

Priory Farm Solar Farm Wymondley Hertfordshire

Archaeological Mitigation - Written Scheme of Investigation



for:
AGR Group

CA Project: MK0862
CA Site Code: TBC
Planning Ref.: 21/03380/FP
Accession Number: TBC

April 2025



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CONTENTS

1.	INTRODUCTION.....	2
2.	ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND.....	6
3.	AIMS AND OBJECTIVES.....	9
4.	METHODOLOGY.....	11
5.	POST-EXCAVATION, REPORTING AND ARCHIVING	17
6.	PROGRAMME	21
7.	PROJECT STAFF	21
8.	HEALTH, SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENT.....	22
9.	INSURANCES.....	22
10.	MONITORING.....	22
11.	QUALITY ASSURANCE.....	23
12.	PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT, PARTICIPATION AND BENEFIT.....	23
13.	STAFF TRAINING AND CPD	23
14.	REFERENCES.....	24
	APPENDIX A: COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY SPECIALISTS	27

FIGURES

FIGURE 1: SITE LOCATION PLAN (1:25,000)

FIGURE 2: PREVIOUSLY PROPOSED PRESERVATION IN-SITU AREAS

FIGURE 3: EXCAVATION AREA 2

FIGURE 4: EXCAVATION AREA 3

FIGURE 5: PRIORY FARM SOLAR ARRAY – GENERAL ARRANGEMENT

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. This document is a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) by Cotswold Archaeology (CA) for an archaeological excavation to be carried out on land at Priory Farm, Wymondley, Hertfordshire (centred at NGR: 522461 228489, see Fig. 1; hereafter ‘the Site’). The fieldwork will be undertaken for AGR Group in connection with proposals for the construction of a solar array (see 1.2 below) and follows on from a Heritage Impact Assessment (AOC 2021), geophysical survey (AOC 2022a), and targeted trial trench evaluation (CA 2025) that identified three areas containing concentrated archaeological remains (see Section 2, below).

1.2. The application Site is located in the administrative area of North Hertfordshire Council and planning permission has been granted by the Secretary of State for Levelling Up Housing and Communities, following a preceding public local inquiry, for the construction of a solar array with associated battery storage containers and ancillary development including means of access and grid connection cable, in accordance with application ref. 21/03380/FP (decision ref: APP/X1925/V/23/3323321). Planning permission was granted subject to conditions, two of which pertain to archaeology (conditions 13 and 14). These conditions state:

13) Notwithstanding the submitted Archaeological Mitigation Strategy – Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) by AOC Archaeology Group, ref 25806/80064, no development shall take place until the pre-development actions specified in a revised WSI, which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority, have been completed. The scheme shall include:

i) The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording.

ii) Identification of the no-dig areas.

iii) The programme for post investigation assessment.

iv) Arrangements for analysis of the site investigation and recording.

v) Arrangements for publication and dissemination of the analysis and records of the site investigation.

vi) Arrangements for archive deposition of the analysis and records of the site investigation.

vii) Nomination of a competent person or organisation to undertake the works set out within the revised WSI.

The development shall take place in accordance with the programme of archaeological works set out in the approved WSI.

Reason – *To safeguard and to ensure the investigation and recording of archaeological assets within the site.*

14) *No excavation activities shall be undertaken within the no-dig areas identified in the revised WSI.*

Reason – *To safeguard archaeological assets within the site.*

1.3. Given the potential significance of the archaeological remains present within the Site, further consultation was undertaken with NHDC and the Hertfordshire County Council Senior Historic Environment Advisor (HCCSHEA), acting as the archaeological advisor to NHDC. Following on from this, and in accordance with a Brief provided by the HCCSHEA as part of their consultation response to the planning application (HCC 2022) an outline mitigation strategy was established, including preserving in-situ the remains located within the three areas (1 - 3) of archaeology identified by the geophysical survey via the implementation of 'no dig' construction solutions (see Fig 2). A trial trench evaluation based upon a 3% sample of the remaining site area was then to be undertaken. However, following discussions with the HCCSHEA, the entire site was subject to evaluation, based on a 3% sample by area, including the three previously identified areas for preservation in-situ. This was done to better understand the significance of the archaeological remains in these areas and also to inform the design of any preservation in-situ measures with regard to the depth of overburden overlying the remains.

1.4. The results of the trial trenching (CA 2025 and section 2 below) suggest that the remains present in preservation in-situ area 1 are actually buried at sufficient depth, varying from 0.38m deep in trench 21 to approximately 0.82m in trench 22, and are robust enough in nature to enable standard micro-piling of the solar panels in this

area, without the need for concrete feet. Cables in this area would be mounted to the panel frames to minimise ground disturbance in this area to the micro piles.

- 1.5. In area 2, significant, shallowly buried, remains were identified in the north part of the area, in trenches 169, 170, 224 and 225, with remains of lesser significance in trenches 153, 154, 156-161, 165, 167 – 168 and 173-175. The remains in trenches 169, 170, 224 and 225 are considered to be vulnerable to both piling operations and, due to the shallow depth of overburden, construction operations associated with the installation of concrete feet, including potential rutting and compaction. The remains in this area would also be impacted by cable trenching. On that basis it is considered that an area of approximately 1ha centred on trenches 169, 170, 224 and 225 would require archaeological excavation. An internal access road would cross broadly north-northeast – south-southwest across part of the previously proposed no-dig zone (see Fig. 5) and construction of the road through this area, including the excavation of any associated cable trenches beneath the road, would be subject to archaeological monitoring and recording (also known as an archaeological watching brief). Outside of this area, the archaeological remains in the remaining part of area 2 are considered robust enough in nature to enable standard micro-piling of the solar panels.
- 1.6. In Area 3, in the far south of the Site, archaeological remains corresponding with a series of geophysical anomalies suggestive of a group of enclosures with internal features were identified in trenches 216 to 218. Very little topsoil and no subsoil was present in this part of the Site, with the features encountered at a depth of 0.25 – 0.3m below existing ground level. These remains are again considered to be vulnerable to both piling operations and, due to the shallow depth of overburden, construction operations associated with the installation of concrete feet, including potential rutting and compaction. The remains in this area would also be impacted by cable trenching. On that basis it is considered that an area of approximately 1ha centred on trenches 216 – 218 would require archaeological excavation.
- 1.7. No significant archaeological remains were identified outside of the three main areas referred to above and consequently no other parts of the site are considered to require any form of archaeological mitigation works.
- 1.8. This WSI will be submitted to the HCCSHEA for review and approval prior to implementation/ construction.

1.9. This WSI has also been guided in its composition by:

- *Standard for archaeological excavation* (ClfA 2023a);
- *Universal guidance for archaeological excavation* (ClfA 2023b);
- *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) PPN 3: Archaeological Excavation* (HE 2015); and
- *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide* (HE 2015).

The Site

- 1.10. The Site lies within agricultural land that slopes generally upwards towards the east and north. The ground level is recorded at approximately 95m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD) in the lowest lying parts of the Site adjacent to the south and west boundary, and at approximately 110m AOD close to the northeast corner of the Site.
- 1.11. The Site is located within the 'Hitchin-Stevenage Gap', a broad glacial valley cut through the scarp of the Chilterns during the last ice age. Lakes formed in hollow left behind following the retreat of the Anglian ice sheet, which were gradually infilled with fine sediments. Within the wider area, these sediments have produced Palaeolithic implements discarded by people active around the edges of the lakes (Wymer 1999, 163).
- 1.12. The geological substrate within the Site is mapped as chalk of the Holywell Nodular Chalk Formation and New Pit Chalk Formation (undifferentiated), a sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 90 to 101 million years ago in the Cretaceous Period, in an environment previously dominated by warm chalk seas (BGS 2023).
- 1.13. Several different Quaternary superficial deposits are mapped overlying the chalk bedrock within the Site (BGS 2023). Mid-Pleistocene glaciofluvial deposits of sand and gravel are recorded in the central part of the Site and glaciolacustrine deposits of clay and silt are recorded in the northeast corner of the Site. Superficial deposits of diamicton of the Lowestoft Formation are recorded within the remainder of the Site, including along most of the eastern boundary. All of these superficial deposits were formed up to 2 million years ago in ice age conditions.
- 1.14. Historic boreholes are recorded by the BGS adjacent to the eastern boundary of the Site, along the route of the A1(M): TL22NW14, TL22NW260, TL22NW297,

TL22NW8, TL22NW. These record deposits of silty and/or sandy clay to a depth of over 4m below ground level. A further historic borehole (TL22NW16) sunk on Graveley Lane, close to the centre of the Site, in 1965 recorded 'firm to stiff brown sandy clay with chalk and flint gravel' overlying chalk bedrock at a depth of 1.07m below ground level.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1. The archaeological background of the Site has been previously presented in detail as part of a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA; AOC 2021); a programme of geophysical survey (AOC 2022a) has also been carried out within the Site, followed by trial trenching (CA 2025). A summary of this information is presented here, focussing on the results of the trial trenching (CA 2025).
- 2.2. The correlation between geophysical anomalies and the features identified in the trenches was shown to be very accurate. Where a geophysical anomaly was recorded but no corresponding sub surface feature was identified then variations in the geological substrate or natural features such as tree throws or animal burrows appeared to be the cause of the anomalies. Some isolated linear trends matched with modern field drains, infilled field ditches and the remains of ridge and furrow cultivation. Aside from these isolated features, no significant archaeological remains were identified outside of the three main areas identified by the geophysical survey.
- 2.3. Evidence of earlier prehistoric activity was scarce, present mainly as redeposited flint in later features, with no clearly defined activity predating the Iron Age being identified.
- 2.4. Area 1, in the northwest part of the site, north of Graveley Lane and targeted by trenches 8, 20 and 22-24, was confirmed to contain a double ditched D-shaped enclosure with a subcircular extension adjoining the external north side. A ring ditch located in the southeast corner of the main D-shaped enclosure was also investigated. Correlation between the results of the geophysical survey was very good. Pottery recovered from the enclosure ditches in particular suggests a Late Iron Age origin for the activity here, with the latest material present in the upper ditch fills indicating activity ceased in the late 2nd – 4th century. Environmental evidence suggested the enclosure system was situated in a relatively open landscape with areas of shade possibly resulting from the presence of hedgerows associated with at least some of the enclosure ditches. The depth of topsoil and subsoil over the area

of archaeological sensitivity varied from 0.38m deep in trench 21 to approximately 0.82m in trench 22.

- 2.5. A number of ditches were identified in the area surrounding Area 1, likely representing field boundaries associated with the agricultural management of the landscape through time, while a probable quarry pit/ pit cluster was investigated in Trench 119. An area of modern disturbance, possibly a recently backfilled quarry pit was identified in trenches 4 and 5. However, no significant archaeological remains were identified outside of the area of archaeological sensitivity represented by area 1.
- 2.6. South of Graveley Lane, in Area 2, an extensive group of enclosures, trackways and a likely area of settlement, including pits, a wall and a chalk rubble surface were identified, again corresponding closely with the results of the geophysical survey. The focus of settlement activity was identified in trenches 169, 170, 224 and 225, along the western side of the A1(M) trunk road, seemingly connected to an extensive enclosure system to the south and southwest by a trackway demarcated by two ditches running north-south through trenches 171 to 174. The presence of an associated series of enclosures suggested by the geophysical survey was then confirmed in trenches 173, 174 and 175, through which the trackway directly passed, and to the west across trenches 153, 154, 156-161, 165 and 167 – 168.
- 2.7. In addition to a wall foundation in trench 169 and a probable crushed chalk surface in trench 170, large quantities of pottery, ceramic building material including imbrex and tegula, and daub with wattle impressions were recovered from features in trenches 169, 170, 224 and 225. While pottery from this area again suggests a Late Iron Age or Late Iron Age/ Early Roman start to the activity here, the bulk of the pottery assemblage, deriving from the stratigraphically latest features/ layers, was of 3rd – 4th century date. The overall character of much of the finds assemblage from trenches 169, 170, 224 and 225 was of domestic waste and building rubble, possibly disposed of/ discarded following the demolition of one or more buildings. The Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record (HHER) notes a possible Roman farmstead, located partly within the eastern extent of the Site, suggested by finds of Iron Age and Roman material. It is further suggested that the site may have been partly destroyed by the construction of the A1(M) and it is considered that the remains in trenches 169, 170, 224 and 225 in particular, adjacent to the road, are probably part of this farmstead (see section 2 above). The quantity of artefacts present in the features to the south and southwest was noticeably less than that present in trenches

169, 170, 224 and 225, further supporting the suggestion of outlying fields and/ or paddocks located beyond the zone in which domestic rubbish was routinely being disposed of.

- 2.8. The remains in trenches 169-170 and 224-225 were encountered at shallow depth, with only 0.3m approximate of topsoil overlying them. The depth of topsoil/ subsoil present in trenches 171 to 175 overlying the suggested trackway and associated enclosures varied significantly, with 0.79m of topsoil and subsoil present in trench 173, while only 0.22m of topsoil was present in trench 174.
- 2.9. The depth of overburden overlying the remains to the west of the gas pipeline, in trenches 150, 153-154, 156-160, 164-165 and 167-168 varied between 0.27m at their shallowest, in trench 159, and 0.45m in trench 158.
- 2.10. In Area 3, in the far south of the Site, archaeological remains corresponding with a series of geophysical anomalies suggestive of a group of enclosures with internal features were identified in trenches 216 to 218, comprising a series of enclosure ditches, rubbish pits and possible occupation layers. Pottery from this area was primarily Late Iron Age – Early Roman, suggesting that these remains represent an early focus of activity in the Roman period, with settlement shifting elsewhere from this location by the mid Roman period. The remains in this part of the site do not appear to extend into trench 215 but two ditches and two pits investigated in trench 213 are likely to be associated with the remains in trenches 216-218, having produced Iron Age and Roman pottery. Very little topsoil and no subsoil was present in this part of the development area, with the features encountered at a depth of 0.25 – 0.3m below existing ground level.
- 2.11. At the southwestern end of the site a series of enclosures were investigated in trenches 191 – 193 and 202 – 204. These shared a similar morphology to the LIA/ ERB/ Roman enclosures identified further north in trenches 150, 153-154, 156-160, 164-165 and 167-168 and are possibly contemporary, although the presence of free-threshing wheat in the enclosure ditch in trench 193 would suggest a post-Roman date and a medieval or early post-medieval date cannot therefore be discounted. The absence of artefactual material would however suggest that these enclosures were located at a distance from any settlement, beyond the zone in which domestic rubbish was being routinely discarded.

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- 2.12. One sherd of late 4th – early 5th century date and two sherds of Early Saxon pottery, one confirmed to be residual, indicate a presence in the landscape in the very late Roman and Early Saxon period but little else can be said. Evidence for medieval and later activity was similarly uncommon and limited to infilled furrows associated with the previous ridge and furrow cultivation of the landscape and field boundary ditches, the site having remained under cultivation from the medieval period through to the present.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1. The general objectives of the archaeological excavation are to:

- identify, investigate and record any significant buried archaeological deposits/features at the site prior to their destruction by the proposed development;
- recover and analyse any artefactual evidence;
- sample and analyse environmental remains to create a better understanding of past land use and economy;
- report on and publish the archaeological results at a level appropriate to their significance; and
- compile a stable, ordered, accessible project archive.

- 3.2. The specific objective of the excavation is further investigate and record the Iron Age and Roman settlement remains recorded by the previous geophysical survey (AOC 2022a) and evaluation (CA 2025), by:

- recording the evidence of past settlement and associated agricultural land use within the Site as evidenced from the geophysical survey and previous trial trenching;
- recovering artefactual evidence to date this activity;
- sampling and analysing environmental remains to create a better understanding of past land use and economy of the Site.

- 3.3. The fieldwork results may also contribute to a number of research themes identified in the *East of England Regional Research Framework* (ALGAO 2025), as well as previous iterations of the research framework. Research aims and objectives will be reviewed and refined, and any further suitable themes/ contributions will be identified as the fieldwork and post-excavation work progresses and the nature and date of any

remains encountered is better understood. A selection of potentially relevant research questions identified by the framework are detailed below.

- 3.4. Given that activity in the three principal areas of archaeological interest seems to have commenced in the Late Iron Age then further work at the Site has the potential to contribute to research themes regarding the Iron Age – Roman transition, the process of Romanisation and the adoption of Roman ideas, techniques and methods, and changes in settlement morphology. This is particularly the case with regard to settlement morphology and structure – the settlement form in Areas A and C seemingly remains more in the Iron Age tradition despite extending through to at least the late 2nd century, while that in Area B appears from the results of the evaluation to have at least made greater use of the full range of Romanised construction materials such as tegula, imbrex, wall foundations etc, although no building plan has been exposed as yet to confirm how “Romanised” that settlement/ building may have appeared compared to the settlement in areas A and C. Pertinent research themes here with regard to the *East of England Research Framework* include: LIA-Rom 05: How can we better understand the Late Iron Age to Roman transition?; LIA-Rom 13: How can we increase our understanding of Late Iron Age and Roman farmsteads?; and, LIA-Rom 16: Can we better distinguish between Late Iron Age and Early Roman features and sites?
- 3.5. The Late Iron Age/Roman transitional and Roman pottery assemblage from the site as a whole comprises largely locally produced grog-tempered, shell-tempered and reduced sandy coarsewares. Regional and continental imports are present as Southeast Dorset Black burnished ware, pink grog-tempered ware from Buckinghamshire and Lower Nene Valley wares from Cambridgeshire and Central Gaulish samian ware. Furthermore, the pottery assemblage provides evidence for long-running, possibly continuous, activity during the Iron Age and Roman periods, with the largest quantities dating to the 1st century AD and the later Roman period, c. the late 3rd or 4th century AD, concentrated in Trenches 224 and 225. Further work at the Site therefore has the potential to increase understanding of pottery supply/ consumption and access to markets in this part of the region over an extended period of time. Pertinent research themes here with regard to the *East of England Research Framework* include: LIA-Rom 24: How can we increase our understanding of Late Iron Age and Roman pottery industries?

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- 3.6. The preservation of animal bone was generally good enough to facilitate identification and preserve a range of indicators. Therefore the material has the capacity to inform about the livestock economy, production, consumption, and disposal of animals, as well as some information about the background environment suggested by the recovery of some small vertebrates from soil samples. The volume of material suggests it is likely that a useable assemblage would be recovered to inform on diet, economy and social behaviour. Pertinent research themes here with regard to the *East of England Research Framework* again include: LIA-Rom 13: How can we increase our understanding of Late Iron Age and Roman farmsteads?; and LIA-Rom 14: How can we improve the environmental sampling of Late Iron Age and Roman farmsteads?

4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1. Three principal areas of archaeological interest were identified by the geophysical survey and trial trenching, in the north-west, central, and southern parts of the Site (see *Archaeological Background*, above and Fig 2). These areas (1 – 3) were previously identified for preservation in-situ. However, within Area 1 the trenching has shown that due to the level of protection offered by the overlying deposits and the large, robust nature of the features encountered then low-impact construction techniques such as micro piling will result in limited construction impacts and offer a heritage benefit by protecting the archaeological remains in-situ through taking them out of routine arable cultivation. (see Fig. 2). In the northern part of Area 2 and in Area 3 the archaeological remains were seen to be too shallowly buried to facilitate in-situ preservation and too dense/ complex to employ piling solutions without causing significant harm to the remains (shown on Figs 3 and 4 as Excavation Areas 2 and 3 respectively, retaining the area numbering for the no-dig areas that they previously formed part of). An internal access road would cross broadly north-northeast – south-southwest across part of the previously proposed Area 2 no-dig zone (see Fig. 5) and construction of the road through this area, including the excavation of any associated cable trenches beneath the road, would be subject to archaeological monitoring and recording.
- 4.2. Across the remaining part of Area 2 previously identified for preservation in-situ it is now considered that based upon the results of the trial trenching the level of protection offered by the overlying topsoil and subsoil deposits coupled with the low density and robust nature of the archaeological remains in this area means that low-

impact construction solutions such as piling will result in limited construction impacts and again offer a heritage benefit by protecting the archaeological remains in-situ, out of routine arable cultivation.

4.3. Consequently, two excavation areas will be opened to further investigate the more complex features recorded by the previous geophysical survey and trial trench evaluation (see *Archaeological Background*, above):

- Area B (c. 1ha): located to investigate a likely area of Late Iron Age/Early Roman settlement, including pits, a wall and a chalk rubble surface encountered across Trenches 169-170 and 224-225;
- Area C (c. 1ha): located to investigate a group of enclosures with internal features including rubbish pits and possible occupation layers of likely Late Iron Age/Early Roman date, encountered across Trenches 216-218.

4.4. If required, and after discussion with the HCCSHEA, the excavation areas may be extended in the event that archaeological features are shown to extend beyond the core area limits and warrant further investigation. The excavation contingency would comprise a rolling 20m buffer but will in any event be constrained in the north of Area 2 by the extent of the area under panels and to the east and west by the presence of the site boundary and an underground utility and a high pressure gas main respectively. Similarly, the southern extent of excavation area 3 is fixed by the site boundary and to the east by the high pressure gas main.

4.5. Excavation areas will be set out on OS National Grid co-ordinates using Leica GPS. They will be scanned for live services by trained CA staff using CAT and genny equipment, in accordance with the *CA Safe System of Work for avoiding underground services*. The positions and sizes of the excavation areas may be adjusted on site to account for services or other constraints, with the approval of the HCCSHEA.

4.6. Overburden will be stripped from the excavation areas by a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless grading bucket. All machining will be conducted under archaeological supervision and will cease when the first significant archaeological horizon or natural substrate is revealed (whichever is encountered first).

4.7. Following machining, the extent of each excavation area and all features within it will be accurately recorded using survey grade Real-Time Kinematic (RTK) Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) or Total Station equipment, operating to a 3D

tolerance of $\pm 0.05\text{m}$ to Ordnance Survey National Grid and Datum. The data will be overlaid at a scale of 1:500 onto the Ordnance Survey National Grid (using digital map data). Each context will be recorded on a pro-forma context sheet by written and measured description. Deposits will be recorded by drawn plans or electronically using Leica GPS or Total Station (TST) as appropriate (normally scale 1:20) and drawn sections (scale 1:10 or 1:20 as appropriate). Where detailed feature planning is undertaken using GPS/TST this will be carried out in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 4: Survey Manual*.

- 4.8. Archaeological features will be investigated, planned and recorded in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: Fieldwork Recording Manual. Records will be entered directly into the CA Digital Recording System (DRS) and/or onto pro-forma site recording sheets. Hand-drawn sections of excavated archaeological features will be prepared (scale 1:10 or 1:20, as appropriate). Features/deposits will be recorded in plan using Leica GPS or Total Station (as appropriate), in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 4: Survey Manual*.
- 4.9. A photographic record utilising high resolution digital photography of a minimum of 10 megapixels and in RAW format, will be maintained during the course of the fieldwork using digital SLR cameras. All photography will conform to industry best practice (e.g. HE 2015). Images will be converted to uncompressed baseline v.6 TIFF for archiving. All images will have accompanying metadata specifying; photo ID, capture device, converting software, colour space, bit depth, resolution, date of capture, photographer, caption, and any alterations made to the image. General Site photographs will also be taken in order to provide a visual overview of the Site, particularly prior to commencement of works and after backfilling of trenches. Overall shots of each trench will be taken together with detailed shots of individual features and feature groups as appropriate. All photographs, except general site shots or specific shots for publication will include a north arrow, suitable photographic scale(s) and photo board. Attention will also be paid to taking photographs suitable for displays, exhibitions and other publicity.
- 4.10. All finds and samples will be bagged separately and related to the context record. All artefacts will be recovered and retained for processing and analysis.
- 4.11. The following excavation strategy will be employed:

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- Discrete features – 50% of all discrete features will in normal circumstances be excavated. They will be fully excavated as and when required by the HCCSHEA.
 - Linear features (not associated with settlement) – these features will be sufficiently sampled to allow an informed interpretation of their date and function. Excavation slots will be a minimum of 1m wide and appropriately spaced to provide the required sample. All relationships will be investigated to determine sequence of activity. A 5% sample will be excavated of any field boundaries.
 - Linear features (associated with settlement) – up to 25% of these features will be excavated by length. All relationships will be investigated to determine the sequence of activity. If features are believed to terminate within the area the terminals will also be investigated. Additional lengths, up to 50% in total, may be excavated if the complexity of the Site and stratigraphy requires further investigation.
 - Structural remains – all such features including eaves drip gullies, beam slots and postholes associated with buildings will be fully excavated.
 - Industrial features – including domestic ovens and hearths will be fully excavated and sampled for environmental remains.
 - Deep features such as wells and large pits will be excavated to their full depth. Any features below a depth of 1.2m may need to be box-sectioned to safely reach the full depth of deposits.
 - Funerary/ritual activity and domestic/industrial deposits will be 100% excavated, if excavation is required/preferable to in-situ preservation.
 - Bulk horizontal deposits will as a minimum be 10% by area hand excavated, after which a decision may be taken (in conjunction with the archaeological advisor to the LPA) to remove the remainder with machinery. Priority will be attached to features which yield sealed assemblages which can be related to the chronological sequence of the Site.

Artefacts

- 4.12. Artefacts will be recovered and retained for processing and analysis in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 3: Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation*. Artefacts will be collected and bagged by context. Artefacts from topsoil, subsoil and unstratified contexts will normally be noted but not retained unless they are of intrinsic

interest. All artefacts from stratified excavated contexts will be collected, except for large assemblages of post-medieval or modern material. In agreement with the HCCSHEA and the appropriate museum curator, such material may be noted and not retained or, if appropriate, a representative sample may be collected and retained.

Environmental remains

- 4.13. The selection, collection and processing of environmental samples will follow the guidelines outlined in *Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (English Heritage 2011) and *CA Technical Manual 2: The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites*.
- 4.14. Due care will be taken to identify deposits which may have environmental potential and, where appropriate, a programme of environmental sampling will be initiated. The sampling strategy will be adapted for the specific circumstances of the site, in close consultation with the CA Environmental Officer, the HCCSHEA and, where appropriate the Historic England regional Science Advisor, but will follow the general selection parameters set out in the following paragraphs.
- 4.15. Secure, phased deposits, especially those related to settlement activity and/or structures, will be considered for sampling for the recovery of charred plant remains, charcoal and mineralised remains. Any cremation-related deposits (where excavated; see *Human remains*, below) will be sampled appropriately for the recovery of cremated human bone and charred remains. If any evidence of *in situ* metal working is found, suitable samples will be taken for the recovery of slag and hammerscale.
- 4.16. Where sealed waterlogged deposits are encountered, samples will be considered for the recovery of waterlogged remains (including insects, molluscs and pollen) and any charred remains. The taking of sequences of samples for the recovery of molluscs and/or waterlogged remains will be considered through any suitable deposits, such as deep enclosure ditches, barrow ditches, palaeochannels, or buried soils. Monolith samples may also be taken from suitable deposits as appropriate to allow soil and sediment description/interpretation, as well as sub-sampling for pollen and other micro/macrofossils such as diatoms, foraminifera and ostracods.

4.17. The need for more specialist samples (such as OSL, archaeomagnetic dating and dendrochronology) will be evaluated on site. If required, any such samples will be taken in consultation with the relevant specialists.

4.18. Sample processing will be carried out in conjunction with the relevant specialists. Flotation or wet sieve samples will be processed to 0.25mm. More specialist samples, such as those for pollen, will be prepared by the relevant specialists.

Treasure

4.19. Upon discovery of treasure, CA will notify the client and the HCCSHEA immediately. Findings will be reported to H.M. Coroner within 14 days of discovery, in accordance with procedures relating to the Treasure Act 1996 (and the 2003 amendment to the Act to include prehistoric objects such as Bronze Age metalworking hoards and other non-precious metal items). All finds of gold and silver will be moved to a safe place. Where removal cannot be undertaken immediately suitable security measures will be taken to protect the artefacts from theft or damage. CA will comply fully with the provisions of the Treasure Act 1996 and the Code of Practice referred to therein.

Human remains

4.20. In the event that human remains are encountered, the client and the HCCSHEA will be notified immediately. Any human remains (skeletal or cremated) will be treated with due decency and respect at all times.

4.21. Where human remains are encountered, these will not be excavated unless their disturbance by the development is unavoidable. In cases where disturbance is unavoidable, or where full exhumation of the remains is deemed necessary, exhumation will be conducted following the provisions of the Coroner's Unit in the Ministry of Justice. All excavation of human remains and associated post-excavation processes will be in accordance with the standards set out in *Updated Guidelines to the Standards for Recording Human Remains* (ClfA 2017), *The Role of the Human Osteologist in an Archaeological Fieldwork Project* (HE 2018) and *Guidance for Best Practice for the Treatment of Human Remains Excavated from Christian Burial Grounds in England* (APABE 2017).

Archaeological Monitoring and Recording

4.22. Archaeological monitoring and recording will comprise the observation by a competent and suitably experienced archaeologist of any intrusive groundworks associated with the construction of the internal access road and any associated cable

trenches beneath the road where these works will occur within the previously identified Area 2 no-dig zone and have the potential to expose, damage or destroy any archaeological remains that are present.

- 4.23. Non-archaeologically significant deposits will be removed by the groundworks contractors under archaeological supervision. Where practical, mechanical excavators will be fitted with toothless grading buckets.
- 4.24. If archaeological features/deposits are exposed, then construction groundworks in the affected area(s) will be temporarily halted so that the monitoring archaeologist is given sufficient time to investigate and record those features/deposits to an appropriate standard. Should the presence of archaeological remains be of greater significance than expected, CA will immediately contact the Client and the HCCSHEA in order to discuss whether and what alternative mitigation provisions are required. The area surrounding the remains will be secured with Netlon-type fencing to provide a visible barrier while archaeological investigation and recording is ongoing.
- 4.25. In the event that archaeological remain are identified then the methodology for excavation and recording will be as per sections 4.7 to 4.21 above. Archaeological monitoring and recording works will be reported on as part of the post-excavation, reporting and archiving process set out below.

5. POST-EXCAVATION, REPORTING AND ARCHIVING

Reporting

- 5.1. The level of post-excavation analysis and reporting required will depend upon the nature of the archaeological results and will be confirmed with the HCCSHEA once the archaeological fieldwork has been completed. At present, it is anticipated that, as a minimum, a Post-eXcavation Assessment (PXA) will be undertaken and a PXA report will be issued. The PXA report will include:

- an abstract preceding the main body of the report, containing the essential elements of the results;
- a summary of the project background;
- a description and illustration of the Site location;
- a methodology of the works undertaken;
- a description of the project results;
- an interpretation of the results in the appropriate context;

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- a summary of the contents of the project archive and its location (including summary catalogues of finds and samples);
 - a plan showing the location of the excavation areas and the exposed archaeological features and deposits in relation to the site boundaries;
 - detail plans of archaeological features as appropriate. These will be at an appropriate scale to allow the nature of the features to be shown and understood. Plans will show orientation in relation to north. Section drawing locations will also be shown. Archaeologically sterile areas will not normally be illustrated;
 - appropriate section drawings of excavation areas and features will be included, with OD heights and at scales appropriate to the stratigraphic detail being represented. The orientations of the drawings in relation to north/south/east/west will be shown;
 - site matrices, if appropriate;
 - photographs showing significant features and deposits that are referred to in the text. All photographs will contain appropriate scales, the sizes of which will be noted in the illustration captions;
 - a consideration of the results within their wider local/regional contexts;
 - a summary table and descriptive text showing the features, classes and numbers of artefacts recovered and soil profiles with interpretation; and
 - specialist assessment or analysis reports (where undertaken). Specialist artefact and palaeoenvironmental assessments will take into account the wider local/regional contexts and will include:
 - o specialist aims and objectives;
 - o processing methodologies (where relevant);
 - o any known biases in recovery, or problems of contamination/residuality;
 - o quantities of material; types of material present; distribution of material;
 - o for environmental material, a statement on abundance, diversity and preservation;
 - o a summary and discussion of the results, to include significance in a local and regional context.

5.2. The draft PXA report will be distributed to the client and the HCCSHEA for review prior to finalisation. All copies of the report (draft and final) will be issued in pdf format.

Academic and public dissemination

- 5.3. Should the PXA identify the potential for further analysis and/or reporting, then an updated project design (UPD) will be prepared for inclusion in the PXA report. This UPD will detail the further analysis/reporting to be carried out, for the agreement of the client and the HCCSHEA. Depending on the excavation results, the UPD may detail arrangements for an appropriate level of academic publication. As a minimum, a short note on the project results will be produced for inclusion in an appropriate local archaeological journal.
- 5.4. Subject to any contractual constraints, a summary of information from the project will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain. This will include a digital (pdf) copy of the final report, which will also appear on the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) website once the OASIS record has been verified.
- 5.5. A digital (pdf) copy of the final report will also be made available for public viewing via CA's *Archaeological Reports Online* web page at: (<http://reports.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk>).

Archive deposition

- 5.6. CA will make arrangements with the North Hertfordshire District Council Museum Service for the deposition of the site archive and, subject to agreement with the legal landowner(s), the artefact collection.
- 5.7. All artefacts and environmental samples will be processed, assessed, conserved and packaged in accordance with CA technical manuals and the requirements set out within the *Hertfordshire Archaeological Archives Standards* (Hertfordshire Association of Museums 2018).
- 5.8. An ordered, indexed, and internally consistent site archive will be prepared in accordance with the relevant museum guidelines. The archive will also be prepared in accordance with:
- *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (ClfA 2014; updated October 2020);
 - *Archaeological Archives: A Guide to Best Practice in Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Curation* (Archaeological Archives Forum 2011);
 - *Standard and Guide to Best Practice for Archaeological Archiving in Europe: EAC Guidelines 1* (Europae Archaeologia Consilium 2019); and

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- *Toolkit for Selecting Archaeological Archives* (ClfA/Historic England 2019; updated March 2022).

5.9. Depending on the nature and scope of any subsequent programme of archaeological works at the Site (if applicable), and after discussion with the relevant museum curator, the excavation archive may be combined with that for the trial trench evaluation and any subsequent works and deposited as a single archive. Confirmation of this will be included in the excavation report, as well as any forthcoming WSI (if applicable).

Selection strategy

5.10. As noted above, artefacts from topsoil, subsoil and unstratified contexts will normally be noted but not retained unless they are of intrinsic interest. All artefacts from stratified excavated contexts will be collected, except for large assemblages of post-medieval or modern material. Following discussion with the HCCSHEAD and museum curator, such material may be noted and not retained or, if appropriate, a representative sample may be collected and retained.

5.11. The site-selected material archive returned to the CA offices will be reviewed following analysis. Stakeholders will make selection decisions based on CA Finds Manager/Officer reports and selection recommendations. The selection will take place during archive compilation. After discussion with the relevant museum Curator and the CA Finds Managers/Officers, it is possible that no material post-dating AD 1800 will be retained for inclusion in the preserved archive.

Digital archive

5.12. A digital archive will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS). This archive will be compiled in accordance with the ADS *Instructions for Depositors* (2022).

Data management

5.13. All born-digital and digitally-transferred project data created during fieldwork and post-excavation (other than duplicated files) will be stored by CA. Upon project completion and deposition, the data will be transferred to a secure external server. Data will be selected for inclusion in the final digital archive, as detailed below. It is proposed that data selection will occur following completion of post-excavation work.

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- 5.14. Selected digital files will be transferred to the ADS, in line with the relevant guidance and standards. In adherence to CA's *Guidelines for essential archive tasks and the preparation of archives*, it is proposed that the selected files will include final versions only. Digital photographs will be selected for inclusion in the archive in line with CA's *Guidelines for essential archive tasks and the preparation of archives* and *Digital Image Capture and File Storage: Guidelines for Best Practice* (Historic England 2015). Data produced by external specialists or sub-contractors will be granted under license to CA to allow inclusion in the digital archive as required.

6. PROGRAMME

- 6.1. It is anticipated that the project fieldwork will require approximately 12 weeks on site to complete.
- 6.2. It is anticipated that the draft PXA report will be issued within 6 months of the completion of archaeological fieldwork at the site. The draft publication report will usually follow within six months of the completion of the PXA report.

7. PROJECT STAFF

- 7.1. This project will be under the management of Adrian Scruby, Principal Fieldwork Manager, CA ('the Project Manager'). The Project Manager will direct the overall conduct of the excavation during the period of fieldwork. Day-to-day responsibility will, however, rest with the Project Leader, who will be on-site throughout the project.
- 7.2. The field team will consist of a maximum of 12 staff (1 Project Officer, 1 Project Supervisor and up to 10 Archaeologists).
- 7.3. Specialists who may be invited to advise and report on specific aspects of the project as necessary are:
- **Ceramics:** Ed McSloy BA (Hons) MCIfA (CA), Alejandra Gutierrez BA (Hons) PHd MCIfA (CA), Peter Banks LLB LLM PCIfA (CA), Lanah Hewson (CA); Laura Pearson (CA)
 - **Metalwork:** Ed McSloy MCIfA (CA), Alex Bliss BA ACIfA (CA), Alejandra Gutierrez BA (Hons) MA PhD MCIfA (CA)
 - **Flint:** Jacky Sommerville PCIfA (CA), Pippa Bradley BA MPhil Dip Post-Ex MCIfA (CA), Robert Leedham BA MRes PhD PCIfA (CA)

- **Animal bone:** Andy Clarke BA ACIfA (Hons) MA (CA), Matilda Holmes PhD BSc MSc ACIfA (freelance)
- **Human bone:** Sharon Clough MCIfA (CA), Frankie Wildmun BA MSc (CA)
- **Environmental remains:** Sarah Wyles MCIfA (CA), Carolyn Smith BA Hons MSc PCIfA (CA)
- **Conservation:** Pieta Greeves BSc MSc ACR (Drakon Heritage and Conservation)
- **Geoarchaeology:** Holly Rodgers BA (Hons) MSc (CA), Keith Wilkinson BSc PhD MCIfA (ARCA)

7.4. Depending on the nature of the deposits and artefacts encountered, it may be necessary to consult other specialists not listed here. A full list of specialists currently used by CA is given as Appendix A.

8. HEALTH, SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENT

8.1. CA will conduct all works in accordance with the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and all subsequent health and safety legislation, as well as the CA Health and Safety and Environmental policies and the CA Safety, Health and Environmental Management System (SHE). A site-specific Construction Phase Plan (form SHE 017) will be formulated prior to commencement of fieldwork. The project will be carried out in accordance with safe working practices and under the defined Health and Safety Policy. The Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015 (CDM) may apply to the archaeological work depending on whether contractors other than the archaeological team are present on the site. Cotswold Archaeology will abide by the Construction site rules, whilst working to a RAMS and CPP issued to and accepted by the Principal Contractor. Attendance at daily tool box talks and any Health and Safety meetings needed to ensure proper coordination of the works will be required.

9. INSURANCES

9.1. CA holds Public Liability Insurance to a limit of £15,000,000 and Professional Indemnity Insurance to a limit of £10,000,000.

10. MONITORING

10.1. Notification of the start of site works will be made to HCCSHEA at least one week in advance so that there will be opportunities to visit the Site and check on the quality and progress of the work. NHDC Museums will also be informed of the start date for

the works and given the opportunity to visit the Site. No excavation areas will be handed over for development without the prior approval of the HCCSHEA.

11. QUALITY ASSURANCE

- 11.1. CA is a Registered Organisation (RO) with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (RO Ref. No. 8). As a RO, CA endorses the Code of Conduct (CIfA 2019) and the *Standard and guidance for commissioning work or providing consultancy advice on archaeology and the historic environment* (CIfA 2014; updated October 2020).
- 11.2. CA operates an internal quality assurance system as follows: projects are overseen by a Project Manager, who is responsible for the quality of the project. The Project Manager reports to the Chief Executive, who bears ultimate responsibility for the conduct of all CA operations. Matters of policy and corporate strategy are determined by the Board of Directors and, in cases of dispute, recourse may be made to the Chairman of the Board.

12. PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT, PARTICIPATION AND BENEFIT

- 12.1. It is not anticipated that this excavation will afford opportunities for public participation during the course of the fieldwork. However, regular updates on the progress of the work will be posted on the CA website/ via CA social media channels (e.g. <https://cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk/iron-age-spindle-whorl-from-landwest-of-northampton/>) and the excavation results will be made publicly available on the ADS and CA websites, as set out in Section 5. Should the discoveries warrant further dissemination then a talk on the results of the project will be offered to the local primary school or other appropriate group.

13. STAFF TRAINING AND CPD

- 13.1. CA has a fully documented mandatory performance management system for all staff. This system reviews personal performance, identifies areas for improvement, sets targets and ensures the provision of appropriate training within CA's adopted training policy. In addition, CA has developed an award-winning career development programme for its staff. This ensures a consistent and high-quality approach to the development of appropriate skills.

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- 13.2. As part of CA's requirement for continuing professional development, all members of staff are required to maintain a personal development plan and an associated log; these are reviewed within the performance management system.

14. REFERENCES

AAF (Archaeological Archives Forum) 2011 *Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation*

ADS (Archaeology Data Service) 2025 *Instructions for Depositors*

ALGAO 2025 *East of England Regional Research Framework*
<https://researchframeworks.org/eoe/>

AOC 2021 *Proposed Priory Farm Solar Array, Hertfordshire: Heritage Impact Assessment* AOC Project No. 25806

AOC 2022a *Wymondley Solar Farm Hertfordshire: Archaeological Geophysical Survey* AOC Project No. 40205

AOC 2022b *Priory Farm, Solar Farm, Hertfordshire: Archaeological Mitigation Strategy – Written Scheme of Investigation* AOC Project No. 25806/80064

APABE (Advisory Panel on the Archaeology of Burials in England) 2017 *Guidance for Best Practice for the Treatment of Human Remains Excavated from Christian Burial Grounds in England*

Barclay, A., Booth, P., Knight, D., Evans, J., Brown, D. H. and Wood, I. 2016 *A standard for pottery studies in archaeology* Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group, Study Group for Roman Pottery and Medieval Pottery Research Group

BGS (British Geological Survey) 2025 *BGS Geology Viewer*
<https://www.bgs.ac.uk/map-viewers/bgs-geology-viewer/> Accessed April 2025

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2024 *Priory Farm Solar Farm, Wymondley, Herts: Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Evaluation* CA Project MK0862

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2025 *Priory Farm Solar Farm, Wymondley, Herts: Archaeological Evaluation* CA Report MK0862_1

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- ClfA (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists) 2014b (updated 2020) *Standard and Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives*
- ClfA (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists) 2014c *Standard and guidance for commissioning work or providing consultancy advice on archaeology and the historic environment*
- ClfA (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists) 2017 *Technical Paper No 7 Updated Guidelines to the Standards for recording Human Remains*
- ClfA (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists) 2023a *Standard for archaeological excavation*
- ClfA (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists) 2023b *Universal guidance for archaeological excavation*
- ClfA (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists) 2025a 'ClfA Toolkit for Specialist Reporting', <https://www.archaeologists.net/reporting-toolkit>
- ClfA (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists) 2025b 'ClfA Toolkit for finds: pottery', <https://www.archaeologists.net/toolkits/pottery>
- EAC (Europae Archaeologia Consilium) 2019 *Standard and Guide to Best Practice for Archaeological Archiving in Europe: EAC Guidelines 1*
- Fitzpatrick-Matthews, K. 2020a *The Archaeology of the Wymondleys* Available at: <https://northhertsmuseum.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/The-archaeology-of-the-Wymondleys.pdf>
- Fitzpatrick-Matthews, K. 2020b *The Ice Age in North Hertfordshire* Available at: <https://northhertsmuseum.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/The-Ice-Age-in-North-Hertfordshire.pdf>
- Hertfordshire Association of Museums 2018 *Hertfordshire Archaeological Archives Standards*
- HCC (Hertfordshire County Council) 2022 *Archaeological Brief Planning* [part of consultation response ref. **P01/21/3380-2**]
- HE (Historic England) 2015a *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Planning Note 3: Excavation*
- HE Historic England 2015b *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide*

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- HE (Historic England) 2015c *Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation* (first published in 2011 by English Heritage, 2nd Edition)
- HE (Historic England) 2015d *Digital Image Capture and File Storage: Guidelines for Best Practice*
- HE (Historic England) 2015e *Archaeometallurgy: Guidelines for best practice*
- HE (Historic England) 2018 *The Role of the Human Osteologist in and Archaeological Fieldwork Project*
- Mills, A.D. 2011 *A Dictionary of British Place Names*
- Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government 2024 *National Planning Policy Framework*
- Wymer, J. 1999 *The Lower Palaeolithic Occupation of Britain, Volume 1* (Wessex Archaeology and English Heritage)

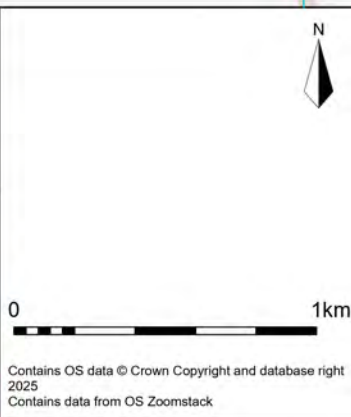
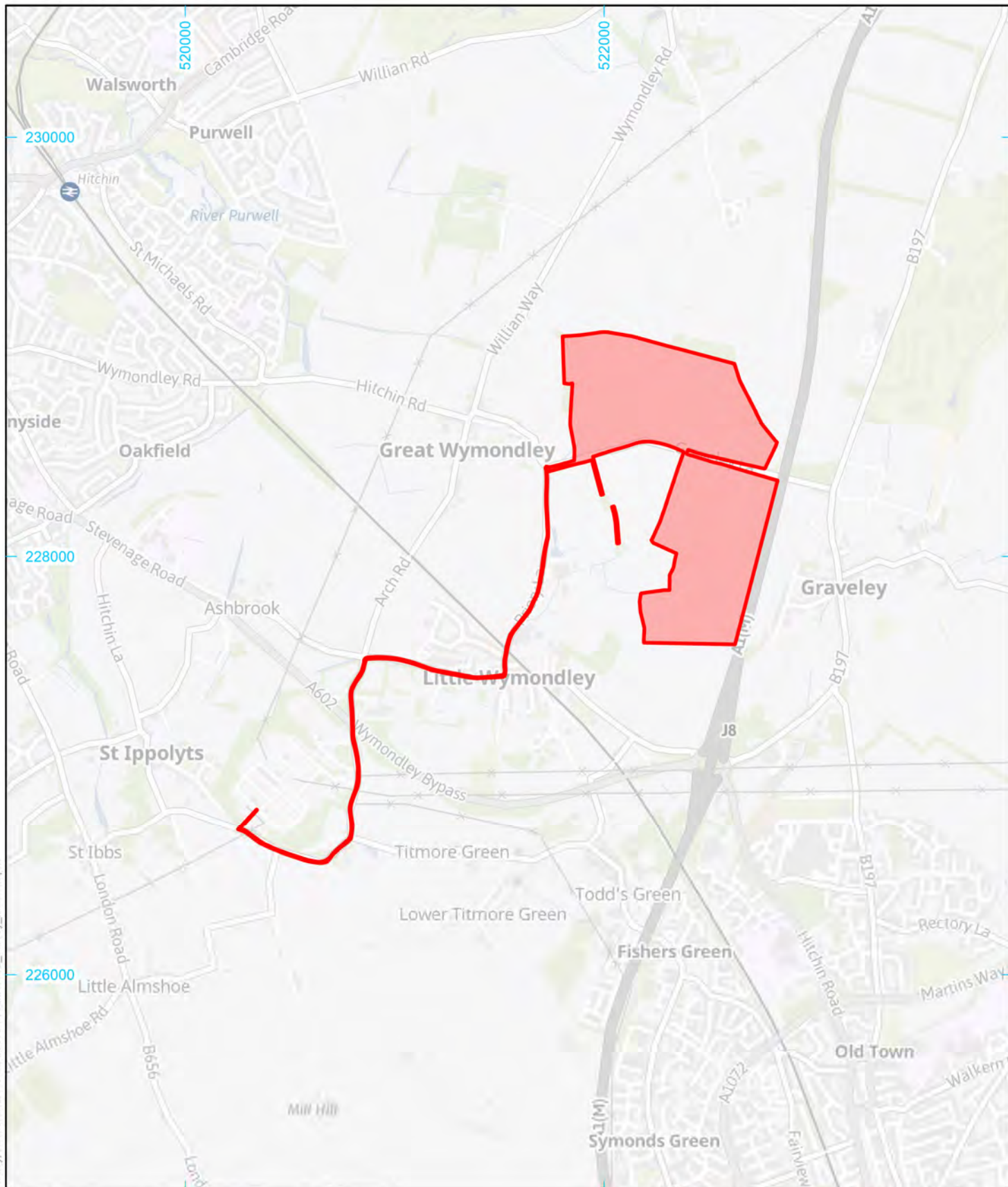
APPENDIX A: COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY SPECIALISTS

Ceramics

Neolithic/Bronze Age	Ed McSloy BA MCIfA (CA) Alistair Barclay BSc PhD FSA MCIfA (CA) Grace Jones BA MA PhD MCIfA (CA) Jacky Sommerville BSc MA PCIfA (CA) Elaine Morris BA PhD FSA MCIfA (University of Southampton) Anna Doherty MA (Archaeology South-East) Sarah Percival MA MCIfA (freelance) Steve Benfield BA (CA) Ciar Boyle Gifford BA, MA (CA), Apprentice: Archaeological Specialist Level 7
Iron Age/Roman	Ed McSloy BA MCIfA (CA) Alistair Barclay BSc PhD FSA MCIfA (CA) Grace Jones BA MA PhD MCIfA (CA) Peter Banks LLB LLM PCIfA (CA) Jacky Sommerville BSc MA PCIfA (CA) Kayt Marter Brown BA MSc MCIfA (freelance) Steve Benfield BA (CA) Claire Collier Jones BA MA (CA) Ciar Boyle Gifford BA, MA (CA), Apprentice: Archaeological Specialist Level 7 Laura Pearson BA, MA, PCIfA (CA), Apprentice: Archaeological Specialist Level 7
Samian	Gwladys Montell MA PhD (freelance) Steve Benfield BA (CA)
Amphorae stamps	David Williams PhD FSA (freelance)
Anglo-Saxon	Alejandra Gutierrez BA (Hons) MA PhD MCIfA (CA) Alistair Barclay BSc PhD FSA MCIfA (CA) Grace Jones BA MA PhD MCIfA (CA) Jacky Sommerville BSc MA PCIfA (CA) Paul Blinkhorn BTech (freelance) Jane Timby BA PhD FSA MCIfA (freelance) Sue Anderson, M Phil FSA MCIfA (freelance)
Medieval/post-medieval	Alejandra Gutierrez BA (Hons) MA PhD MCIfA (CA) Ed McSloy BA MCIfA (CA) Alistair Barclay BSc PhD FSA MCIfA (CA) Grace Jones BA MA PhD MCIfA (CA) Jacky Sommerville BSc MA PCIfA (CA) Stephanie Ratkai BA (freelance) Paul Blinkhorn BTech (freelance) John Allan BA MPhil FSA (freelance) Richenda Goffin BA MCIfA (freelance) Sue Anderson M Phil FSA MCIfA (freelance)
Other finds	
Clay tobacco pipe	Marek Lewcun (freelance) Kieron Heard (freelance) Richenda Goffin BA MCIfA (freelance)
Ceramic building material	Ed McSloy MCIfA (CA) Grace Jones BA MA PhD MCIfA (CA) Alejandra Gutierrez BA (Hons) MA PhD MCIfA (CA) Peter Banks LLB LLM PCIfA (CA) Claire Collier Jones BA MA (CA) Laura Pearson BA, MA, PCIfA (CA), Apprentice: Archaeological Specialist Level 7 Ciar Boyle Gifford BA, MA (CA), Apprentice: Archaeological Specialist Level 7 Richenda Goffin (and Roman painted wall plaster) BA MCIfA (freelance) Steve Benfield BA (CA) Peter Warry PhD (freelance) Sue Anderson M Phil FSA MCIfA (freelance)

Small finds	Ed McSloy BA MCIfA (CA) Grace Jones BA MA PhD MCIfA (CA) Alejandra Gutierrez BA (Hons) MA PhD MCIfA (CA) Claire Collier Jones BA MA (CA) Steve Benfield CA Ian Riddler PhD (freelance) Alison Sheridan PhD (National Museum of Scotland)
Metal artefacts	Ed McSloy BA MCIfA (CA) Grace Jones BA MA PhD MCIfA (CA) Alejandra Gutierrez BA (Hons) MA PhD MCIfA (CA) Alex Bliss BA, AlfA (CA) Claire Collier Jones BA MA (CA) Jörn Schuster MA DPhil FSA MCIfA (freelance) Ian Riddler PhD (freelance)
Lithics	Ed McSloy BA MCIfA (CA) Jacky Sommerville BSc MA PCIfA (CA) Pippa Bradley BA MPhil Dip Post-Ex MCIfA (CA) Michael Green (CA) Robert Leedham BA MRes PhD PCIfA (CA) Sarah Bates BA (freelance)
(Palaeolithic)	Francis Wenban-Smith BA MA PhD (University of Southampton)
Worked stone	Ruth Shaffrey BA PhD MCIfA (freelance) Kevin Hayward BSc MSc PhD FSA PCIfA (freelance)
Inscriptions	Roger Tomlin MA DPhil, FSA (Oxford University)
Glass	Ed McSloy BA MCIfA (CA) Hilary Cool BA PhD FSA (freelance) David Dungworth BA PhD (freelance) Sarah Paynter PhD (Historic England) Rachel Tyson BA (Hons) PhD (freelance) Hugh Wilmott BA (Hons) PhD (University of Sheffield)
Coins	Ed McSloy BA MCIfA (CA) Alex Bliss BA, AlfA (CA) Peter Guest BA PhD FSA (Cardiff University) Richard Reece BSc PhD FSA (freelance) Jude Plouviez (freelance) Andrew Brown PhD (British Museum) Richard Kelleher PhD (Fitzwilliam Museum) Philip de Jersey PhD (Ashmolean Museum)
Leather	Quita Mould MA FSA (freelance)
Textiles	Sue Harrington PhD (freelance)
Iron slag/metal technology	Tim Young MA PhD (Cardiff University) David Dungworth BA PhD (freelance) David Starley BSc PhD Lynne Keys (freelance) Eleanor Blakelock BA (Hons) MA PhD (freelance)
Worked wood	Michael Bamforth BSc MCIfA (freelance)
Biological remains	
Animal bone	Clare Randall MCIfA (CA) Matilda Holmes BSc MSc PhD ACIfA (freelance) Andrew Clarke ACIfA Julie Curl (freelance)
Human remains	Sharon Clough BA MSc MCIfA (CA) Frankie Wildmun BA MSc (CA) Sue Anderson MPhil FSA MCIfA (freelance)

Environmental sampling	Sarah Wyles BA MCIfA (CA) Sarah Cobain BSc MSc ACIfA (CA) Anna West BSc (CA) Holly Rodgers BA (Hons) MSc (CA) Keith Wilkinson BSc PhD MCIfA (ARCA)
Pollen	Michael Grant BSc MSc PhD (University of Southampton) Rob Batchelor BSc MSc PhD MCIfA (QUEST, University of Reading)
Diatoms	Tom Hill BSc PhD CPLHE (Natural History Museum) Nigel Cameron BSc MSc PhD (University College London)
Charred plant remains	Sarah Wyles BA MCIfA (CA) Sarah Cobain BSc MSc ACIfA (CA) Anna West BSc (CA) Kathryn Hunter Dowse BA (hons) (CA) Carolyn Smith BA Hons MSc PCIfA (CA)
Wood/charcoal	Sarah Cobain BSc MSc ACIfA(CA) Dana Challinor MA (freelance) Sheila Boardman (freelance)
Insects	Enid Allison BSc D.Phil (Canterbury Archaeological Trust)
Mollusca	Sarah Wyles BA MCIfA (CA) Keith Wilkinson BSc PhD MCIfA (ARCA)
Ostracods and Foraminifera	John Whittaker BSc PhD (freelance)
Geoarchaeology	Holly Rodgers BA (Hons) MSc (CA) Keith Wilkinson BSc PhD MCIfA (ARCA)
Soil micromorphology	Richard Macphail BSc MSc PhD (University College London)
Scientific dating	
Dendrochronology	Robert Howard BA (NTRDL Nottingham) Ian Tyres (freelance)
Radiocarbon dating	Alistair Barclay BSc PhD FSA MCIfA (CA) SUERC (East Kilbride, Scotland) Beta Analytic (Florida, USA)
Bayesian chronological modelling	Derek Hamilton PhD (SUERC) Frances Healey PhD (freelance) John Hines (Cardiff University)
Archaeomagnetic dating	Cathy Batt BSc PhD (University of Bradford)
TL/OSL Dating	Phil Toms BSc PhD (University of Gloucestershire)
Conservation	Karen Barker BSc (freelance) Pieta Greaves BSc MSc ACR (Drakon Heritage and Conservation) Julia Park-Newman (Conservation Services, freelance)





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Cirencester 01285 771022
Milton Keynes 01908 564660
Suffolk 01449 900120

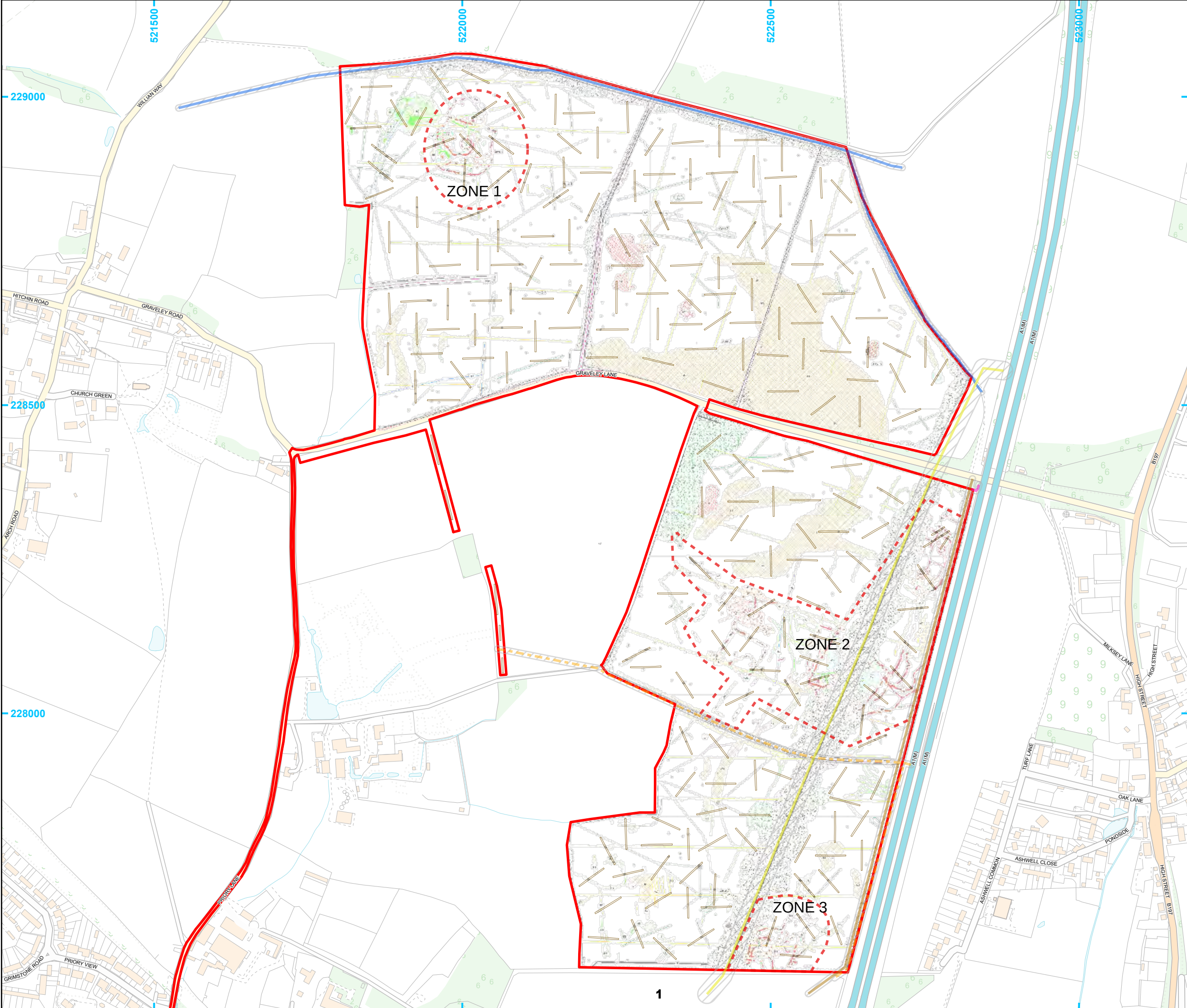
W www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
E enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE
Priory Farm Solar Farm,
Wymondley, Hertfordshire

FIGURE TITLE
Site location plan

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Legend

- Site Boundary
- Previous CA Trench/LOE
- Previous Feature
- Previously proposed No Dig Zone
- Gas - NGT
- Electric UG (up to 11Kv) - UKPN
- Water - Affinity Water
- Water (Asbestos Pipe) - Affinity Water
- Telecoms UG (BT)
- Utility Buffer

Geophysical Interpretations (AOC 2022)

- Linear Trend (Drainage)
- Linear Trend (Historic Feature)
- Linear Trend (Ploughing)
- Trend (Possible Archaeology)
- Trend (Unclear Origin)
- Linear Trend (Archaeology)
- Enhanced Magnetism (Archaeology)
- Probable Extraction (Undated)
- Area of Burning
- Enhanced Magnetism (Historic Feature)
- Enhanced Magnetism (Modern)
- Linear Trend (Possible Archaeology)
- Enhanced Magnetism (Possible Archaeology)
- Ferrous/Iron Spike
- Enhanced Magnetism (Unclear Origin)
- Ferrous/Iron Spike

0 300m
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Cotswold Archaeology
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www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE
Priory Farm Solar Farm,
Wymondley, Hertfordshire

FIGURE TITLE
Previously proposed No Dig Zones

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Legend

- Site Boundary
- Excavation Area
- Previous CA Trench/LOE
- Field drain
- Previous Feature
- Deposit
- trackway
- wall
- Gas - NGT
- Water (Asbestos Pipe) - Affinity Water
- Telecoms UG (BT)
- Utility Buffer

Geophysical Interpretations (AOC 2022)

- Linear Trend (Drainage)
- Linear Trend (Historic Feature)
- Linear Trend (Ploughing)
- Trend (Possible Archaeology)
- Trend (Unclear Origin)
- Linear Trend (Archaeology)
- Enhanced Magnetism (Archaeology)
- Probable Extraction (Undated)
- Area of Burning
- Enhanced Magnetism (Historic Feature)
- Enhanced Magnetism (Modern)
- Linear Trend (Possible Archaeology)
- Enhanced Magnetism (Possible Archaeology)
- Ferrous/Iron Spike
- Enhanced Magnetism (Unclear Origin)
- Ferrous/Iron Spike

0 50m

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Cotswold Archaeology

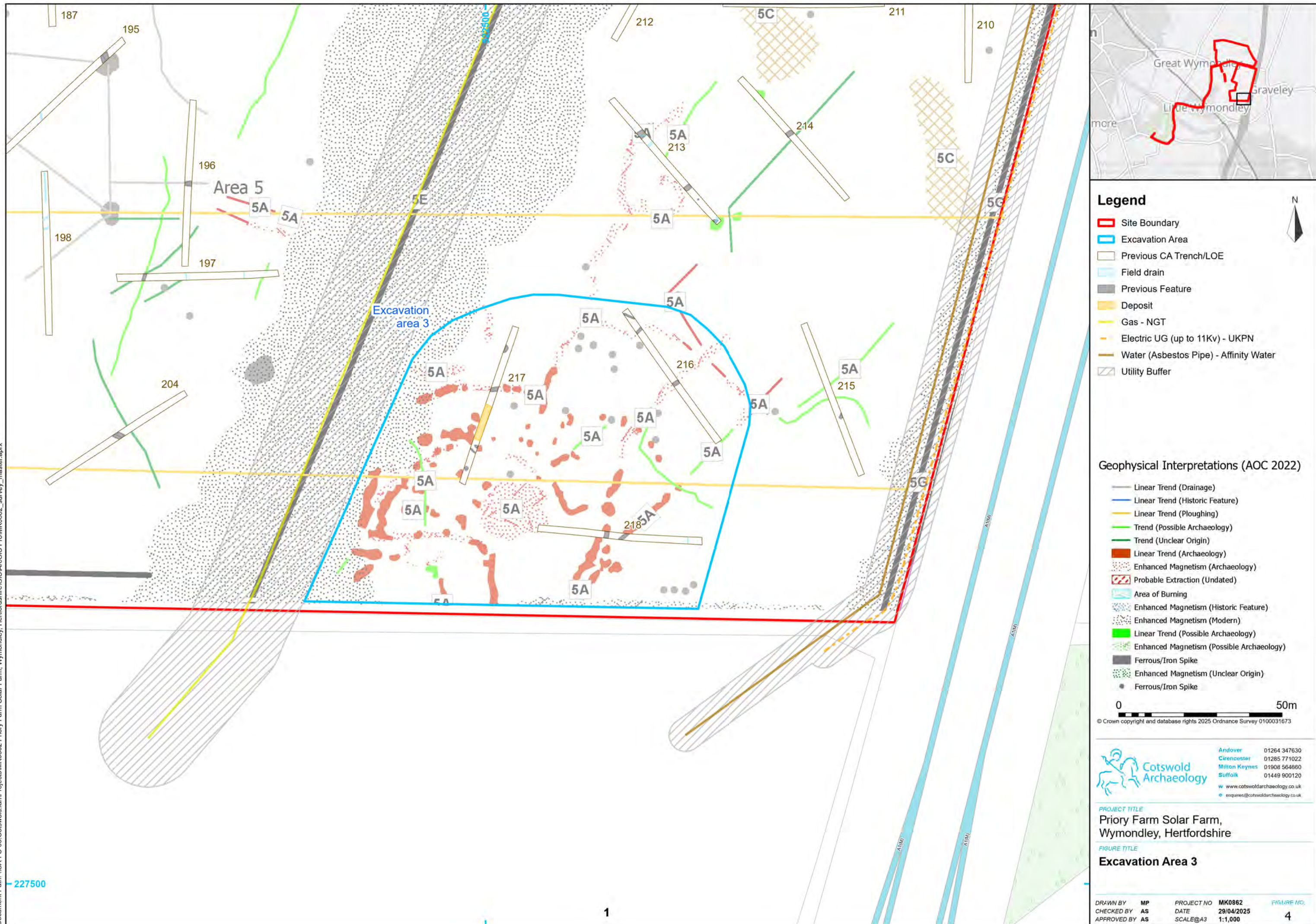
Andover 01264 347630
Cirencester 01285 771022
Milton Keynes 01908 564660
Suffolk 01449 900120
www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
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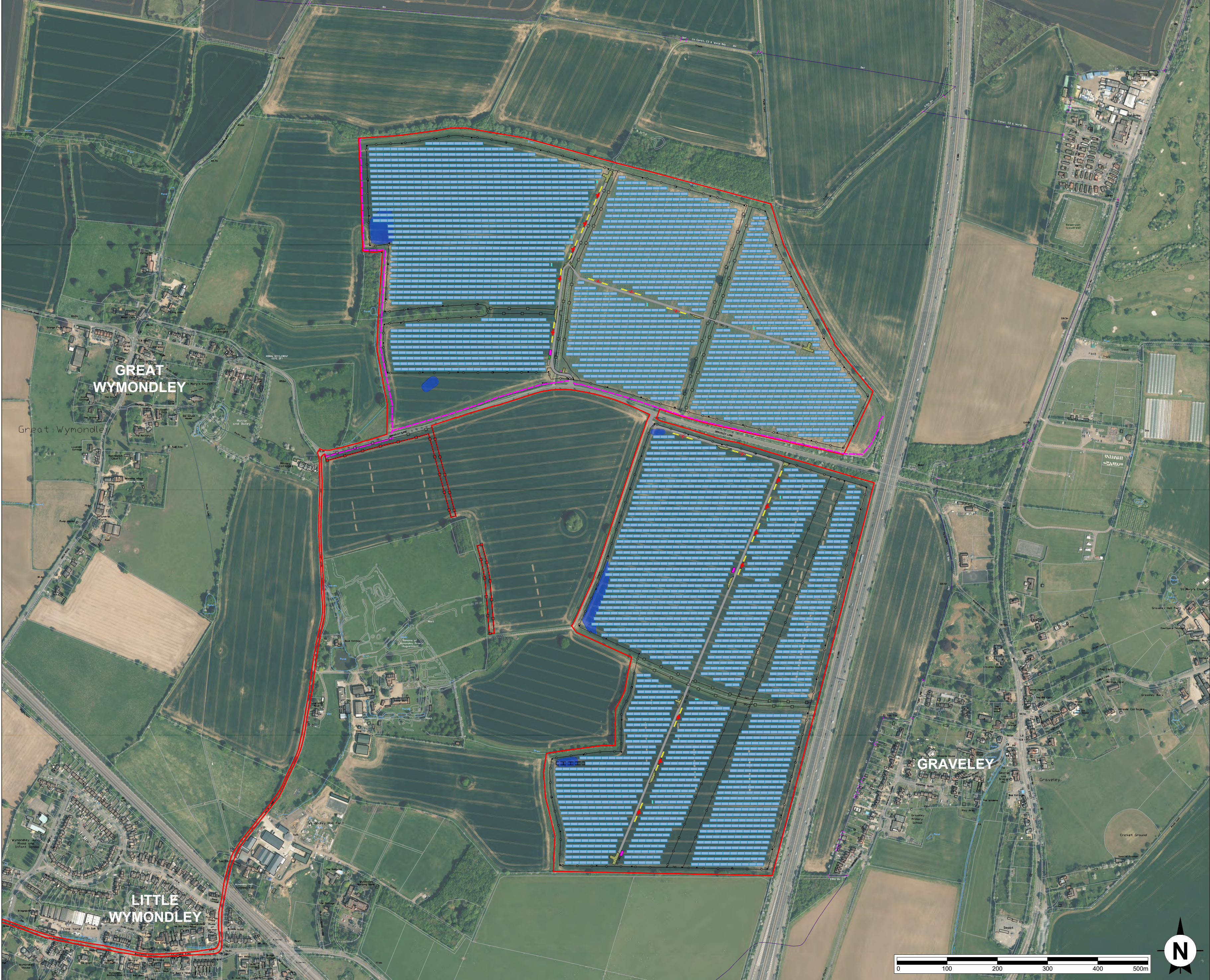
PROJECT TITLE
Priory Farm Solar Farm,
Wymondley, Hertfordshire

FIGURE TITLE
Excavation Area 2

DRAWN BY MP **PROJECT NO** MK0862 **FIGURE NO.** 3
CHECKED BY AS **DATE** 29/04/2025
APPROVED BY AS **SCALE@A3** 1:1,000

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Revision History		Date
M	Updated Drainage Basin	16-12-24
N	Updated BESS Unit Layout	06-01-25
O	Updated BESS Layout and Infrastructure	13-02-25
P	Revised Layout	20-02-25
Q	Solar Transformer Units revised	26-02-25
R	30m Easement from Gas Pipeline updated	26-03-25
S	Gates relocated	22-04-25
T	Permissive Path updated inline with Landscape Proposal	28-04-25
U	Update made to Grasscrete and Legend	01-05-25

- Site Boundary
- Photovoltaic Panels
- Solar Transformer
- Inverter / Transformer Station
- Battery Storage Container
- Storage
- Welfare
- Switchgear Building
- Deer / stock fence 2.1m
- Stock fence 1.2m
- Proposed access track
- Permissive Path
- Surface Water Attenuation Basin / Flood Storage Area
- Permeable Grasscrete Turning/Passing Area
- Items Omitted/Relocated
- Water Hydrant
- CCTV

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client: AGR			
project: PRIORITY FARM SOLAR ARRAY			
drawing title: GENERAL ARRANGEMENT			
date: October 2021		drawn by: TR	checked: PR
drawing number: 3004-01-003		status: ---	
scale(s): 1:5,000@A2		rev: U	
planning environment design			

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