper alloy object Ra. 1. This object is fragmentary and distorted but is probably a ring-headed pin of 'swan neck' type, a form of dress pin in use through the Iron Age (Cunliffe 2005, 458).

7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

Animal Bone

- 7.1 Animal bone amounting to 273 fragments (4768g) was recovered via a combination of hand excavation and bulk soil sampling from the fills of seven ditch features dating to the Roman period, and one undated deposit. The bone was highly fragmented but very well preserved, making possible the identification of cattle (*Bos taurus*), sheep/goat (*Ovis aries/Capra hircus*), pig (*Sus scrofa sp.*) and horse (*Equus caballus*). Each of the species identified were represented mainly by meat-poor skeletal elements such as teeth, skull or bones of the lower legs and feet.
- 7.2 The recovery of cattle and sheep/goat remains greatly outweighs that of pig, as is to be expected for this period (Cool 2006). As stated, each is represented by meat-poor bones with only the occasional meat-rich element, such as the pelvis or scapula recovered. No cut or chops marks were present but in keeping with Roman butchery practices, much of the larger fragments in the assemblage showed impact damage consistent with a cleaver-like tool, employed in the preparation of a carcass after slaughter. For example, two articulated cattle legs were recovered from fill 918 of ditch 907. Each of the legs consisted of the bones from the metapodial to the distal phalange, a part of the skeleton that has very little value in terms of meat yield. The impact damage present suggests a heavy blow, separating the leg from the carcass before being discarded. The remaining fragments within deposit 918 and the wider assemblage as a whole are also from bones with a low meat yield and display similar impact damage, suggesting an origin in primary butchery waste.

- 7.3 The horse bone identified comes mainly from fill 810 of ditch 809 where two lower legs, from the distal tibia to the second phalange were recovered. No cut or chop marks were present but the tibia fragments do display potential impact damage. This bears a striking similarity to the cattle remains from ditch 907 but evidence of butchery and the consumption of horse is rare in the archaeological record for Roman Britain and as yet has only been shown as a regular occurrence at a temple site (Cool 2006). Rather than butchery waste, there is the possibility of the carcass of a working animal being separated up for easier disposal.
- 7.4 Bulk soil samples were taken from fills 908 and 918 within ditch 907. The bone recovered was in the main not identifiable beyond cattle or sheep size mammal, but showed evidence of prolonged burning at temperatures higher than those associated with cooking.

Plant Macrofossils

- 7.5 Two environmental samples (40 litres of soil) were processed from fills within ditch 907 to evaluate the preservation and range of palaeoenvironmental remains on the site and with the intention of recovering environmental evidence of industrial or domestic activity on the site. The samples were processed by standard flotation procedures (CA Technical Manual No. 2).
- 7.6 Preliminary identifications of plant macrofossils are noted in Table 1, following nomenclature of Stace (1997) for wild plants, and traditional nomenclature, as provided by Zohary et al (2012) for cereals. The flots were of moderate size with high numbers of rooty material and modern seeds. The charred material comprised varying levels of preservation.

Trench 9

- 7.7 Moderate charred plant assemblage were recovered from fills 908 (sample 1) and 918 (sample 2) within Roman ditch 907. The cereal remains included hulled wheat, emmer or spelt (*Triticum dicoccum/spelta*), grain and glume base fragments and barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) grain fragments. A few of the glume bases were identifiable as those of spelt wheat (*Triticum spelta*). The weed seeds included seeds of oats (*Avena* sp.), brome grass (*Bromus* sp.), vetch/wild pea (*Vicia/Lathyrus* sp.), docks (*Rumex* sp.) and bedstraw (*Galium* sp.). Other remains included hazelnut (*Corylus avellana*) shell fragments, sloe (*Prunus spinosa*) stone fragment

and hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) stone fragments. There was a moderate quantity of charcoal fragments noted, including those of round wood.

- 7.8 These assemblages may be reflective of dumped domestic settlement waste and of crop processing activity in the vicinity. Spelt wheat is the predominant wheat in Southern Britain within the Roman period (Greig 1991) so the assemblages are compatible with the date of the feature. The weed seeds are generally species typical of grassland, field margins and arable environments. There is also an indication of the possible exploitation of the hedgerow and woodland edge environments.

8. DISCUSSION

- 8.1 The current archaeological evaluation reinforced the findings of the previous phase of trial trenching (CA 2015) and geophysical survey (PCG 2014). It also identified further archaeological features in areas of site not previously evaluated. The ridge and furrow earthworks on site were shown to have impacted upon the survival of archaeological remains, although features were recorded as having survived below the level of associated truncation and also modern dump deposits.
- 8.2 Coupled with the results of the previous phase of trenching, the current evaluation work has shown that Roman activity extends from the northern limit of site, adjacent to Blockley Brook, to the eastern and southern edges of site, adjacent to Draycott Lane.
- 8.3 The features identified within the evaluation trenches possibly represent an area of domestic and agricultural activity, potentially related to a settlement or farmstead. However, the fills of curvilinear ditch 907 contained artefactual evidence including horse bone (which may have been butchered) and other animal bone which had been subjected to high temperatures, which is suggestive of more ritual activity. There is a potential parallel to Roman military cremation practice (Durham University 2016). The abundance of artefactual material recovered from all trenches further suggests the proximity of the features within them to settlement activity in the area; the quality and quantity of the material also suggests limited transit.
- 8.4 The possible wall footing, 310, identified in Trench 3 during the previous phase of evaluation is now unlikely to represent structural remains, with the continuation of

this feature possibly represented by ditches 903/905 in Trench 9. These features correspond to a geophysical anomaly and the stonework identified previously probably represents a spread of rubble within the upper fills of these ditches.

9. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Alex Thomson, assisted by Andy Hurst, Jess Stevens and Katy Burns. The report was written by Alex Thomson. The finds and biological evidence reports were written by Jacky Sommerville and Andrew Clarke respectively. The illustrations were prepared by Rosanna Price. The archive has been compiled by Alex Thomson, and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Ian Barnes.



10. REFERENCES

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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
7	700	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish-brown silty-clay	>17	>1.8	0.12	Mod.
7	701	Deposit		Modern dump	Greyish-brown silty-clay with modern brick, plastic, concrete, metal and wood	>17	>1.8	>1.2	Mod.
7	702	Layer		Buried topsoil	Dark greyish-brown silty-clay	>20	>1.8	0.28	
7	703	Layer		Ploughsoil	Brown-grey silty-clay	>20	>1.8	0.48	
7	704	Layer		Colluvium	Greyish-brown silty-clay and gravel	>8	>1.8	0.47	Post-Roman
7	705	Layer		Natural substrate	Light brownish-grey gravel in a silty-clay matrix	>8	>1.8		
7	706	Cut		Ditch	NE/SW aligned linear ditch with moderate sides and concave base	>3.2	0.92	0.28	RB
7	707	Fill	706	Fill of ditch	Greyish-brown silty-clay	>3.2	0.92	0.28	
7	708	Cut		Ditch	NW/SE aligned linear ditch with gently sides and concave base	>1.9	1.51	0.11	RB
7	709	Fill	708	Fill of ditch	Greyish-brown silty-clay	>1.9	1.51	0.11	
7	710	Cut		Ditch	NE/SW aligned linear ditch with moderate sides and concave base	>8	0.38	0.16	
7	711	Fill	710	Fill of ditch	Greyish-brown silty-clay	>8	0.38	0.16	
8	800	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish-brown silty-clay	>28	>1.8	0.25	Mod.
8	801	Layer		Ploughsoil	Brownish-grey silty-clay	>28	>1.8	0.17	
8	802	Layer		Natural substrate	Light yellow-brown silty-clay and gravel	>28	>1.8		
8	803	Cut		Furrow	N/S aligned shallow sided linear furrow	>10	3.5		Med/P-Med
8	804	Fill	803	Fill of furrow	Greyish-brown silty-clay	>10	3.5		
8	805	Cut		Ditch	NE/SW aligned linear ditch with steep sides and concave base	>4	2.2	>0.75	
8	806	Fill	805	Fill of ditch	Yellow-grey clay-silt	>1	0.71	0.45	
8	807	Fill	805	Fill of ditch	Greyish-brown clay-silt	>1	1.12	>0.5	
8	808	Fill	805	Fill of ditch	Dark greyish-brown clay-silt	>1	1.3	0.48	
8	809	Cut		Ditch	NE/SW aligned linear ditch with moderate sides and concave base	>4	1.95	0.52	RB
8	810	Fill	809	Fill of ditch	Dark greyish-brown clay-silt	>4	1.95	0.52	
8	811	Cut		Modern cut	E/W aligned linear cut with vertical sides	>2	0.6		Mod.
8	812	Fill	811	Fill of modern cut	Blue-grey clay	>2	0.6		
8	813	Cut		Ditch	Unexcavated NE/SW linear ditch	>2	1		
8	814	Fill	813	Fill of ditch	Greyish-brown clay-silt	>2	1		
9	900	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish-brown silty-clay	>32	>1.8	0.12	
9	901	Layer		Ploughsoil	Brownish-grey silty-clay	>32	>1.8	0.4	
9	902	Layer		Natural substrate	Light yellow-brown silty-clay and gravel	>32	>1.8		
9	903	Cut		Ditch	NW/SE aligned linear ditch with steep sides and concave base	>2	0.72	0.33	RB
9	904	Fill	903	Fill of ditch	Dark brownish-grey silty-clay	>2	0.72	0.33	
9	905	Cut		Ditch	N/S aligned linear ditch with steep sides and concave base	>2	1.16	0.43	RB
9	906	Fill	905	Fill of ditch	Mid-light brownish-grey silty-clay	>2	1.16	0.43	
9	907	Cut		Ditch	N/S to NW/SE aligned curvilinear ditch with very steep sides and flat base	>1.8	0.73	0.74	RB
9	908	Fill	907	Fill of ditch	Dark brownish-grey clay-silt	>1.8	0.73	0.24	
9	909	Cut		Ditch	NW/SE aligned linear ditch with gradually sloping sides and concave base	>1.7	0.77	0.27	RB

9	910	Fill	909	Fill of ditch	Greyish-brown clay-silt	>1.7	0.77	0.27	
9	911	Cut		Furrow	N/S aligned shallow sided linear furrow	>1.8	3	0.15	Med/P-Med
9	912	Fill	911	Fill of furrow	Greyish-brown silty-clay	>1.8	3	0.15	
9	913	Cut		Pit	Sub-ovoid pit with gradual sides and concave base	1.04	0.5	0.16	RB
9	914	Fill	913	Fill of pit	Brownish-grey silty-clay	1.04	0.5	0.16	
9	915	Cut		Ditch	Unexcavated NE/SW linear ditch	>2.3	1		
9	916	Fill	915	Fill of ditch	Greyish-brown clay-silt	>2.3	1		
9	917	Fill	907	Fill of ditch	Yellow-grey silty-clay	>1	0.37	0.24	RB
9	918	Fill	907	Fill of ditch	Dark greyish-brown clay-silt	>1	0.52	0.36	RB
10	1000	Layer		Topsoil/made-ground	Dark greyish-brown silty-clay, hardcore and gravel	>20	>1.8	0.35	Mod.
10	1001	Layer		Natural substrate	Light yellow-brown and blue-grey silty-clay	>20	>1.8		
10	1002	Cut		Furrow	N/S aligned linear furrow	>20	>1.2		Med/P-Med
10	1003	Fill	1002	Fill of furrow	Greyish-brown silty-clay	>20	>1.2		
10	1004	Cut		Modern cut	Amorphous modern truncation	>8	>0.3	>0.3	Mod.
10	1005	Fill	1004	Fill of modern cut	Mixed dark grey silty-clay, rubble and CBM	>8	>0.3	>0.3	
10	1006	Cut		Modern cut	E/W aligned linear cut	>2	1	>0.3	Mod.
10	1007	Fill	1006	Fill of modern cut	Blue-grey clay	>2	1	>0.3	
10	1008	Layer		Ploughsoil	Brownish-grey silty-clay	>20	>1.8	0.1	
10	1009	Cut		Ditch	E/W aligned linear ditch with steep sides and concave base	>1	1.27	0.59	RB
10	1010	Fill	1009	Fill of ditch	Blue-grey silty-clay	>1	0.73	0.27	
10	1011	Fill	1009	Fill of ditch	Orange-brown clay-silt	>1	1.27	0.35	

APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Table 1: Finds concordance

Context	Category	Description	Fabric Code/ NRFRC*	Count	Weight (g)	Spot-date
707	Roman pottery	Black-firing, sand-tempered fabric	TF201	11	39	LC1-C2
	Roman pottery Fired clay	Oxidised fabric	TF20	1 1	<1 33	
709	Roman pottery	South Gaulish samian	TF8a/ LGF SA	1	<1	MC1-EC2+
	Roman pottery Fired clay	Greyware	TF26	1 1	<1 10	
	Crucible fragment			1	3	
810	Late prehistoric pottery	Quartz-tempered fabric	QZ	1	11	MC1-C2
	Late prehistoric/Early Roman pottery	Malvernian limestone-tempered ware	TF34	6	23	
	Late prehistoric/Early Roman pottery	Grog-tempered fabric	TF2	6	50	
	Roman pottery	Savernake Grog-tempered ware	TF6/ SAV GT	3	48	
	Roman pottery		TF11b/ SVW OX2	10	77	
	Roman pottery	Severn Valley ware (charcoal-tempered variant)	TF17	5	50	
	Roman pottery	Black-firing, sand-tempered fabric	TF201	1	1	
	Roman pottery	Greyware	TF26	2	16	
	Roman pottery	Oxidised fabric	TF20	1	3	
Fired clay Industrial waste			2 1	12 3		
904	Late prehistoric/Early roman pottery	Grog-tempered fabric	TF2	1	3	RB; C13-C14
	Roman pottery	Savernake Grog-tempered ware	TF6/ SAV GT	3	35	
	Roman pottery		TF11b/ SVW OX2	3	28	
	Roman pottery	Severn Valley ware (charcoal-tempered variant)	TF17	1	14	
	Roman pottery	Greyware	TF26	12	107	
	Roman pottery	Oxidised fabric	TF20	1	5	
	Roman pottery	White ware	TF20	2	19	
	Medieval pottery Fired clay Industrial waste	Kingston-type ware	TF59	1 10 1	2 42 4	
906	Roman pottery	Savernake Grog-tempered ware	TF6/ SAV GT	1	3	C2+
	Roman pottery	Severn Valley ware	TF11b/ SVW OX2	4	23	
	Roman pottery	Severn Valley ware (charcoal-tempered variant)	TF17	7	53	
	Roman pottery	Greyware	TF26	2	33	
	Fired clay Burnt stone			1 1	3 7	
908	Late prehistoric/Early roman pottery	Malvernian limestone-tempered ware	TF34	6	21	MC1-C2
	Late prehistoric/Early roman pottery	Grog-tempered fabric	TF2	2	6	
	Roman pottery	Savernake Grog-tempered ware	TF6/ SAV GT	1	21	
	Roman pottery	Greyware	TF26	1	10	
	Copper alloy	Pin, Ra. 1		1	2	

				16	91	
	Fired clay Industrial waste			1	7	
910	Late prehistoric/Early roman pottery	Grog-tempered fabric	TF2	2	6	MC1-C2
	Roman pottery	Savernake Grog- tempered ware	TF6/ SAV GT	5	54	
	Worked flint	Flake		2	3	
914	Roman pottery	Savernake Grog- tempered ware	TF6/ SAV GT	5	123	RB
	Roman pottery	Greyware	TF26	3	52	
917	Roman pottery	Severn Valley ware (charcoal-tempered variant)	TF17	4	98	MC1-C2
918	Late prehistoric/Early roman pottery	Malvernian limestone- tempered ware	TF34	1	7	MC1-C2
	Late prehistoric/Early roman pottery	Grog-tempered fabric	TF2	1	4	
	Roman pottery	Savernake Grog- tempered ware	TF6/ SAV GT	4	83	
	Roman pottery	Severn Valley ware	TF11b/ SVW OX2	2	45	
	Roman pottery	Greyware	TF20	1	2	
1003	Roman pottery	Savernake Grog- tempered ware	TF6/ SAV GT	1	14	MC1-C2+
	Roman pottery	Severn Valley ware	TF11b/ SVW OX2	3	24	
	Roman pottery	Severn Valley ware (charcoal-tempered variant)	TF17	4	49	
	Roman pottery	Oxidised fabric	TF20	1	10	
1011	Roman pottery	Black-firing, sand- tempered fabric	TF201	10	29	LC1-C2
	Roman pottery	Greyware	TF26	1	13	

* National Roman Fabric Reference Collection codes in bold

APPENDIX C: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

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

Cut	Fill	BOS	O/C	SUS	EQ	LM	MM	Ind	BB SS	Total	Weight (g)
706	707							1		1	2
710	711	2	1							3	288
809	810	1	3	1	23	1				29	1898
905	906					1	5			6	22
907	908	2	4			6	26		44	82	206
909	910				3	3				6	206
907	918	29	8	1		12	14	6	74	144	2141
1009	1011		2							2	5
Total		34	18	2	26	23	46	6	118	273	
Weight		2129	174	26	1945	358	113	10	13	4768	

BOS = Cattle; O/C = sheep/goat; SUS = pig; EQ = horse; LM= cattle sized mammal; Ind = indeterminate; BB SS = burnt bone from bulk soil samples

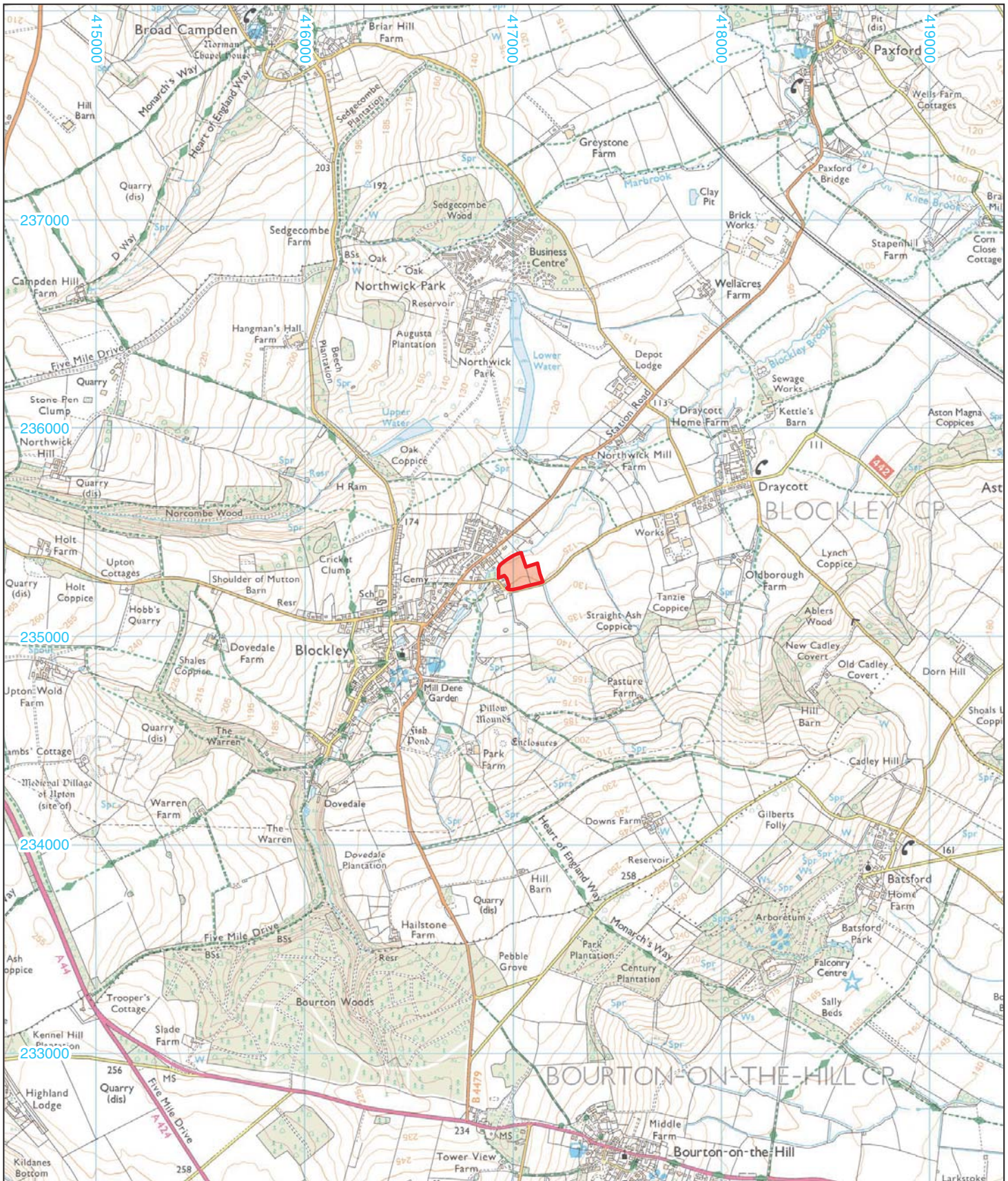
Table 2 Assessment table of the palaeoenvironmental remains

Feature	Context	Sample	Processed vol (L)	Unprocessed vol (L)	Flot size (ml)	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Notes for Table	Charcoal > 4/2mm	Other
Trench 9 Romano-British Ditch													
907	908	1	20	20	70	70	**	-	Barley + hulled wheat grain frags	***	<i>Corylus avellana</i> shell frags, <i>Prunus spinosa</i> stone frag, <i>Galium</i> , <i>Rumex</i> , <i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i>	**/**	-
907	918	2	20	20	40	65	***	*	Barley + hulled wheat grain frags, glume base frags inc. spelt	***	<i>Corylus avellana</i> shell frags, <i>Crataegus</i> stone frags, <i>Avena</i> , <i>Bromus</i> , <i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i>	**/**	-

Key: * = 1–4 items; ** = 5–19 items; *** = 20–49 items; **** = 50–99 items; ***** = >100 items,

APPENDIX D: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Land at Draycott Lane, Blockley, Gloucestershire	
Short description	<p>An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in November 2017 on land at Draycott Lane, Blockley, Gloucestershire. Four trenches were excavated.</p> <p>A number of ditches and pits were identified on the site, predominantly dating to the Iron Age and Roman periods and potentially representing an area of agricultural and settlement activity.</p> <p>These remains were heavily truncated by post-Roman ridge and furrow and modern activity.</p>	
Project dates	6-9 November 2017	
Project type	Field evaluation	
Previous work	Desk-based assessment (CA 2014) Geophysical survey (PCG 2014) Field evaluation (CA 2015)	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Draycott Lane, Blockley, Gloucestershire	
Study area (M ² /ha)	2.2ha	
Site co-ordinates	417020 135320	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	GCC	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Ian Barnes	
Project Supervisor	Alex Thomson	
MONUMENT TYPE	None	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	None	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive	Content
Physical	Corinium Museum	Pottery, animal bone, flint, CBM, metal
Paper	Corinium Museum	Field recording sheets, permatrace drawings
Digital	Corinium Museum	Database, digital photos
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
<p>CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2017 <i>Land at Draycott Lane, Blockley, Gloucestershire: Archaeological Evaluation</i>. CA typescript report 17667</p>		



N

0 1km

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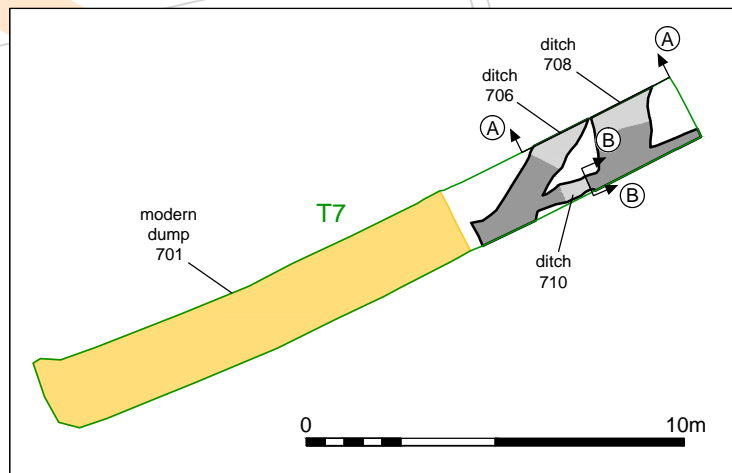
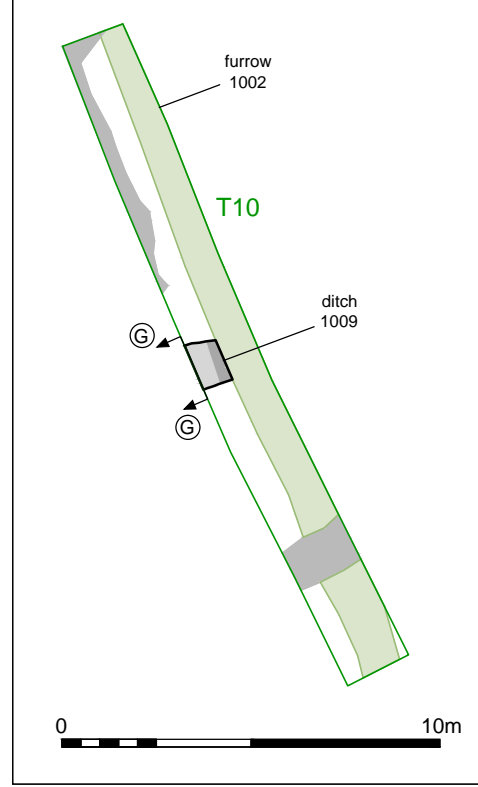
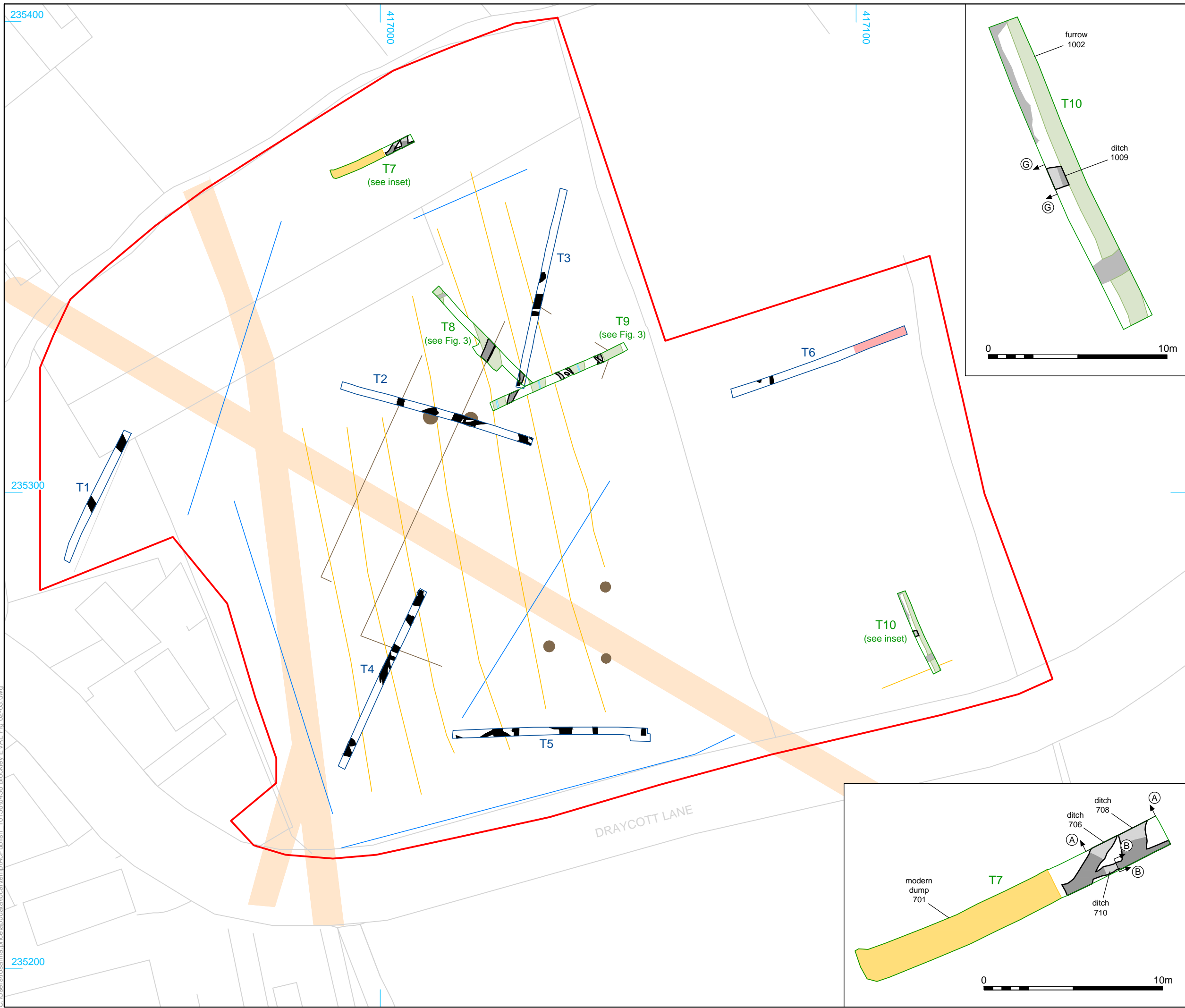
PROJECT TITLE

Land at Draycott Lane, Blockley, Gloucestershire

FIGURE TITLE

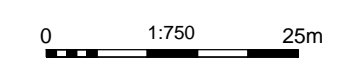
Site location plan

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CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	15.11.17		
APPROVED BY	IB	SCALE@A4	1:25,000		



- site boundary
- evaluation trench
- previous evaluation trench (CA 2015)
- cut feature
- previous cut feature (CA 2015)
- excavated intervention
- furrow
- modern
- modern dump
- previous geological feature (CA 2015)
- service (3m buffer)
- section location

- Geophysics Key**
(PCG 2014)
- ridge and furrow
 - service
 - potential archaeology



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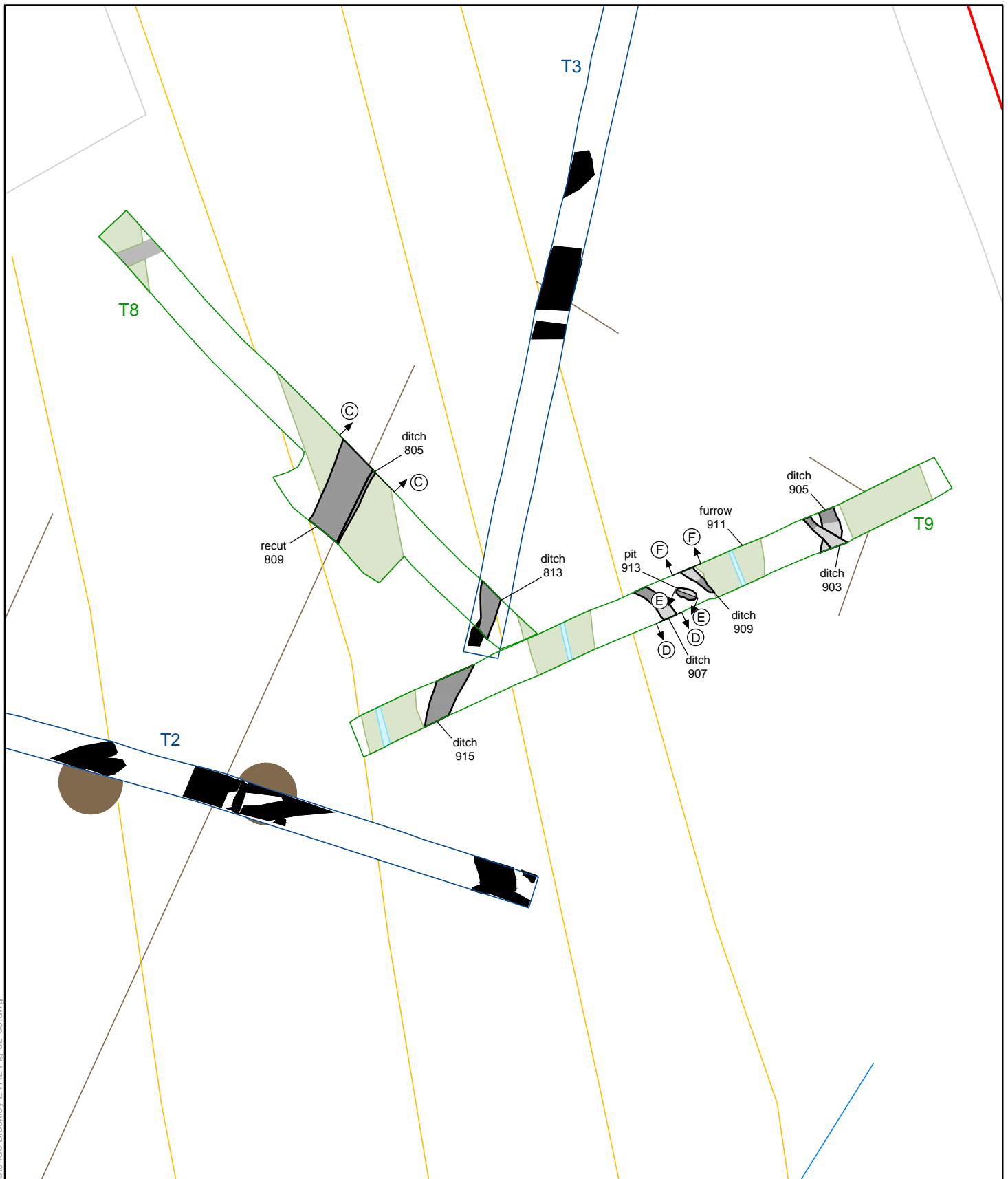
PROJECT TITLE
Land at Draycott Lane, Blockley, Gloucestershire

FIGURE TITLE
Trench location plan showing archaeological features, geophysical survey data and previous archaeological investigations

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CHECKED BY DJB	DATE 15.11.17	2
APPROVED BY IB	SCALE@A3 1:750 & 1:200 (inset)	

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C:\Users\rosanna.price\appdata\local\temp\AcP\publish_101569\6436 Blockley EVAL Fig.02.03.dwg



- site boundary
- evaluation trench
- previous evaluation trench (CA 2015)
- cut feature
- previous cut feature (CA 2015)
- excavated intervention
- furrow
- modern

Geophysics Key
(PCG 2014)

- ridge and furrow
- service
- potential archaeology



0 1:250 10m

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PROJECT TITLE

Land at Draycott Lane, Blockley, Gloucestershire

FIGURE TITLE

Plan of trenches 8 and 9, showing archaeological features and previous archaeological investigations

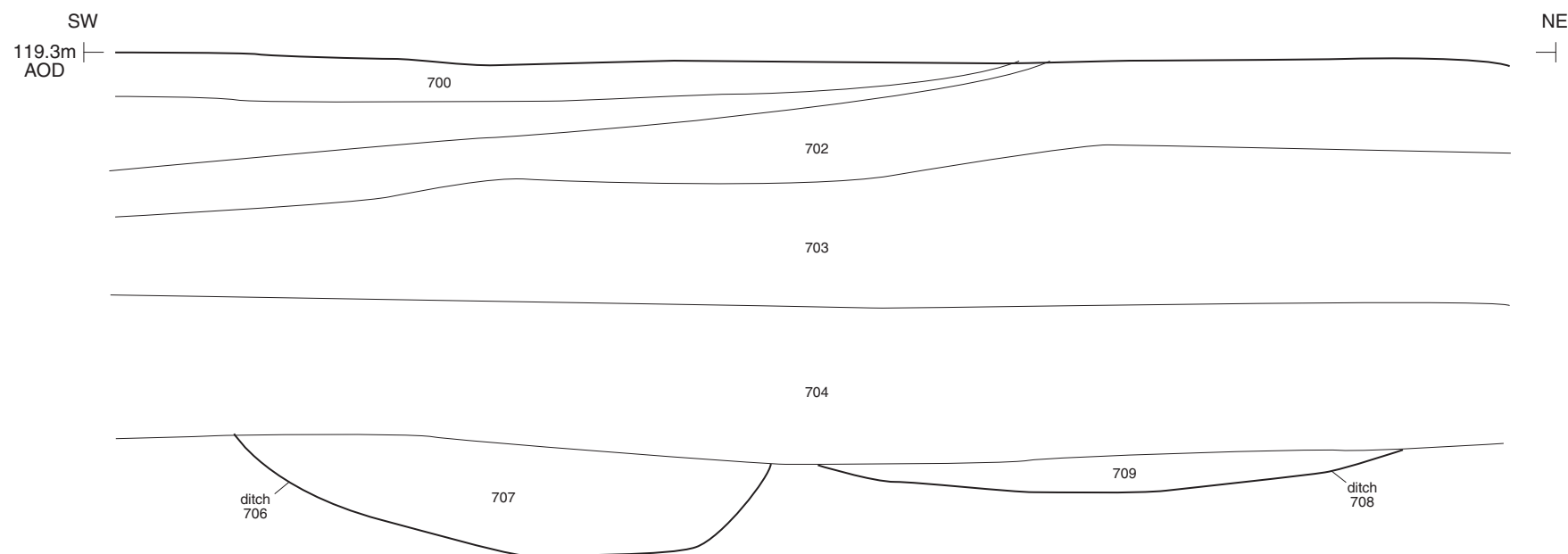
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PROJECT NO. 6436
 DATE 15.11.17
 SCALE@A4 1:250

FIGURE NO.

3

Section AA



Section BB



Baulk section of Trench 7, showing ditches 706 and 708, and colluvium 704, looking north-west (scale 2m)



Ditch 710, looking north-east, looking north-east (scale 0.2m)



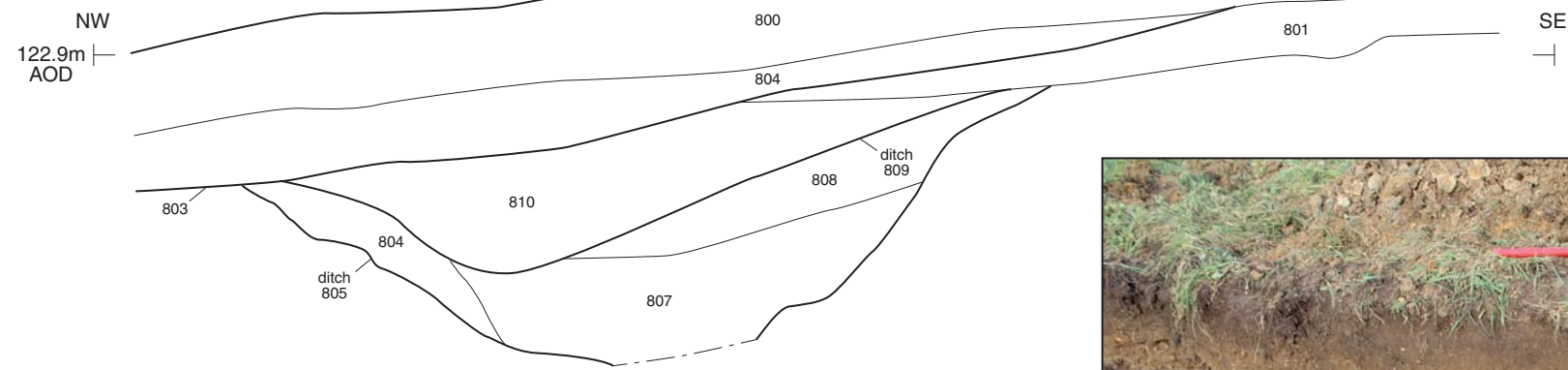

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PROJECT TITLE
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FIGURE TITLE
Trench 7: sections and photographs

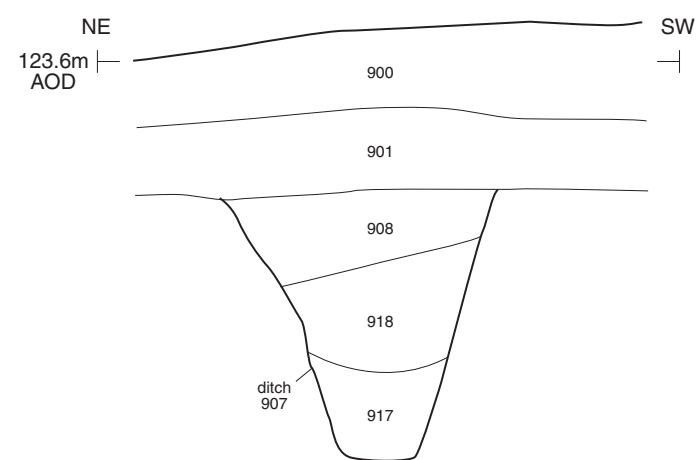
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CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	13.11.17	4
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Section CC



Ditches 805 and 809, looking north-east (scale 1m)

Section DD



Ditch 907, looking south-east (scale 1m)



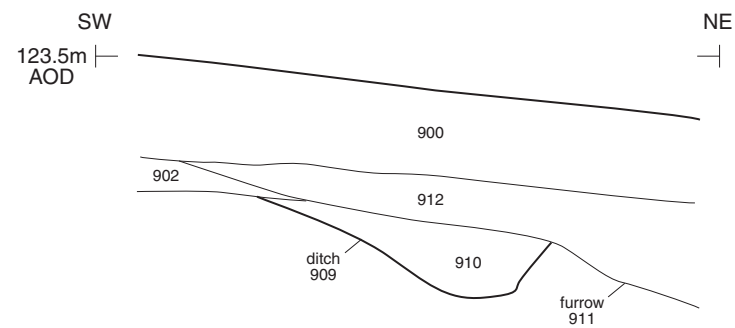

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PROJECT TITLE
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FIGURE TITLE
**Trenches 8 & 9: sections and
 photographs**

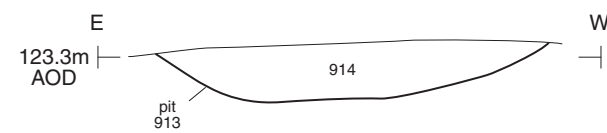
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CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	13.11.17	5
APPROVED BY	IB	SCALE@A3	1:20	

Section EE



Ditch 909 and furrow 911, looking north-west (scale 1m)

Section FF



Pit 913. looking south-west (scale 0.6m)



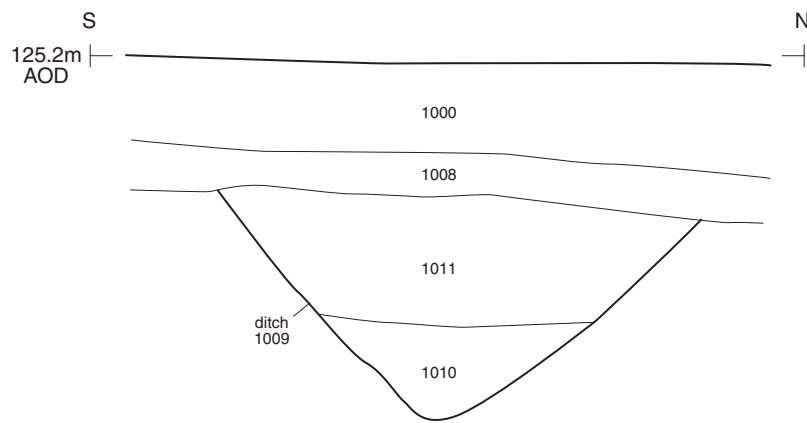

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FIGURE TITLE
Trench 9: sections and photographs

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APPROVED BY	IB	SCALE	@A3 1:20	

Section GG



Pit 913. looking south-west (scale 0.6m)



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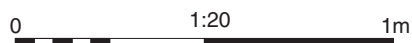
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Land at Draycott Lane, Blockley,
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FIGURE TITLE

Trench 10: photograph and section



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 CHECKED BY **DJB** DATE **13.11.17**
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FIGURE NO.

7

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