

Archaeological Desk Based Assessment

19 Walnut Tree Road, Pirton, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG5 3PX

For:	Pentangle Design
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2 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Land at 19 Walnut Tree Road, Pirton, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG5 3PX has been assessed in order to consider its below ground archaeological potential. In accordance with relevant government planning policy and guidance. This desk-based assessment has been undertaken to clarify the archaeological potential of the proposed development area (PDA) and to consider possible impacts on surrounding archaeological heritage assets.

The proposals are shown at Appendix 4. The proposal for 19 Walnut Tree Road, Pirton, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG5 3PX comprises:

Residential development consisting of four dwellings and retention of existing dwelling.

In terms of relevant designated heritage assets, no nationally designated listed buildings, scheduled monuments, World Heritage Sites, Historic Battlefield or Historic Wreck sites lies within the PDA. There are fifty one listed buildings within the 1km Study Area (Figures 3 and 4) and many of these lie within the Medieval and Post-Medieval core of Pirton village to the northwest of the PDA. The Toot Hill motte and bailey castle and shrunken medieval village at Pirton (1012325) scheduled monument lies to the immediate west of the PDA (Figure 4). The PDA lies within the Pirton Conservation Area.

The PDA lies within a specific ‘Archaeological Alert Area’ of which there are eight within Pirton. The PDA lies within DHT1069 which is described as covering the putative extent of “Pirton historic village area and surrounds, including Prehistoric and Roman cropmarks to the south of the village and Medieval ridge and furrow earthworks by Rectory Manor Farm” (Appendix 1). An Archaeological Alert Area is a classification which some LPA’s use to draw attention to land within a certain polygon/area. Frequently, these alert areas contain HER records which have informed the decision to draw the polygon in expectation of further, similar remains being revealed on that land. These records are of archaeological interest and they form the core of the assessment of archaeological potential within the PDA.

This assessment considers the PDA to have a Low to High potential for archaeological remains. This varies by period. These remains are considered to be likely to have a Low to Medium importance (defined in Table 1). This assessment also comments on what importance archaeological remains on the site may have in regional, period or topic specific terms.

Period/Topic	Likelihood of remains being present (Low, Medium, High)	Importance (Low, Medium, High, Very High – See Table 1)
Early – Middle Prehistoric (Palaeolithic – Mesolithic)	Low	Low
Late Prehistoric (Neolithic, Bronze Age)	Low	Low
Late Prehistoric (Iron Age)	Low-Medium	Low-Medium
Roman	Medium	Low-Medium
Early-Medieval	Medium	Low-Medium
Medieval	Medium	Low-Medium
Post-Medieval	High	Low
Modern	High	Low

Period/Topic	Likelihood of remains being present (Low, Medium, High)	Importance (Low, Medium, High, Very High – See Table 1)
Geoarchaeological	-	-

The proposed residential development will require foundations and will need utility connections. We note that such developments involve the creation of a new access road/s into the PDA along with areas needed for car parking. That would entail stripping of overburden. This development would also see landscaping improvements. Impacts here would be much lighter comprising of the creation of a path/s and planting of shrubs/trees.

Such groundworks have the potential to impact upon non-designated (archaeological) heritage assets lying at a relatively shallow depth. We anticipate that pre-modern buried remains, if present, would occur at a depth of c. 600-650mm below the existing ground level. There are earthworks within this PDA. Those of archaeological interest comprise the drainage ditch running through the PDA and the remnant banks of Larkins Pond. These are likely Post-Medieval in date. It is likely that the earthworks in the eastern part of the PDA will be impacted by the proposals.

The Local Planning Authority (LPA), which is North Hertfordshire District Council, will decide whether a condition (related to archaeology) would be appropriate. This they will do so on the basis of advice from the Senior Historic Environment Advisor, Hertfordshire LEADS, Sustainable Growth, Hertfordshire County Council (who provides advice to this LPA). This assessment will form a part of the information under consideration.

On the basis of available evidence, it is considered that the proposed development accords with current legislation, the planning policies contained within the NPPF and local policies which relate to archaeology. As already stated, the Local Planning Authority (LPA) will decide whether a condition (related to archaeology) would be appropriate.

3 INTRODUCTION AND SCOPE OF ASSESSMENT

3.1 BACKGROUND

- 3.1.1 This archaeological desk-based assessment has been prepared by Joe Abrams of Abrams Archaeology. The document was produced for Pentangle Design, working on behalf of, PK Shadbolt. Research, site walkover, graphics and drafting of text has been completed by Joe Abrams.
- 3.1.2 The proposals are shown at Appendix 4. The proposals are shown at Appendix 4. The proposal for 19 Walnut Tree Road, Pirton, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG5 3PX comprises:
Residential development consisting of four dwellings and retention of existing dwelling.
- 3.1.3 The development land is centred at NGR TL 14952 31501 and, by way of introduction, it is an L-Shaped piece of land in plan. The proposals cover an area of c. 0.69ha and is accessed via Walnut Tree Road which forms its western boundary. Its northern boundary is formed of Cotman End and Pirton Recreation Ground lies to its east and there is an area of open ground (under grass) to its south (Plate 1 and Figure 2). A single dwelling currently lies in the northern part of this proposed development area (PDA) while the remainder of the land is its gardens and driveway. Plate 1 allows the reader to appreciate the land use at the present time.
- 3.1.4 A pre-application advice letter¹ was issued in September 2025 and within this letter a request was made for the submission of an Archaeological Report. This document is that report. It considers heritage assets of archaeological interest, including finds/findspots of artefactual (e.g. flint tools and pottery) and ecofactual material (e.g. plant remains and bone), and locations, features or objects referenced from historic documents. Where appropriate, it refers to archaeological and palaeoenvironmental deposits, including sub-surface archaeological remains of features, buildings and structures.
- 3.1.5 Data has been collected for an area comprising a 1km radius of the PDA boundary. This study area has been selected on the basis of professional judgment, and through consultation with the Hertfordshire, Historic Environment Record (HER), Hertfordshire County Council. It has been decided that this is sufficient to determine the archaeological potential of the PDA. This determination took into account its location, topography, and character.
- 3.1.6 In terms of relevant designated heritage assets, no nationally designated listed buildings, scheduled monuments, World Heritage Sites, Historic Battlefield or Historic Wreck sites lies within the PDA.

¹ Pre Application Advice Letter from North Hertfordshire District Council issued on 22 September 2025. 25/01885/PRE

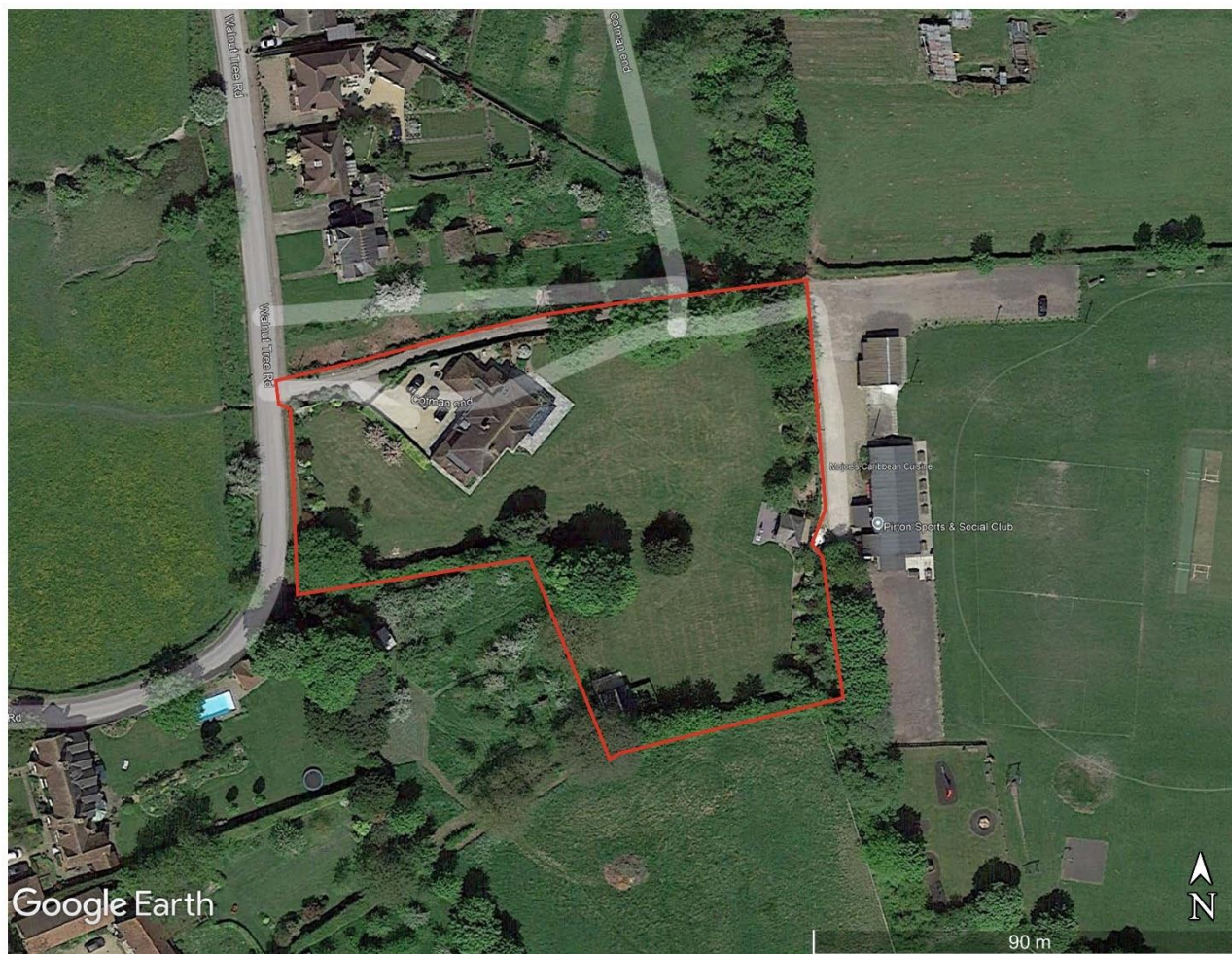


Plate 1: Google earth (2018) image illustrating land use in 2018

- 3.1.7 There are fifty one listed buildings within the 1km Study Area (Figures 3 and 4) and many of these lie within the Medieval and Post-Medieval core of Pirton village to the northwest of the PDA. The *Toot Hill motte and bailey castle and shrunken medieval village at Pirton (1012325)* scheduled monument lies to the immediate west of the PDA (Figure 4). The PDA lies within the Pirton Conservation Area.
- 3.1.8 Built heritage and setting issues are not a subject of this report. These matters are dealt within in a separate report. Therefore, the impact of the proposed development on any designated built heritage assets or conservation areas is not considered here. Where the existence of an historic building may help to inform the archaeological potential of the PDA, the building will be referred to. Likewise, if a nearby conservation area appraisal was considered to be a useful indicator of archaeological potential, it would be referred to.
- 3.1.9 The PDA does lie within a specific ‘Archaeological Alert Area’ of which there are eight within Pirton. The PDA lies within DHT1069 which is described as covering the putative extent of “*Pirton historic village area and surrounds, including Prehistoric and Roman cropmarks to the south of the village and Medieval ridge and furrow earthworks by Rectory Manor Farm*” (Appendix 1). An Archaeological Alert Area is a classification which some LPA’s use to draw attention to land within a certain polygon/area. Frequently, these alert areas contain HER records which have informed the decision to draw the polygon in expectation of further, similar remains being revealed on that land. These records are of archaeological interest and they form the core of the assessment of archaeological potential within the PDA.
- 3.1.10 This archaeological desk-based assessment draws together the available archaeological, topographic and land-use information in order to clarify the archaeological potential of the PDA, together with its likely significance, and to consider the need for design, civil engineering, and archaeological solutions to any constraints identified.

3.2 GEOLOGY

- 3.2.1 The British Geological Survey² identifies the underlying solid geology across the PDA as West Melbury Marly Chalk Formation - Chalk. Sedimentary bedrock formed between 100.5 and 93.9 million years ago during the Cretaceous period. Superficial deposits are not recorded for this location (within the BGS).
- 3.2.2 A single borehole exists c. 150m southwest of the PDA, at Walnut Tree Farm. This borehole (Reference: TL13SW10. Name: WALNUT TREE FARM PIRTON³) recorded no deposits of topsoil. Instead, it recorded Chalk Marl geology

² Reference: TL13SW10. Name: WALNUT TREE FARM PIRTON. <https://api.bgs.ac.uk/sobi-scans/v1/borehole/scans/items/529056> - accessed 24-11-2024

³ <https://mapapps2.bgs.ac.uk/geoindex/home.html? ga=2.203191377.1736838650.1700302448-1976734535.1700302448> – accessed 11-11-2024

overlying blue clay. Unfortunately, it is the topsoil deposits which would have been of most interest to this assessment as we are considering the depth at which archaeological remains are most likely to be buried.

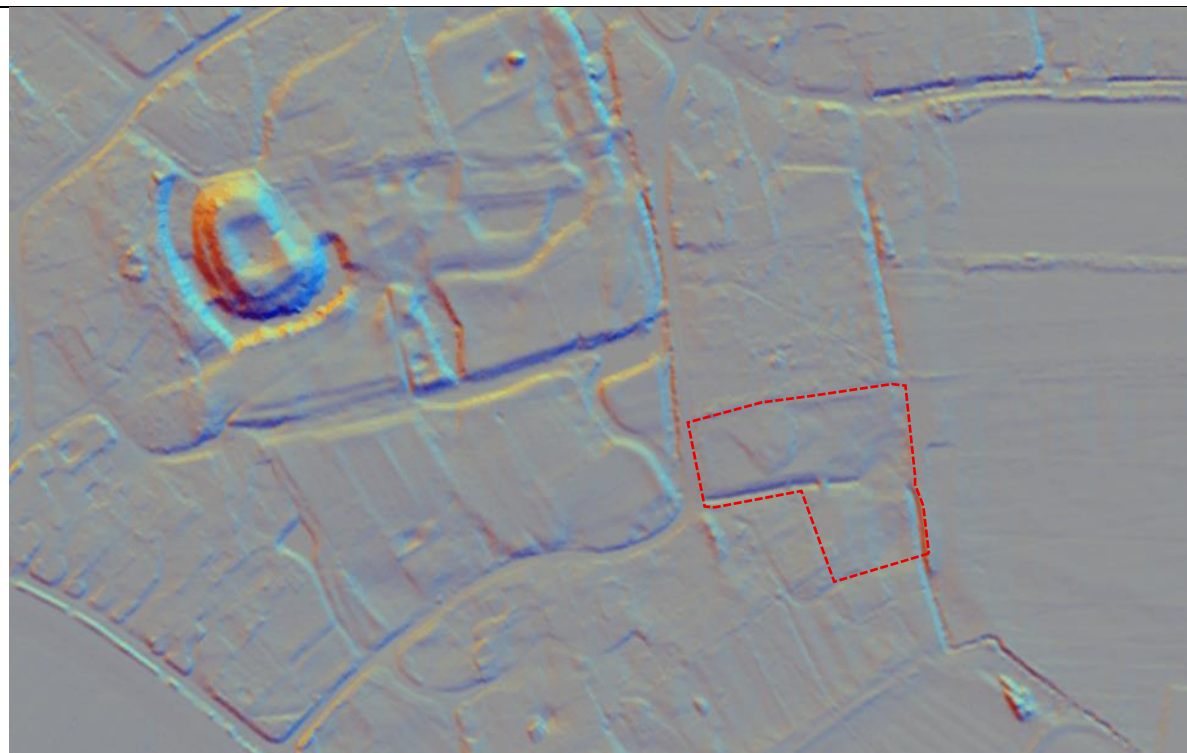
- 3.2.3 Fortunately, there have been numerous archaeological investigations within the village and some are close enough to the PDA to extrapolate useful data from. The most useful example being a trial trenching evaluation which took place to the immediate north of the PDA at 17 Walnut Tree Road. This used ten trenches to evaluate a site of similar dimensions to the PDA. Trench 2 within that evaluation was located 10m north of the PDA and this contained topsoil deposits of 450mm depth and subsoil deposits of 180mm depth.
- 3.2.4 Within the main, triangular part of the PDA, the land is in use as a garden for the existing residential building. Most of the land is under grass and shows very little trace of pre-existing truncation or earth movements. The existing access and driveway for the house has been surfaced and, as a result, will have lost its original topsoil layer.
- 3.2.5 Topsoil, subsoil and/or hardstanding are what is termed *overburden* by archaeologists. These deposits would, in this area, overlie the upper surface of geological deposits and/or cut archaeological features, the latter cut into the geological deposits.
- 3.2.6 By combining our own experience working on soils in this area with the above data, we would assume the depth of overburden at this site to be in the region of c. 600-650mm. Therefore, the depth of archaeological sensitivity will be between 600-650mm below the overburden and the existing ground surface.

3.3 TOPOGRAPHY AND HYDROLOGY

- 3.3.1 The topography of the PDA and surrounding land is key to considering both its function in the past (in terms of land use) and its archaeological potential. The PDA lies at c. 70m OD. The land is broadly level with the exception of an earthwork, and drainage ditch, which across the southern half of the PDA. Fed from a drainage ditch running south along Walnut Tree Road, this drainage ditch leads to the location of a (now infilled) pond, named Larkins Pond, which was located within the eastern boundary of the land. The drainage ditch then takes a sharp turn to the southeast and runs into agricultural land to the southeast of the village.
- 3.3.2 Land climbs to the southwest of Pirton rising into Tingley wood towards Deacon Hill (146m OD) and land slopes to the northeast towards Arlesey (42m OD) where the River Hiz flows north.
- 3.3.3 The qualities of local soils, determined by geology and topography, would have affected local plant resources and are also relevant for human settlement patterns and landuse. The availability of freshwater is of similar importance.

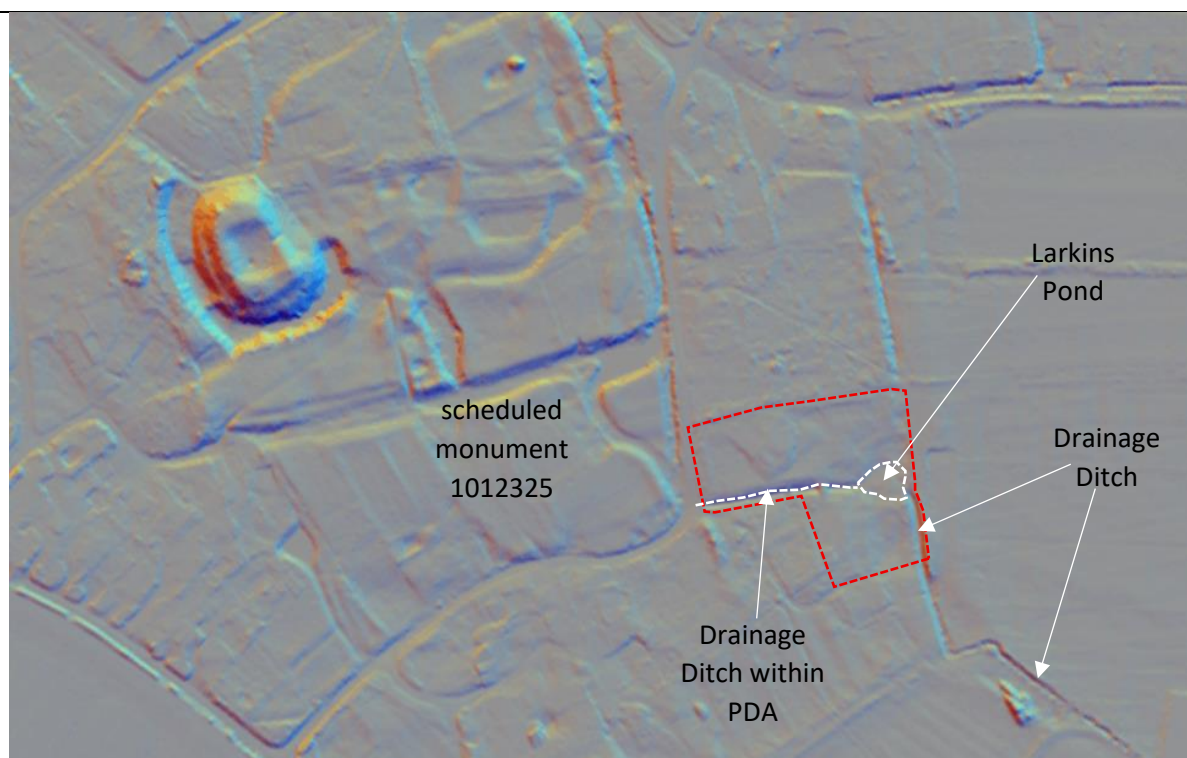
3.4 WALKOVER

- 3.4.1 The photographs inserted below (Plates 4-11) were taken on a site visit on 26 November 2025. They record different parts of the PDA in order to aid the reader in understanding the land better. Specifically, to understand where archaeological potential exists and where it may have been reduced by existing landuse.
- 3.4.2 The reader may benefit from referring to Plate 1 in order to understand the PDA in a general sense as it shows a recent satellite image from which local land use can be discerned. Plates 2 and 3 show the land in a different way, using LIDAR data, which draws out certain features. In this case the drainage ditch which runs through the southern part of the PDA feeding Larkins Pond, on the eastern edge of the PDA before draining into fields southeast of the PDA. We note that Larkins Pond was infilled by 2016. However, its banks and former location are still visible as earthworks (Plates 13-14). We further note that the drainage ditch across the land has been infilled and replaced by a pipe at the eastern end of the garden. It is still visible on the western and central parts of the land.
- 3.4.3 The majority of the PDA is under grass and in use as a residential garden. The construction of the existing dwelling and the driveway associated with it has impacted land on the northwestern part of the land.
- 3.4.4 Aside from the drainage ditch and Larkins Pond, there were no visible, previously unknown, earthworks spotted during our visit. There were no surface level indications of below ground activity (e.g. cropmarks or parchmarks) or surface level artefacts.



LIDAR Data © Environment Agency copyright and/or database right 2025. All rights reserved.

Plate 2: LIDAR Imagery showing the PDA



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Plate 3: LIDAR imagery showing the PDA with annotation to draw attention to the drainage ditch which runs across the PDA to feed Larkins Pond and which corresponds with a ditch on the western side of Walnut Tree Road (within scheduled monument 1012325)



Plate 4: Facing east towards Cotman End running into a modern residential street (left hand side of the image) and past the PDA (right hand side of image).



Plate 5: Facing north along the Walnut Tree Road. The PDA lies behind the fence in the right hand side of this image.



Plate 6: Facing existing residential building within the PDA.



Plate 7: Parking area within the PDA, in from of the existing house within the PDA.



Plate 8: Facing east across rear garden within the PDA.



Plate 9: Facing towards the northern edge of the PDA from the immediate south of the existing house.



Plate 10: Facing north from the southern edge of the PDA.



Plate 11: Facing west along drainage ditch which runs through the PDA.



Plate 12: Facing east along drainage ditch within the PDA.



Plate 13: Facing across the infilled Larkins Pond which lay on the eastern edge of the PDA.



Plate 14: Facing south across the infilled Larkins Pond. Its former banks exist as earthworks.



Plate 15: Facing into scheduled monument *Toot Hill motte and bailey castle and shrunken medieval village at Pirton (1012325)* which lies on the western side of Walnut Tree Road.

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 THE SOURCES

4.1.1 In preparing this assessment we have compiled readily available archaeological and historical information from documentary and cartographic sources, primarily:

- The Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record (HER) for known archaeological sites, monuments and findspots within 1km of the Site (i.e. the Study Area).
- Maps purchased via Blackwells and online sources (British Library).
- The National Heritage List for England (Historic England).
- Air photographs held by online repositories
- LIDAR (Environment Agency)
- The Domesday Survey (<http://www.domesdaybook.co.uk/>)
- Victoria County History (<https://www.history.ac.uk/research/victoria-county-history>)

4.1.2 The information gathered from the above sources has been verified and augmented, as far as possible, in order to arrive at conclusions on the significance of the various heritage assets and archaeological remains that have been identified.

4.2 ASSESSMENT

4.2.1 The assessment seeks to understand and define the significance of (archaeological) heritage assets identified from the sources above, taking into account the categories of special interest defined in the NPPF, primarily archaeological interest, historic interest, architectural interest and artistic interest (as appropriate).

4.2.2 The importance of a heritage asset is the overall value assigned to it based on its heritage significance, reflecting its statutory designation or, in the case of undesignated assets, the professional judgement of the assessor (Table 1).

4.2.3 The assessment does not consider change to the setting and significance of heritage assets.

TABLE 1: CRITERIA FOR ASSESSING THE IMPORTANCE OF HERITAGE ASSETS

Importance of the asset	Criteria
Very high	World Heritage Sites and other assets of equal international importance
High	Grade I and II* Registered Parks and Gardens, scheduled monuments, Protected Wreck Sites, Registered Battlefields, Grade I and II* listed buildings, and undesignated heritage assets of equal importance
Medium	Conservation Areas, Grade II Registered Parks and Gardens, Grade II listed buildings, heritage assets on local lists and undesignated assets of equal importance
Low	Undesignated heritage assets of lesser importance

4.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

4.3.1 The report concludes with

- (1) an assessment of the potential for archaeological remains to have been present, and for them to have been preserved to the present day. These are distinct factors, which both contribute to the site's archaeological potential.
- (2) an assessment on the relative importance of archaeological remains on the PDA. This considers them in regional, period or topic specific terms. Our ability to comment is based upon what is known at this stage measured against the research priorities we are aware of. The PDA is considered to have the potential to have remains important in these ways.
- (3) we consider those activities and conditions (we know of) on the site which have either truncated, compacted or removed remains and those which may have sealed and/or otherwise preserved remains.
- (4) an assessment of the likely effects of the proposed development on heritage assets, in terms of physical impact.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

5.1 WHAT IS KNOWN?

- 5.1.1 This Section reviews the available archaeological evidence for the PDA and the archaeological/historical background of the general area, and, in accordance with NPPF, considers the potential for any as yet to be discovered archaeological evidence on the PDA.
- 5.1.2 The manor of Pirton is recorded in Domesday as the property of Ralph de Limsey. The number of households is recorded as twenty five villagers, twenty nine smallholders, twelve cottagers, ten slaves and one priest. The land and resources included twenty ploughlands, six lord's plough teams, twelve men's plough teams. Other resources included two lord's lands, Meadow, ten ploughs, Woodland, 500 pigs, four mills. It was within the largest 20% of settlements recorded in Domesday⁴. Before the Norman conquest, the land was held by Archbishop Stigand.
- 5.1.3 The Medieval village was located at the southern end of modern Pirton, which is immediately west and northwest of the PDA. The land is known as 'The Bury' and includes a number of house platforms, sunken roadways and boundaries which mark the surviving remnants of the shrunken medieval settlement. Toot Hill, situated on the northern side of The Bury and just to the south of the modern village, represents the remains of a Norman Motte and Bailey castle, thought to have been established in the early 12th century. The reader can see the location of this land on Figure 3, shaded brown and labelled 1012325.
- 5.1.4 Immediately adjacent to the motte is the church of St Mary, also constructed in the early 12th century. Further to the north east, the moated site at Rectory Farm represents the other end of the medieval settlement. The Moat has been partially filled in and a 17th century farmhouse constructed over the south western corner. The peak for construction of moated sites in south eastern England occurs between 1250 and 1350, so the likelihood is that this represents a semi-fortified manorial site replacing the castle.
- 5.1.5 The development of the post-medieval village occurred to the north of the medieval settlement, with houses occupying the present street plan, certainly by the 1880's as visible on the 1882 Ordnance Survey. The 1882 25" OS sheet shows that the precursor to Elm Tree Farm was the Shoulder of Mutton Public House, with the plots taken up by the current PDA in use as arable or pasture fields. The PDA lies to the south of this Post-Medieval historic core.
- 5.1.6 The PDA lies close to, but outside both the Medieval and Post-Medieval village cores. However, it is included within the Pirton village Archaeological Alert Area (Figure 9, DHT1069). This is described as "*Pirton historic village area and surrounds, including Prehistoric and Roman cropmarks to the south of the village and Medieval*

⁴ <https://opendomesday.org/place/TL1431/pirton/> - accessed 2025-11-27

ridge and furrow earthworks by Rectory Manor Farm" (Appendix 1, DHT1069). As the description relays, the alert area covers a larger area than the Medieval village taking in cropmarks to the south of the village. The PDA lies in a part of the village which has been tested by modern archaeological investigations of various types. These have recovered archaeological artefacts of Roman-Modern date (Section 5.2).

- 5.1.7 The PDA lies on the edge of the Medieval village and south of the Post-Medieval village. It lies within land which has traces (earthworks) of likely Post-Medieval to 19th C date (former pond and drainage ditch) and it lies in a part of the village with Roman and Early Medieval remains (Section 5.2).
- 5.1.8 The sections below will review selected nearby archaeological events and discuss selected HER records by period. This is done in order to help predict archaeological potential within the PDA.



© The British Library © OpenStreetMap contributors (<https://www.oldmapsonline.org/en/Hitchin?gid=29e2d2b5-f210-543c-a3d8-078da1e2070f#position=12.6044/51.9738/-0.3269&year=1804> - accessed 13-11-2025)

Plate 16: Baldock (1804). Selected portion focussed on the PDA.

TABLE 2: TIMESCALES USED IN THIS REPORT

<i>Period (Early-Middle Prehistoric)</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>
Palaeolithic	900,000BC	12,000BC
Mesolithic	12,000BC	4000BC
Neolithic	4000BC	2500BC
<i>Period (Later Prehistoric)</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>
Bronze Age	2500BC	800BC
Iron Age	800BC	AD43
<i>Period (Historic)</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>
Roman	AD43	AD410
Early Medieval	AD410	AD1066
Medieval	AD1066	AD1485
Post Medieval	AD1486	AD1799
Modern (may be split e.g. where important remains of Industrialisation or Cold War military remains, for example, are present)	AD1800	Present

5.2 PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK

- 5.2.1 The PDA has not previously been subject to modern archaeological investigation. However, there have been several archaeological investigations within close proximity. These are discussed below and the details of all investigations within 1km are described in Appendix 1 and illustrated on Figures 7 and 8.
- 5.2.2 Pirton village has been the subject of a particularly well organised and sustained series of test pitting investigations. Several of the test pits were opened on land to the north of the PDA and these include EHT8473, EHT8474, EHT8476. The HER event records containing relatively scarce details on the results of this work. However, the results have been covered in detail in a report on the various stages of investigation from 2007-2014⁵. This report contains a useful summary, by period, of the datable artefacts found in different parts of the village. Land to the north of the PDA produced a small quantity of Bronze Age pottery (1 sherd), a small quantity of Iron Age pottery (1

⁵ Collins, C. 2020. Archaeological Test Pit Excavations in Pirton, Hertfordshire 2007-2014. University of Cambridge.

sherd). Land to both the north and south of the PDA produced 5 sherds or more of pottery datable to the Roman period. The same was true for Medieval period and Post-Medieval pottery sherds on land to both the north and south of the PDA. A relatively large quantity of pottery sherds of 19th C date was recovered from test pits to both the north and south of the PDA. No test pits were opened within the PDA as part of these investigations.

- 5.2.3 EHT8630, EHT8902, EHT8932 and EHT9105 all refer to a series of investigations on land at 17 Walnut Tree Road. The land has subsequently been developed and has residential buildings on it. These investigations were prompted by the proposals for this development. EHT8630 is the only record within the HER for which there is information provided. EHT8902/EHT8932 contain no descriptive information. The trial trenching works for EHT8630 involved the opening of ten evaluation trenches and these revealed features across the site dating to the 9-12th century. Hand sieving of the subsoil resulted in the recovery of numerous sherds of generally abraded pottery. The topsoil, subsoil and natural were all of silty clay.
- 5.2.4 The investigation of land at 17 Walnut Tree Road is considered important in relation to the potential of the PDA. Therefore we note, the fieldwork described within the HER records revealed six features considered to be of possible archaeological significance. Four pits and two ditches, all were dated by pottery finds to the 9-12th centuries, except for one of the ditches which had no finds⁶.
- 5.2.5 EHT9404 records that an evaluation has taken place on land east of the PDA, at the Pirton Sports and Social Club. This was in 2024 and the HER does not describe the results in any detail.
- 5.2.6 EHT4805/EHT4209 describe investigations at Walnut Tree Farm. These have led to the identification of remains on the land, possibly a forerunner to the extant farmstead. These remains were identified during historic building work. Ditches and gullies may represent former boundaries, and pits contained domestic rubbish including daub, butchered bone and 10th-12th century pottery. Two postholes were recorded but no other evidence of structures. Additional features recorded in the service trench may relate to activity to the north-west in the area of The Bury. There was also considerable post-medieval evidence. Most of this was structural, relating to walls, pathways and other garden features. These were all considered likely to be associated with the present day farmhouse (17th century and later).
- 5.2.7 EHT3886, EHT3887 and EHT3888 refer to three phases of photographic study at St Marys Church, Pirton.
- 5.2.8 The above investigations will be referred to below where doing so is useful to the assessment of archaeological potential within the PDA for each chronological period.

⁶ <https://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archives/collections/view/1005173/metadata.cfm> - accessed 2025-11-26

5.3 EARLY TO MIDDLE PREHISTORIC - PALAEOLITHIC AND MESOLITHIC

- 5.3.1 No records of specifically Palaeolithic material are recorded within the study area on the HER. There is one record of Mesolithic date (10041) which refers to a scatter of struck flints recovered during fieldwalking on land east of Hitchin Road.
- 5.3.2 On the basis of the available evidence, the archaeological potential of the PDA for the Palaeolithic and Mesolithic periods is considered to be Low.

5.4 LATER PREHISTORIC – NEOLITHIC, BRONZE AGE AND IRON AGE

- 5.4.1 There are two records which refer to potentially Bronze Age period remains. These include 1714, a stone celt (tool) found c. 500m south of the PDA. The Icknield Way (4182) is considered to be a routeway of Neolithic date and it passes a short distance southeast of the study area.
- 5.4.2 Record 31109 is described as being of potentially late Neolithic and/or Bronze Age date. The record describes circular ditches of likely Neolithic or Bronze Age date located on Priors Hill, Hitchin. These were recorded by a geophysical survey. A pit of Neolithic date was recorded at Shillington Road, Pirton (MHT31580).
- 5.4.3 There are more records of Iron Age date than for preceding periods. These include 18218, a ditch containing Iron Age material. This was located south of Holwell Road and was recorded during trial trenching. The same investigation recorded several postholes in a partially circular arrangement (31348). Often such postholes demarcate the position of an earlier structure. Several intercutting pits were recorded on the same site (31349) and these were thought to have been extraction pits which later became backfilled with cultural material. Bronze age and Iron Age pottery and animal bone was recovered.
- 5.4.4 Investigation of land on Pollards Way, Pirton (31515) revealed a substantial assemblage of prehistoric pottery (237 sherds) was found in pits and postholes. The pottery was flint-gritted fabrics, it appeared to date to the late Bronze Age to earlier Iron Age. Three large pits slightly to the south of the late Bronze Age features contained only earlier Iron Age pottery suggesting that activity here spanned both periods.
- 5.4.5 Record MHT40380 refers to finds from Priors Hill, Pirton. These recovered late Iron Age/early Roman inhumations and finds of other periods.
- 5.4.6 On the basis of the available evidence, the archaeological potential of the PDA for the Neolithic, Bronze Age is considered to be Low. The potential for Iron Age remains is considered to be Low-Medium.

5.5 ROMAN

- 5.5.1 Pirton was subject to several seasons of test-pitting, conducted as a community project (EHT8473, EHT8474, EHT8476). This recorded sherds of Roman pottery on land to the immediate north and south of the PDA. Not in huge quantities but, nonetheless, this is indicative of nearby activity during the Roman period. There are various other finds of Roman period artefacts within the village. These include Roman coins (1474), pottery (1475, 1477), a spindle whorl (1480) and a Roman Building (1478).
- 5.5.2 A Roman pit (17170) was investigated within the grounds of Pirton. This contained animal bone and pottery. Excavations ahead of housing development took place on land at Pollards Way, Pirton. This revealed two scattered features, one of which was a pit containing a Roman greyware base sherd and three cattle teeth; the other was part of a ditch running northwest to southeast. In the ditch fill was a piece of possibly Roman tile. The paucity of the finds suggests the features are some distance from Roman buildings, and the ditch may be a field boundary. *“Further work found that the Roman features here amounted to a large pit and perhaps a few smaller features. The pit contained various fills including dumps of cess; in a lower fill were six sherds including residual prehistoric pottery, a 1st century grog-tempered sherd and a sherd from a 1st-2nd century white ware flagon, beneath an upper fill containing seven sherds including one of late 3rd to 4th century date. A post hole and two ditch fills contained a few highly abraded sherds, too worn to date these features”* (Appendix 1, 17170).
- 5.5.3 On the basis of the available evidence, the archaeological potential of the PDA for the Roman period is considered to be Medium.

5.6 EARLY MEDIEVAL - MEDIEVAL

- 5.6.1 Pirton was subject to several seasons of test-pitting, conducted as a community project (EHT8473, EHT8474, EHT8476). This revealed a relatively small quantity of Early Medieval pottery sherds. A higher quantity of Medieval pottery sherds was revealed to the north and south of the PDA by this series of test pits.
- 5.6.2 Pirton village is defined as being Sub-Roman to modern by HER record 16620. This refers to the period immediately after the Roman Empire withdrew from Britain. New settlements formed in this period and the suggestion is that Pirton was amongst them. It has been continuously settled since with the focal point/s of that settlement shifting in that period of approximately 1500 years. The PDA lies within the Archaeological Alert Area of Pirton village. The PDA lies in close proximity to the Early Medieval Castle and associated remains at *Toot Hill motte and bailey castle and shrunken medieval village at Pirton* (1012325) which lies to the west (Figures 3 and 4). The boundaries of that scheduled monument are defined by Walnut Tree Road. However, we should not see the modern road or the official monument polygon as being the boundaries of

Early Medieval or Medieval activity. Land within the PDA will have formed part of the Early Medieval and Medieval settlement. It may have been open and within the settlement and it may, or may not, have had buildings on it at times.

- 5.6.3 We note that investigations immediately north of the PDA revealed remains of Early Medieval and Medieval date (MHT31642) and that land was also located outside the scheduled monument and to the east of Walnut Tree Road.
- 5.6.4 The potential for remains datable to the Early Medieval is considered to be Medium and for the Medieval period is also considered to be Medium.

5.7 POST MEDIEVAL

- 5.7.1 The Post-Medieval village had its core to the north of St Marys Church, with the PDA lying somewhat south of that core. The Baldock 1804 map (Plate 16) and the first edition of the Ordnance Survey map (Appendix 5, 1881-1882) shows the PDA lying south of the village at that time and Walnut Tree Farm is shown to the southwest. The PDA lies in a part of the village characterised by open ground. This map is later than the Post-Medieval period. However, it illustrates the layout of earlier maps (Section 5.8.2) which date to the end of the Post-Medieval period. We believe this is a useful representation when trying to understand the layout of the village in this period.
- 5.7.2 However, the PDA was also within the village during this period. Land use is uncertain. However, the drainage ditch crossing the land is likely to be Post-Medieval in date as was Larkins Pond (now infilled) and both lay within the PDA (Plates 11-14). It is possible that the land was in use as fields, as depicted on 19th C mapping.
- 5.7.3 Walnut Tree Farm (15907) lies c. 100m southwest of the PDA. The oldest parts of the building are late Medieval and 17th C in date. There is no indication of similar buildings within the PDA. Again, it is perhaps more likely that it was in use as open agricultural land. Ponds such as Larkins Pond were often used to help manage livestock in and around villages such as Pirton.
- 5.7.4 The potential for remains datable to the Post-Medieval period is considered High.

5.8 MAP REGRESSION COVERING THE MODERN PERIOD

- 5.8.1 Historic maps can often provide a useful source when trying to understand pre-modern land use. The 20th and 21st centuries have seen large scale change to villages and towns in the area and viewing earlier maps can provide a way of seeing the landscape prior to those changes. Not all of these are reproduced here, but have been viewed in order to produce this narrative.
- 5.8.2 The 1818 Enclosure Map of Pirton shows that the PDA lay within a rectangular field named Bannister Close. This was split into two plots. Plot 198 was owned

by Emilius Henry Delme Radcliffe and measured 0.45 acres. Plot 205 was owned by George Whittingstall and measured 1.90 acres. This map can be viewed on the Pirton Local History Group website⁷.

- 5.8.3 The first edition of the ordnance survey map for this area (1881-1882) shows the PDA and surrounding land in a lot more detail. On this map we can see that the boundaries of the PDA existed at this time. No buildings stood within the PDA at this time. The drainage ditch running east through the site is visible and was tree-lined at the time this map was drawn. Larkins Pond is visible on the eastern edge of the land at this time. Open fields exist to the east and south of the PDA. Walnut Tree Farm dominates the landscape to the southwest and Pirton village lies to the north. Land which is now scheduled and associated with Toot Hill was open at this time (as it remains now).
- 5.8.4 Subsequent Ordnance Survey Maps depict the changes which took place in the second half of the 20th C. We note that the Vicarage is mapped on the 1980s ordnance survey map and stands in the location of the current house. By 2007 satellite imagery shows the existing house has replaced the Vicarage and by 2016 satellite imagery shows that Larkins Pond has been infilled. The earthwork banks of this pond remain (Plates 13 and 14).
- 5.8.5 Historic Landscape characterisation has been completed for the area and this shows the PDA as lying within HHT1654 (Figure 10) which is described as '*built up area – urban development*' reflecting its position within the village of Pirton.
- 5.8.6 The potential for remains datable to the Modern period is considered high. These would include the partially infilled and extant drainage ditch and Larkins Pond.

⁷ Pirton Local History Group <https://pirtonhistory.org.uk/about-the-village/maps/> - accessed 2025-11-26

6 ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

6.1 ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (DESIGNATED ASSETS)

There are no designated heritage assets present within the PDA and the listed buildings within the Study Area are tabulated in Appendix 1 and located on Figure 3. The listed buildings are tabulated and located as their presence may indicate archaeological potential. This document does not cover built heritage setting and there is nothing further to assess in relation to designated heritage assets within the context of this document.

6.2 ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (NON-DESIGNATED ASSETS)

- 6.2.1 Existing national policy guidance for archaeology (the NPPF) enshrines the concept of the 'significance' of heritage assets. Significance as defined in the NPPF centres on the value of an archaeological or historic asset for its 'heritage interest' to this or future generations.
- 6.2.2 As identified by desk-based work, archaeological potential by period and the likely significance of any archaeological remains which may be present is summarised in table form below. HER and heritage asset information is shown on Figures 5 and 6.
- 6.2.3 The archaeological potential of remains that may be present on the PDA has been assessed as having Low to Medium importance within this assessment. The terms Low, Medium and High have a specific meaning and that is explained in Table 1, Section 4.2. Such remains have a local to regional interest in research terms. Archaeological research interest is determined by Regional Research Agenda. In this case from the *East of England Regional Research Framework*⁸.

Period	Research Objective	Additional detail
Early Anglo-Saxon	E-Sax 09: How best can we study Early Anglo-Saxon settlement cores in or near existing settlements?	Finding Early or Middle Anglo-Saxon settlement cores in or near existing settlement cores is not easy. Test pits provide a partial answer, as do occasional excavations in advance of small-scale development. However, well preserved historic cores are, rightly, protected (to some extent) and small observations of deeply stratified sites are likely to reveal little or nothing of early occupation. Nonetheless, every opportunity to observe development within a historic core should be taken.

⁸ East of England Regional Research Framework. Research Agenda. <https://researchframeworks.org/eoe/research-agenda/> - ACCESSED 2025-11-26.

Period	Research Objective	Additional detail
Medieval	Med (Rural) 09: How can we characterise medieval rural settlement morphology and relationships?	The origins and development of the different rural settlement types need further research, along with their hierarchic, topographic and functional backgrounds. The origins of the dispersed settlement pattern that is seen in much of this region needs further exploration, as does the question of its 'archaeological visibility' in earlier periods; what are its implications for social organisation and landscape development across the medieval period? Excavated sites should always be considered in relationship to their landscape setting as the layout of rural settlements tends to be heavily influenced by their farming regimes.
Post-Medieval	P-Med 14: How can we characterise the post-medieval historic landscape and the factors which affected it?	The wider landscape requires acknowledgement as the context for post-medieval settlement and industrial development, as well as farm buildings. Conversely, the impact of social and economic change – religion, enclosure, poverty etc – on the landscape should be taken into account. The county surveys of historic landscapes need to be brought to completion and updated where necessary, and integrated into the planning process as valuable tools for their protection.

6.2.4 We have assessed this site as having potential to contain non-designated remains of Low to Medium importance. Such remains are routinely investigated and recorded as a result of developer-led archaeological work in many parts of the UK.

TABLE 3: LIKELY POTENTIAL AND SIGNIFICANCE OF NON-DESIGNATED ASSETS

Period/Topic	Likelihood of remains being present (Low, Medium, High)	Importance (Low, Medium, High, Very High – See Table 1)
Early – Middle Prehistoric (Palaeolithic – Mesolithic)	Low	Low
Late Prehistoric (Neolithic, Bronze Age)	Low	Low
Late Prehistoric (Iron Age)	Low-Medium	Low-Medium
Roman	Medium	Low-Medium
Early-Medieval	Medium	Low-Medium
Medieval	Medium	Low-Medium
Post-Medieval	High	Low
Modern	High	Low
Geoarchaeological	-	-

7 SITE CONDITIONS AND POTENTIAL IMPACTS

7.1 PRESERVATION AND DESTRUCTION

- 7.1.1 This Section first considers how previous land use on the PDA has both created archaeological potential and reduced it. It then goes on to consider the proposals and how they may impact upon those potential remains (if any).

7.2 FACTORS AFFECTING ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVIVAL

- 7.2.1 Archaeological remains can survive as earthworks and as below ground archaeological features, finds and layers. Part of the assessment process is to consider what factors may have affected archaeological survival. That is to say, what conditions would have enhanced the chances of survival and what conditions would have reduced the chances of survival.
- 7.2.2 The subject of archaeological preservation has been covered comprehensively elsewhere⁹ and it is a subject which is subject to ongoing review as our understanding grows. The following text addresses some familiar scenarios for assessment reports such as this, to allow the reader an insight into some 'typical' scenarios.

7.3 TYPICAL PRESERVATION CONDITIONS IN RURAL LOCATIONS

- 7.3.1 In rural locations, below ground remains are likely to be sealed by a relatively thin series of layers. Typically, a topsoil of c.100-200mm and a subsoil of 100-300mm. Therefore, they may be sealed by 200-500mm of deposits. There are variations to this including landscapes affected by colluvial or alluvial deposits. There is also peat rich area where soil deposits can be significantly deeper. Earthworks are most common in areas not subject to modern, mechanised ploughing, although earthworks can be preserved in hedgerows, wooded areas and even as plough-reduced remnants within arable fields.
- 7.3.2 Hydrology has a significant role to play in the preservation of remains and proximity to watercourses and wetlands should be considered as it affects the variety and type of artefacts/ecofacts that could be present on a site.

Factors which enhance preservation	Factors which increase destruction
Pasture/grassland provides a relatively static condition for archaeological remains	Mechanised ploughing especially of deep rooting crops (e.g. Sugar Beet) causes truncation of archaeological deposits.
	Drainage for agricultural or mineral

⁹ Historic England 2016. Preserving Archaeological Remains. Decision-taking for Sites under Development

	extraction reasons can affect hydrology and therefore remove the conditions in which waterlogged remains may survive.
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7.4 SPECIFIC SITE CONDITIONS

- 7.4.1 A single borehole exists c. 150m southwest of the PDA, at Walnut Tree Farm. This borehole (Reference: TL13SW10. Name: WALNUT TREE FARM PIRTON¹⁰) recorded no deposits of topsoil. Instead, it recorded Chalk Marl geology overlying blue clay. Unfortunately, it is the topsoil deposits which would have been of most interest to this assessment as we are considering the depth at which archaeological remains are most likely to be buried.
- 7.4.2 Fortunately, there have been numerous archaeological investigations within the village and some are close enough to the PDA to extrapolate useful data from. The most useful example being a trial trenching evaluation which took place to the immediate north of the PDA at 17 Walnut Tree Road. This used ten trenches to evaluate a site of similar dimensions to the PDA. Trench 2 within that evaluation was located 10m north of the PDA and this contained topsoil deposits of 450mm depth and subsoil deposits of 180mm depth.
- 7.4.3 Within the main, triangular part of the PDA, the land is in use as a garden for the existing residential building. Most of the land is under grass and shows very little trace of pre-existing truncation or earth movements. The existing access and driveway for the house has been surfaced and, as a result, will have lost its original topsoil layer.
- 7.4.4 Topsoil, subsoil and/or hardstanding are what is termed *overburden* by archaeologists. These deposits would, in this area, overlie the upper surface of geological deposits and/or cut archaeological features, the latter cut into the geological deposits.
- 7.4.5 By combining our own experience working on soils in this area with the above data, we would assume the depth of overburden at this site to be in the region of c. 600-650mm. Therefore, the depth of archaeological sensitivity will be between 600-650mm below the overburden and the existing ground surface.

7.5 PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

- 7.5.1 The proposals are shown at Appendix 4. The proposals are shown at Appendix 4. The proposal for 19 Walnut Tree Road, Pirton, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG5 3PX comprises:

Residential development consisting of four dwellings and retention of existing dwelling.

¹⁰ https://mapapps2.bgs.ac.uk/geoindex/home.html?_ga=2.203191377.1736838650.1700302448-1976734535.1700302448 – accessed 11-11-2024

- 7.5.2 The proposed residential development would require foundations and will need utility connections. We note that such developments involve the creation of a new access road/s into the PDA along with areas needed for car parking. That would entail stripping of overburden.
- 7.5.3 This development would also see landscaping improvements. Impacts here would be much lighter comprising of the creation of a path/s and planting of shrubs/trees.

7.6 REVIEW OF POTENTIAL DEVELOPMENT IMPACTS ON ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSETS

- 7.6.1 The proposed residential development would require foundations for new buildings and new utility connections to serve those buildings. We note that such developments involve the creation of a new access road/s into the PDA along with areas needed for car parking. That would entail stripping of overburden.
- 7.6.2 This development would also see landscaping improvements. Impacts here would be much lighter comprising of the creation of a path/s and planting of shrubs/trees.
- 7.6.3 Such groundworks have the potential to impact upon non-designated (archaeological) heritage assets lying at a relatively shallow depth. We anticipate that pre-modern buried remains, if present, would occur at a depth of c. 600-650mm below the existing ground level. There are earthworks within this PDA. Those of archaeological interest comprise the drainage ditch running through the PDA and the remnant banks of Larkins Pond. These are likely Post-Medieval in date. It is likely that the earthworks in the eastern part of the PDA will be impacted by the proposals.

8 CONCLUSIONS

8.1 SUMMARY

- 8.1.1 Land at 19 Walnut Tree Road, Pirton, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG5 3PX has been assessed in order to consider its below ground archaeological potential. In accordance with relevant government planning policy and guidance. This desk-based assessment has been undertaken to clarify the archaeological potential of the proposed development area (PDA) and to consider possible impacts on surrounding archaeological heritage assets.
- 8.1.2 The proposals are shown at Appendix 4. The proposal for 19 Walnut Tree Road, Pirton, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG5 3PX comprises:
Residential development consisting of four dwellings and retention of existing dwelling.
- 8.1.3 In terms of relevant designated heritage assets, no nationally designated listed buildings, scheduled monuments, World Heritage Sites, Historic Battlefield or Historic Wreck sites lies within the PDA.
- 8.1.4 There are fifty one listed buildings within the 1km Study Area (Figures 3 and 4) and many of these lie within the Medieval and Post-Medieval core of Pirton village to the northwest of the PDA. The *Toot Hill motte and bailey castle and shrunken medieval village at Pirton (1012325)* scheduled monument lies to the immediate west of the PDA (Figure 4). The PDA lies within the Pirton Conservation Area.
- 8.1.5 The PDA does not lie within a specific 'Area of Archaeological Significance' (AAS). This being a classification which some LPA's use to draw attention to land within a certain polygon/area. However, it is relatively close to two AAS (Figure 8) and there are various non-designated Heritage Assets shown in the study area (Figure 4). These may be of archaeological interest and they form the core of the assessment of archaeological potential within the PDA.
- 8.1.6 The archaeological potential of remains that may be present on the PDA has been assessed as having Low to Medium importance within this assessment. The terms Low, Medium and High have a specific meaning and that is explained in Table 1, Section 4.2. Such remains have a local to regional interest in research terms.
- 8.1.7 The proposed residential development will require foundations and will need utility connections. We note that such developments involve the creation of a new access road/s into the PDA along with areas needed for car parking. That would entail stripping of overburden.

- 8.1.8 This development would also see landscaping improvements. Impacts here would be much lighter comprising of the creation of a path/s and planting of shrubs/trees.
- 8.1.9 Such groundworks have the potential to impact upon non-designated (archaeological) heritage assets lying at a relatively shallow depth. We anticipate that pre-modern buried remains, if present, would occur at a depth of c. 600-650mm below the existing ground level. There are earthworks within this PDA. Those of archaeological interest comprise the drainage ditch running through the PDA and the remnant banks of Larkins Pond. These are likely Post-Medieval in date. It is likely that the earthworks in the eastern part of the PDA will be impacted by the proposals.
- 8.1.10 The Local Planning Authority (LPA), which is North Hertfordshire District Council, will decide whether a condition (related to archaeology) would be appropriate. This they will do so on the basis of advice from the Senior Historic Environment Advisor, Hertfordshire LEADS, Sustainable Growth, Hertfordshire County Council (who provides advice to this LPA). This assessment will form a part of the information under consideration.
- 8.1.11 On the basis of available evidence, it is considered that the proposed development accords with current legislation, the planning policies contained within the NPPF and local policies which relate to archaeology. As already stated, the Local Planning Authority (LPA) will decide whether a condition (related to archaeology) would be appropriate.

9 APPENDIX 1 – TABULAR DATA SUPPORTING THE ASSESSMENT

9.1 CONSERVATION AREA

Conservation Area	County
Pirton	Hertfordshire

9.2 SCHEDULED MONUMENTS

NationalRe	DesigUID	RecordType	Name	Grade	PrefRef
1009451	DHT10758	SAM	MOATED SITE AND ASSOCIATED ENCLOSURE AT RECTORY FARM		20648
1012325	DHT10716	SAM	TOOT HILL MOTTE AND BAILEY CASTLE AND SHRUNKEN MEDIEVAL VILLAGE AT PIRTON		13612
1434415	DHT11395	SAM	Anglo-Saxon settlement and probable prehistoric ring ditches, west of Pirton village		

9.3 LISTED BUILDINGS

ListEntry	OBJECTID	Name	Grade	hyperlink	NGR
1103157	81170	28, SHILLINGTON ROAD	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1103157	TL 14316 31964
1103158	81171	THE RECTORY FARMHOUSE	II*	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1103158	TL 14148 31935
1103159	81172	DOVECOTE, STABLE AND GRANARY AT RECTORY FARM	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1103159	TL 14124 31915
1103161	81174	WALNUT TREE FARMHOUSE	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1103161	TL 14846 31428
1103162	81175	SOUTH-EAST BARN AT WALNUT TREE FARM	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1103162	TL 14862 31403
1103184	81197	NORTH BARN AT HAMMOND'S FARM	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1103184	TL 14445 32337
1103185	81198	THREE GABLES	II*	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1103185	TL 14578 31498
1103186	81199	4-6, BURY END	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1103186	TL 14603 31491
1103187	81200	IVY COTTAGE	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1103187	TL 14736 31741
1103188	81201	THE COTTAGE	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1103188	TL 14526 31512
1103189	81202	16, GREAT GREEN	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1103189	TL 14455 31592
1103190	81203	SOUTH-EAST BARN AT NO 1 (ELM TREE FARM)	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1103190	TL 14917 31694
1103191	81204	31, HIGH STREET	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1103191	TL 14655 31810
1103192	81205	CROMWELL COTTAGE	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1103192	TL 14796 31789
1103193	81206	20, HIGH STREET	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1103193	TL 14735 31766
1103194	81207	19-21, ROYAL OAK LANE	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1103194	TL 14943 31857
1175235	152698	HAMMOND'S FARMHOUSE	II*	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1175235	TL 14443 32288
1175262	152725	BURGE END FARMHOUSE	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1175262	TL 14384 32333
1175469	152930	17, HIGH STREET	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1175469	TL 14575 31959
1175478	152939	THE FOX INN	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1175478	TL 14693 31803
1175488	152949	PIRTON METHODIST CHURCH	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1175488	TL 14558 31843
1175493	152954	DOCWRA MANOR	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1175493	TL 14577 31468
1175517	152978	14, ROYAL OAK LANE	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1175517	TL 14962 31827
1175526	152987	BARN AT NUMBER 28	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1175526	TL 14342 31963
1175545	153006	WEST BARN AT RECTORY FARM	II*	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1175545	TL 14107 31886

ListEntry	OBJECTID	Name	Grade	hyperlink	NGR
1175604	153065	7, WALNUT TREE ROAD	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1175604	TL 14890 31648
1175626	153087	FARMBUILDINGS FRONTING ROAD AT WALNUT TREE FARM	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1175626	TL 14811 31439
1250685	227687	FARM BUILDING TO THE NORTH WEST OF BURGE END FARMHOUSE	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1250685	TL 14360 32339
1295337	272052	5, CRABTREE LANE	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1295337	TL 14724 31750
1295356	272071	8, GREAT GREEN (See details for further address information)	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1295356	TL 14492 31541
1295369	272084	ELM COTTAGE	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1295369	TL 14672 31482
1295373	272088	1 AND 3, CRABTREE LANE	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1295373	TL 14721 31762
1295388	272103	FARM BUILDING AT ENTRANCE TO YARD AT HAMMOND'S FARM	II*	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1295388	TL 14421 32296
1295393	272108	7-13, BURY END	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1295393	TL 14605 31516
1308247	284893	23-25, WALNUT TREE ROAD	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1308247	TL 14791 31424
1308280	284926	CARTSHED NEXT ENTRANCE TO FORECOURT AT RECTORY FARMHOUSE	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1308280	TL 14170 31888
1308341	284987	14, GREAT GREEN	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1308341	TL 14466 31578
1308350	284996	ELM TREE FARMHOUSE	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1308350	TL 14918 31713
1347076	323430	41-45, HIGH STREET	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1347076	TL 14740 31797
1347077	323431	PRIMROSE COTTAGE	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1347077	TL 14957 31819
1347094	323448	SOUTH BARN AND ADJOINING STABLE AT RECTORY FARM	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1347094	TL 14136 31874
1347095	323449	LAVENDER COTTAGE	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1347095	TL 14357 31937
1347097	323451	4-6, WALNUT TREE ROAD	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1347097	TL 14854 31682
1347107	323461	OUTHOUSE 10 METRES TO NORTH OF HOUSE AT HAMMOND'S FARM	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1347107	TL 14441 32302
1347108	323462	ASHBURN	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1347108	TL 14364 32280
1347109	323463	CRABTREE HOUSE	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1347109	TL 14670 31746
1347110	323464	CHURCH OF ST MARY (C OF E)	I	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1347110	TL 14694 31661
1347111	323465	SAWFORD COTTAGE	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1347111	TL 14473 31560
1347112	323466	ORCHARD COTTAGE	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1347112	TL 14541 31997
1430264	374956	Pirton War Memorial	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1430264	TL1470031727
1466237	378421	Barn at Wright's Farm	II	https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1466237	TL1429732167

9.4 MONUMENTS (HER)

PrefRef	MonUID	RecordType	Name	Description	Period	Dates	Summary	MonType
32	MHT32	MON	TOOT HILL MOTTE AND BAILEY CASTLE, PIRTON	Motte 100m x 6.7m high. Summit mutilated by quarrying giving a false impression of 'breastwork' around the rim. Surrounded by a ditch c.2.5m deep, filled in to NE<1> , wet in south<2> . Trial excavation produced Saxo-Norman bowls<1> . See [1487] for the manor; the castle was put up by Ralph de Limesi or his father. 'The village lies in the middle of the parish, and is of particular interest, as it was at an early date, possibly before the Conquest, fortified by a ditch. The area inclosed, about 10 acres, was utilized later for a mount and bailey castle, the mount or 'motte' standing about 25 ft. high above the bottom of the surrounding ditch in the north-west corner of the inclosure, and the remainder of the area divided into three baileys, the largest stretching along the north side and including the church and the other two on the south. The ditches are well marked, and there is still at times a good deal of water in parts of them. This castle, unfortunately, has no history. It was probably made in the 12th century, perhaps during the anarchy of Stephen's reign, by Alan or Gerard de Limesi. There is	Medieval	1066 to 1500	12th century earthwork castle, which may disguise a late Saxon fortified enclosure	MOTTE AND BAILEY

PrefRef	MonUID	RecordType	Name	Description	Period	Dates	Summary	MonType
				little probability that it was ever defended by masonry walls. On the mount probably stood a timber tower, approached by a steep narrow bridge of timber from the bailey below over the ditch or moat which surrounds it. Timber palisades may have defended the surrounding outer banks of the baileys. We can only conjecture that it was dismantled by Henry II as an adulterine or unlicensed castle, hundreds of which he is said to have destroyed. When the site was abandoned by the Limes is the mount was probably used as a look-out and meeting place of the villagers, and so came to be called Toot Hill<3> . It is interesting that even in 1912 it was acknowledged that the earthworks may have a pre-Norman origin; but see [16620]. The late Saxon topography has been disguised by the Norman motte and bailey; see also [746, 1487, 16620, 12426]. For a different view, see<4> : 'the surviving greens at either end of the castle enclosure - which, to judge from the configuration of building lines and property boundaries, were once significantly larger - are clearly fragments of a once much more extensive common: the lord of the manor would, of necessity, have chosen a piece of open ground as the location for the castle, rather than taking up valuable land already cultivated or occupied by houses'. TOOT HILL MOTTE AND BAILEY CASTLE, PIRTON Site Name Monument				
154	MHT154	BLD	RECTORY FARM, PIRTON	Early 17th century manor house, much altered in the 18th and 19th centuries. Once surrounded by a moat [2221] (so it is presumably on the site of earlier manor houses<2>). The house has a gabled porch and gabled projecting wings, a single-storey hipped 18th century brewhouse extending to the W and a gabled roughcast timber-framed stair turret projecting at the rear. Features include an original heavy studded door in a cyma moulded frame, a central large 17th century brick chimney and wooden Gothic traceried window with leaded glazing said to be from the church<1> . The manor belonged to the Priory of St Mary in Hertford until the Dissolution, when it was granted to Anthony Denny. The early 17th century brickwork of the house matches brickwork in the (older) Great Barn and the dovecote (see [6302]), and may date to 1609 when the estate was acquired by Sir John Davies<3> .RECTORY FARM, PIRTON Site Name Building	Post Medieval	1501 to 1900	17th century manor house	MANOR HOUSE; BREWHOUSE
195	MHT195	FS	IRON AGE OR ANGLO-SAXON POT BASE, PIRTON	'A rough pot base, probably Iron Age, possibly Anglo-Saxon'; NGR not verified<1> .IRON AGE OR ANGLO-SAXON POT BASE, PIRTON Site Name Find Spot	Earlier Iron Age to Late Saxon	-800 to 1065		FINDSPOT
553	MHT553	FS	PROBABLE BRONZE AGE HOARD, 'HILLY FIELDS', PIRTON	A possible bronze hoard, consisting of four axes (looped and socketed) and a lump of metal<1> . 'Hilly Fields' has not been identified, so the NGR is arbitrary but within the parish of Pirton. PROBABLE BRONZE AGE HOARD, 'HILLY FIELDS', PIRTON Site Name Find Spot	Bronze Age	-2500 to -801		FINDSPOT
746	MHT746	MON	SHRUNKEN VILLAGE AND DEFENSIVE EARTHWORKS, THE BURY FIELD, PIRTON	The settlement lies by the Icknield Way. Earthworks of banks and ditches lie within a field named The Bury to the south and east of Toot Hill [32]<1> . These are probably the remains of one or more baileys, and shrunken village earthworks represented by hollow ways and house platforms, surveyed in 1987-8<2, 3, 4> . Shrunken VILLAGE AND DEFENSIVE EARTHWORKS, THE BURY FIELD, PIRTON Site Name Monument	Medieval	1066 to 1500		BAILEY; EARTHWORK; SHRUNKEN VILLAGE
1474	MHT1474	FS	ROMAN COIN, CRABTREE FARM, PIRTON	Coin of Probus found in 1959. The NGR seems unlikely since it is at Walnut Tree Farm on the south of the village. Crabtree Lane runs between TL c.1455 3162 (W) to TL c. 1471 3174 (E); Crabtree Farm was presumably on its north side, now built over. ROMAN COIN, CRABTREE FARM, PIRTON Site Name Find Spot	Late Roman	201 to 409	Coin of Probus	FINDSPOT
1475	MHT1475	FS	ROMAN POTTERY, SCHOOL PLAYGROUND, PIRTON	Romano-British pottery found in the school playground<1> .ROMAN POTTERY, SCHOOL PLAYGROUND, Pron Site Name Find Spot	Roman	50 to 409		FINDSPOT
1477	MHT1477	FS	ROMANO-BRITISH POTTERY, TOOT HILL, PIRTON	'...6 sherds identified by Wheeler as RB including a scrap of Samian, a 3rd-4th century sherd, and nothing that is definitely not Roman ...' found in the outer bank of the castle at Toot Hill [32]<1> . These finds may be in Hitchin Museum. ROMANO-BRITISH POTTERY, TOOT HILL, Pron Site Name Find Spot	Roman	50 to 409	Redeposited Roman sherds in the Norman earthwork bank	FINDSPOT

PrefRef	MonUID	RecordType	Name	Description	Period	Dates	Summary	MonType
1478	MHT1478	MON	ROMAN BUILDING, BURY FIELD, PIRTON	'Floor of Roman building and Flavian pottery excavated 1955'<1> . The precise position is not recorded. ROMAN BUILDING, BURY FIELD, Pron Site Name Monument	Roman	50 to 409		BUILDING
1480	MHT1480	FS	ROMANO-BRITISH SPINDLE WHORL, PIRTON	Roman spindle whorl found at Pirton. ROMANO-BRITISH SPINDLE WHORL, PIRTON Site Name Find Spot	Roman	50 to 409		FINDSPOT
1487	MHT1487	MON	MANOR OF PIRTON	The manor is recorded in Domesday as 'Peritone'. At the Norman Conquest, Pirton was a thriving manorial estate held by the Archbishop of Canterbury. It passed to Ralph de Limesi, whose family held it for four generations. The motte and bailey castle [32] in the centre of the village, known as Toot Hill, was erected during this time. At end of the 12th century the manor was divided between William and Hugh, sons of Limesi's great-granddaughter. The manor remained in their families until the Dissolution. In 1538 Henry VIII granted the property to Anthony Denny, whose family held it until 1609 when it passed to Sir John Davies. In 1656 the manor was sold to Thomas Knight and in 1686 conveyed to Sir Anthony Dean. It was sold again in 1736 to Robert, second Lord Raymond and was inherited by Benesham Filmer. In 1870 the manor was sold to Mr Daniel Davies of Hexton Manor<1> . For evidence of shrinkage (and the settlement's complex history) see [746, 16620]. Also see [4315] for church, [746] for earthworks and [9677] for Saxo-Norman cemetery and possible church. MANOR OF PIRTON Site Name Monument	Medieval	1066 to 1500		MANOR
1714	MHT1714	FS	NEOLITHIC STONE CELT, NEAR PIRTON	Neolithic stone celt found near Pirton. The position is arbitrary, to bring the find within the parish of Pirton. NEOLITHIC STONE CELT, NEAR Pron Site Name Find Spot	Neolithic	-4500 to -2501		FINDSPOT
2221	MHT2221	MON	MOATED SITE, RECTORY FARM, PIRTON	The dry ditch extending NE from the house is probably for drainage; another running NW formerly drained a slurry pond at TL 1420 3191<1> . An area of about 110 by 80m is enclosed by a ditch of varying width, 3-5 m. The 17th century house [154] does not seem to fit within this, and the narrowness of ditch on the N and W hardly suggests a homestead moat<2> . The house may lie on an infilled part of the original moat enclosure<3> . An internal bank 0.5m high by 3m wide lies along the NE and NW arms of the moat. The moat is shown (in lettering denoting an antiquity) on the later 19th century OS maps<4, 5> , and has not altered much since. It is also possible that the SE extending arm indicates a double moat, or post-medieval landscaping. MOATED SITE, RECTORY FARM, PIRTON Site Name Monument	Medieval	1066 to 1500		MOAT
2334	MHT2334	MON	CROPMARKS OF A SUB-RECTANGULAR ENCLOSURE, PIRTON	Cropmark of part of a sub rectangular enclosure (one complete side and parts of two other sides). Straight-sided with curved corners. There are no gaps in the visible ditch circuit. Dimensions 60m x 90m (incomplete).CROPMARKS OF A SUB-RECTANGULAR ENCLOSURE, PIRTON Site Name Monument	Unknown	Undated		ENCLOSURE; RECTANGULAR ENCLOSURE
4182	MHT4182	MON	THE ICKNIELD WAY		Early Neolithic to Late Roman	-4500 to 409	Ancient route along the Chiltern ridge, at least partly updated in the Roman period and which still survives NE of Luton	TRACKWAY; ROAD
4315	MHT4315	BLD	ST MARY'S CHURCH, PIRTON	12th century parish church, originally cruciform in plan until the transepts were destroyed by successive collapses of the tower. The S porch, windows, buttresses and chancel roof and fittings date from the 14th century with alterations in the 15th century and a full restoration programme in the 19th century. Features include an early 14th century double piscina, medieval stone corbels carved with heads, fragments of 14th century stained glass and an early 14th century south door<1> . In the 11th century or early 12th century the advowson of Pirton church was given by Ralph de Limesy to St Mary's, Hertford. The standing building is apparently 12th century in origin, a cruciform church; the upper part of the tower collapsed in	Medieval	1066 to 1500	Medieval parish church	CHURCH

PrefRef	MonUID	RecordType	Name	Description	Period	Dates	Summary	MonType
				the 13th century (possibly due to an earth tremor in 1298), destroying the north transept. It was not rebuilt, and by 1850 the south transept was ruinous and the tower in a state of collapse. Renovation and rebuilding in the period 1851-83 included the demolition and reconstruction of the tower. The south transept was rebuilt in 1914<2> . After bomb damage in 1944 the chancel was repaired. Continued subsidence beneath the north wall of the chancel led to limited investigation in 2003-4, revealing that in the late 19th or mid 20th century a brick foundation and concrete pad had been built around the chancel (and probably the south transept as well) to try to stabilise it. The foundation of the north transept, which did survive, consisted of clunch blocks over cobbles<2> . The stonework of the walls includes some hewn ashlar blocks of Bedfordshire Greensand (Woburn Sands Formation), an unusual material in Herts<3> . It is also notable for the amount of Totternhoe stone in the walls; much of this was quarried locally, from a source at (the significantly named) Glebe Pit which includes giant ammonites and other fossils<3> . See [9677] for a Saxo-Norman and earlier cemetery and possible church nearby.ST MARY'S CHURCH, PIRTON Site Name Building				
4513	MHT4513	BLD	HAMMONDS FARM, PIRTON	The farmhouse, timber-framed with red brick casing and red tile roofs, is an irregular 2-storeyed, L- shaped house facing S, with a 3-bay E cross wing projecting to the front and a gabled porch, internal chimney and gabled stair turret at the rear. It is dated to the early 16th century with late 16th century additions and rebuilding in the early 17th century<1> . The hall incorporates evidence of a medieval open hall house<2> . The name was recorded in 1609 as 'Hamondes', and 'is to be associated with the family of John Hamond', documented in 1513<3> . For the farmstead and its high-quality timber- framed buildings, see [6300].HAMMONDS FARM, PIRTON Site Name Building	Medieval to Post Medieval	1066 to 1900	Early 16th century timber-framed farmhouse of irregular plan	OPEN HALL HOUSE; FARMHOUSE; TIMBER FRAMED HOUSE
5297	MHT5297	BLD	POST BOX, BURGE END, PIRTON	Brick pillar box. POST BOX, BURGE END, PIRTON Site Name Building	Post Medieval	1501 to 1900	Brick pillar box	POST BOX
6300	MHT6300	BLD	TIMBER FARM BUILDINGS AT HAMMONDS FARM, PIRTON	A square dovecote at Hammonds Farm is now part of another building<1> . The farm buildings include the north barn, 37m north of the early 16th century farmhouse [4513], a tall 16th century timber-framed and weatherboarded barn five bays long, facing south across the open space to the house. It has double doors in the south side of the middle bay, and a lean-to outshut opposite on the north side<2> . Just outside the back door of the house (on its north side) is an outbuilding which was probably built as a brewhouse in or before the 17th century. It is timber-framed on a brick sill, a single-storey rectangular structure of two bays. The north side has 18th century brick infill within the exposed framing, the east gable is stuccoed, and the south side, facing the house, has been cased in 19th century yellow brick. This side has a door and window<2> . It is this which appears to be the square 'dovecote', and is attached to the east end of the north granary, below. NW of the house by the road are two adjoining 16th century or earlier buildings thought to be granaries, 'unusually extensive granary provision in sophisticated timber framed buildings'<2> . Each is three bays wide and tall, originally two-storey, on a stuccoed brick sill with some surviving wattle and daub panels and dark weatherboarding. They stand at right-angles facing south and east. The north range has a weathervane on the east gable, and windows on the upper level, but the heavy floor beams have been cut away, removing the upper floor. The west range is similar and still has two bays of its upper floor. The double doors in the south bay are made from 'engraved (?temporary) memorial boards with groups of names annually from 1918 to 1920'<2> . The farmstead is shown on the later 19th century OS maps<3, 4> in more or less its present form. TIMBER FARM BUILDINGS AT HAMMONDS FARM, PIRTON Site Name Building	Post Medieval	1501 to 1900	Post-medieval farmstead with 16th century and later buildings	DOVECOTE?; FARMSTEAD; BREWHOUSE; TIMBER FRAMED BARN; GRANARY
6302	MHT6302	BLD	MEDIEVAL BARN AND POST-MEDIEVAL FARM BUILDINGS AT RECTORY FARM, PIRTON	The dovecote is one of a range of three buildings standing W of the farmhouse [154] with the dovecote at the W end, a stable in the middle facing S and a granary at the E end, entered via the E gable. The dovecote is early 17th century in date, in red brick with a steep hipped-and-gabled roof of old red tiles and plastered gables. The granary was added in the 18th century	Medieval to Post Medieval	1066 to 1900	Post-medieval farmstead with late medieval timber barn,	TIMBER FRAMED BARN; FARMSTEAD; DOVECOTE;

PrefRef	MonUID	RecordType	Name	Description	Period	Dates	Summary	MonType
				and the stable in the 19th century<1> . The west barn dates to the 15th or early 16th century. The other buildings have been converted to domestic use, but the barn is empty and has been placed on the Heritage at Risk Register<2, 4> . Recording of the Great Barn (the 'west' or SW barn) before repair and conversion confirmed that it was built in the 15th or early 16th century to serve as a tithe barn storing the agricultural produce of the manorial estate. This belonged to the Priory of St Mary in Hertford, so must predate the 1530s when the manor was seized from the priory and granted by the king to Anthony Denny. The barn is ten bays long, covering 40m, and is about 10m wide and 10m high. The basic timber frame has survived well, although the eastern side, facing the prevailing wind and weather, has seen more repair and remodelling. The original wattle and daub infill has left traces, but in the early 17th century was replaced throughout in brick. The brickwork matches that in the house and the dovecote, and may date to 1609 when the estate was acquired by Sir John Davies. The brick plinth on which the barn stands may be of the same date in origin, but much of the plinth brickwork has been replaced with later 19th century Arlesey whites with lime mortar. Most of the eastern elevation was rebuilt after 1968 (when it was Listed) in Fletton brick and concrete, and the floor relaid in concrete. Map evidence shows that the lean-to at the south end was added between 1818 and 1880, the framing implying the earlier part of this period. The East Barn, a timber-framed cart lodge, was added on the east side of the Great Barn probably in the mid 19th century. Originally open on the north and south sides, it was enclosed in the 1990s<3> .MEDIEVAL BARN AND POST-MEDIEVAL FARM BUILDINGS AT RECTORY FARM, PIRTON Site Name Building			and signs of upgrading in the early 17th century	GRANARY; STABLE
6349	MHT6349	MON	CROPMARK OF A LINEAR DITCH, PIRTON	Cropmark of a single ditch, slightly sinuous; aligned NE- SW. It runs more or less parallel with [7939], which is apparently medieval. CROPMARK OF A LINEAR DITCH, PIRTON Site Name Monument	Unknown	Undated		LINEAR FEATURE
6369	MHT6369	MON	CROPMARK OF RING DITCH, PIRTON	Cropmark of a large double-ditched circular enclosure with large macula within inner ring. Diameter of outer ditch approx. 50m. Diameter of inner ditch approx. 25m. Possible plough-raised barrow. CROPMARK OF RING DITCH, PIRTON Site Name Monument	Late Neolithic to Earlier Bronze Age	-3000 to -1201		ROUND BARROW?; RING DITCH
6508	MHT6508	MON	POSSIBLE PIT, VICARAGE, CRABTREE LANE, PIRTON	An occupation level or possibly a large pit was observed near the centre of an area of new house footings at the Vicarage. The feature was an apparently rectangular depression c.6m x 4m and 3.1m deep, filled with clay and with a charcoal layer near the base. There were no finds and no evidence of date either in the depression or the spoil. The area was otherwise deeply cultivated<1> .POSSIBLE PIT, VICARAGE, CRABTREE LANE, PIRTON Site Name Monument	Unknown	Undated	Large undated feature or layer	OCCUPATION SITE?; PIT?
7939	MHT7939	MON	CROPMARKS OF RIDGE & FURROW AND ASSOCIATED TRACKWAY, PIRTON	Cropmarks of a rectangular block of ridge and furrow approx. 0.35 ha. in area, aligned with the current extant field boundary, which it abuts to the south east. A double-ditched trackway along the NW edge of the ridge and furrow is visible for approx. 460m.CROPMARKS OF RIDGE & FURROW AND ASSOCIATED TRACKWAY, PIRTON Site Name Monument	Medieval	1066 to 1500		RIDGE AND FURROW; TRACKWAY
9059	MHT9059	MON	EARTHWORKS OF RIDGE AND FURROW, WRIGHT'S FARM, PIRTON	Ridge and furrow and other earthworks of field or property boundaries centred at the given NGR<1> . The earthworks cover approx. 3ha. One of these is the course of a footpath, shown on the 1882 OS map<2> and still functioning although diverted around the edge of a field. EARTHWORKS OF RIDGE AND FURROW, WRIGHT'S FARM, PIRTON Site Name Monument	Medieval	1066 to 1500		RIDGE AND FURROW
9470	MHT9470	FS	ANGLO-SAXON PENNY OF OFFA, PIRTON	Silver penny of king Offa, dated c.AD792-796, found in a ploughed field in 1993. Obverse: M OFFA REX. Reverse: EALHMUND around a small Celtic cross<1> .ANGLO-SAXON PENNY OF OFFA, PIRTON Site Name Find Spot	Early Medieval	410 to 1065	Late 8th century coin	FINDSPOT
9471	MHT9471	FS	MEDIEVAL SEAL DIE, PIRTON	Lead alloy seal die, 12th to 13th century, found in a ploughed field in 1990. The legend reads: S'RODBERO<1> .MEDIEVAL SEAL DIE, PIRTON Site Name Find Spot	Medieval	1066 to 1500		FINDSPOT

PrefRef	MonUID	RecordType	Name	Description	Period	Dates	Summary	MonType
9676	MHT9676	MON	SAXON, MEDIEVAL & POST-MEDIEVAL BUILDINGS, THE FOX, PIRTON	Evaluation in 1993 revealed well-preserved medieval and probable Saxo-Norman occupation. Wall foundations, enclosures, pits and post-holes (some in alignment) were identified; provisional dating of the pottery ranges from c.900 to c.1450<1> . Subsequent excavation identified considerable evidence of Saxo-Norman and medieval occupation, including a series of buildings orientated E-W and N-S, surrounding a cemetery [9677]. Given its position and alignment, a building to the north of the cemetery may be an early church [9677]. Nine certain and four possible medieval buildings of post- hole and sill-beam construction were located in Areas B and C. Area A, near the street frontage, contained two substantial post-medieval buildings. A number of ditches and post-holes were found across the site. Though many features could not be dated or associated, some pits, post-holes and hearths were closely associated with buildings, and the quantity of domestic rubbish suggests considerable and sustained activity<2> . The occupation here appears both very dense and very well preserved<3, 4> . Reassessment by Paul Blinkhorn of the Saxon pottery has found it to date to the 7th-9th centuries<5> .SAXON, MEDIEVAL & POST-MEDIEVAL BUILDINGS, THE FOX, PIRTON Site Name Monument	Middle Saxon to Post Medieval	550 to 1900	Occupation beginning in the 7th to 9th centuries	OCCUPATION SITE; RUBBISH PIT; BUILDING
9677	MHT9677	MON	SAXO-NORMAN CEMETERY AND POSSIBLE CHURCH, PIRTON	The cemetery consisted of forty individuals, 26 adults, 4 adolescents, 8 children and one infant, all orientated E-W. Most graves were placed individually but some were in multiple graves indicating family plots. There was evidence for only one coffin, in one of the larger family graves. Few grave goods were present other than iron objects including a possible knife, an unidentified copper object, and a jet bead. The cemetery was well defined, with an alignment of post-holes on the W side, a ditch with two buildings beyond it to the north, and a building to the east. One of the buildings to the north was on a W-E orientation, and is possibly an early church that was replaced by the standing medieval parish church [4315]. An enclosure ditch surrounded the entire cemetery. Both the cemetery and the two buildings nearby may date to the Saxo-Norman period. But see also [9676], associated settlement with pottery dating to the 7th-9th centuries. SAXO-NORMAN CEMETERY AND POSSIBLE CHURCH, PIRTON Site Name Monument	Late Saxon	870 to 1065		CHURCH?; INHUMATION CEMETERY
9680	MHT9680	MON	MEDIEVAL & LATER DOMESTIC SETTLEMENT, WALNUT TREE FARM, PIRTON	Domestic settlement, possibly a forerunner to the farmstead, was recorded during building work. Ditches and gullies may represent former boundaries, and pits contained domestic rubbish including daub, butchered bone and 10th-12th century pottery. Two postholes were recorded but no other evidence of structures. Additional features recorded in the service trench may relate to activity to the north-west in the area of The Bury. There was also considerable post-medieval evidence. Most of this was structural, relating to walls, pathways and other garden features, and are likely to be associated with the present (?17th century and later) farmhouse and its associated buildings<1> .MEDIEVAL & LATER DOMESTIC SETTLEMENT, WALNUT TREE FARM, PIRTON Site Name Monument	Late Saxon to Post Medieval	870 to 1900	Medieval and later features at the farmstead, with rubbish including 10th-12th century pottery	RUBBISH PIT; OCCUPATION SITE; DITCH
9684	MHT9684	MON	UNDATED FEATURES, RECTORY FARM, PIRTON	Search for an Anglo-Saxon cemetery found somewhere in the vicinity in the 19th century led to features being identified by geophysical survey<1> . These were found to consist of several large pits, a double ditch aligned approximately east-west, and to the south, a right-angled ditch which appears to terminate just short of a pit. None of the features were dated. UNDATED FEATURES, RECTORY FARM, PIRTON Site Name Monument	Unknown	Undated	Pits and ditches	DITCH; PIT
10041	MHT10041	FS	SCATTER OF MESOLITHIC AND NEOLITHIC FLINT, EAST OF HITCHIN ROAD, PIRTON	A scatter of Neolithic and possible Mesolithic flints, approx. centred at the given NGR, found during fieldwalking in 1997-98. The concentration covers about 4 hectares and includes blades, a possible axe fragment, flakes, cores and a scraper<1> .SCATTER OF MESOLITHIC AND NEOLITHIC FLINT, EAST OF HITCHIN ROAD, PIRTON Site Name Find Spot	Upper Mesolithic to Late Neolithic	-7000 to -2501		FINDSPOT
10549	MHT10549	MON	MEDIEVAL FEATURES, 2 DAVIS CRESCENT, PIRTON	A gully and pit, both containing medieval pottery, were found during work on the driveway of 2 Davis Crescent<1> . The context is unclear, but they may represent small-scale occupation or industrial activity at the northern edge of the medieval village<2> .MEDIEVAL FEATURES, 2 DAVIS CRESCENT, PIRTON Site Name Monument	Medieval	1066 to 1500	A ditch and pit containing medieval pottery	DITCH; PIT

PrefRef	MonUID	RecordType	Name	Description	Period	Dates	Summary	MonType
10894	MHT10894	MON	LATE POST-MEDIEVAL BUILDINGS, 77 HIGH STREET, PIRTON	Redevelopment of the plot on the north side of the High Street revealed the brick floors of two outbuildings, apparently related to a recently demolished later 19th century building shown here at the rear of the plot on the OS maps<2, 3> . A cobbled area on the east side of this building represented the access alley shown on<2> , which ran alongside the smithy on the street frontage. Three pits contained domestic rubbish of the first half of the 19th century, predating the buildings shown on the OS maps. An earlier post-medieval boundary ditch and two other ditches which may represent a timber structure were also present<1> .LATE POST-MEDIEVAL BUILDINGS, 77 HIGH STREET, PIRTON Site Name Monument	Post Medieval	1501 to 1900	19th century buildings with some earlier features	PIT; DITCH; BUILDING
11409	MHT11409	MON	SAXO-NORMAN FEATURES, LITTLE LANE, PIRTON	Two phases of investigation identified four phases of activity: a pit, two ditches and a beam slot dated by Saxo-Norman pottery; late post-medieval; 19th century occupation, when the site was divided into two plots; and 20th century demolition<1, 2> . The early medieval presumably relates to Saxo- Norman occupation 80m to the SW [9676].SAXO-NORMAN FEATURES, LITTLE LANE, PIRTON Site Name Monument	Late Saxon to Medieval	870 to 1500		PIT; DITCH; BUILDING?
12426	MHT12426	MON	BLACKSMITH'S POND (COMMON), PIRTON	Registered common land<1> . NGR = approximate centre. The later 19th century OS maps<2, 3> shows the pond extending further south beyond the path to Toot Hill, and marks it 'Moat' in lettering denoting an antiquity. It was then slightly wider at the north end than it is now. It was evidently regarded as part of the outworks of the castle [32], with a detached water-filled portion to the south at TL 14848 31554 which no longer survives, and another at TL 14758 31563, which does (although reduced). These pieces of water appear to have been part of a moat around the Toot Hill bailey, separate from the moat surrounding the motte.<4> shows the complete layout. Groundworks behind 6 Walnut Tree Road (an early 19th century house), just east of the pond, revealed part of the pond's edge as shown on the 1882 map<2, 5> . A deposit of subsoil and oxidised clay may represent consolidation and reshaping of the bank using material scoured from the pond<5> . This appears to have occurred more than once, as this southern end provided access to drinking water for cattle grazing on The Bury. In 2013 the edge of the bank here was restored to the historic line<6> .BLACKSMITH'S POND (COMMON), PIRTON Site Name Monument	Historic: period uncertain	410 to 1900	Village pond, a remnant of a medieval moat surrounding the Toot Hill castle bailey	COMMON LAND; MOAT
12427	MHT12427	MON	GREAT GREEN, PIRTON	Registered common land. NGR = approximate centre. The later 19th century OS maps show two greens, Great and Little Green, SW and NE of the castle and the parish church. These were two of the focal points of the post-medieval village; see [16620]. Great Green is still lined with 15th to 17th century buildings, some of comparatively high status. GREAT GREEN, PIRTON Site Name Monument	Historic: period uncertain	410 to 1900	Common land, one of the focal points of the village	COMMON LAND
12762	MHT12762	MON	UNDATED PIT, 16 BUNYAN CLOSE, PIRTON		Historic: period uncertain	410 to 1900		PIT
12824	MHT12824	MON	MEDIEVAL DITCHES, ELM TREE CLOSE, PIRTON	Evaluation in advance of residential development at Elm Tree Farm uncovered several ditches, of which three contained medieval pottery and building materials. The finds were scanty but include handmade sherds of possible 10th century (or somewhat later) date, and Herts Grey Wares (13th-14th century). The ceramic building materials consisted of tile and a brick, all probably 12th-15th century<1> . Further work found parts of at least two other ditches which may be related, although there was little dating evidence<2> . In the 19th and much of the 20th century this area was within the grounds of Little Green Farm [30752], north of Elm Tree Farm<3> .MEDIEVAL DITCHES, ELM TREE CLOSE, PIRTON Site Name Monument	Late Saxon to Medieval	870 to 1500	Ditches containing Saxo-Norman and medieval pottery	DITCH
13426	MHT13426	BLD	7-13 BURY END, PIRTON	Nos.7-13 Bury End were originally two properties, built in or before the 17th century. They are timber- framed on a projecting sill, forming a long range at the roadside facing west. The southern half (11 & 13) is a three-cell, internal-chimney plan house, with the chimney one third from the north end, and was heightened to two storeys at some point in the 18th or 19th century when both halves were subdivided and given two-storey gabled rear extensions and outshuts with catslide roofs. The northern half (7 & 9) was always two storeys, with a lower	Post Medieval	1501 to 1900	A pair of houses, 17th century or earlier, now divided into four	TIMBER FRAMED HOUSE; SEMI DETACHED HOUSE

PrefRef	MonUID	RecordType	Name	Description	Period	Dates	Summary	MonType
				crosswing at the north end which has a weatherboarded gablet over the ridge of the crosswing, extending to the rear with a central internal chimney<1> . Evaluation behind nos.11-13 uncovered unfrogged bricks from one of two outbuildings shown on 19th century maps (but built after an 1818 map of the parish), a large rubbish pit and a posthole<2> . Finds included a few sherds of 14th-15th century pottery, and post-medieval pottery from 1500 to 1900. These properties are with others of similar date around Great Green, on the SW side of the castle and parish church; Little Green is on the NE side.7-13 BURY END, PIRTON Site Name Building				
13757	MHT13757	FS	MEDIEVAL POTTERY, BURGE END LANE, PIRTON	A test pit in a field behind West End Lane, near Burge End Lane, yielded 'substantial quantities of pottery (18 sherds from 4 spits) dating to 1100-1400 AD, strongly suggestive of the presence of settlement in this area in this period'. Two sherds of St Neots ware (AD 900-1200) were also present<1, 2> . A test pit dug in the SE corner of the same field in 2008 produced another sherd of St Neots ware<3> .MEDIEVAL POTTERY, BURGE END LANE, PIRTON Site Name Find Spot	Late Saxon to Medieval	870 to 1500	Unstratified sherds including St Neots ware, indicating occupation beyond the present village limits	FINDSPOT
15902	MHT15902	BLD	BURGE END FARM, PIRTON	Burge End farmhouse is a two storey and attics timber-framed house built in the mid 17th century (<1>; early 17th century according to<2>) on a two-cell lobby-entrance plan with staircase turret on the west side; south of the turret was a lean-to forming a pantry. The hall was south of the chimney stack<1> . In the late 18th century the house was refaced in brick, extended at both ends and subdivided, with new fireplaces<1, 2> . It faces north into the farmyard. The 18th century two-storey west wing is of red brick chequered with black brick; the east end is a lean-to addition containing a domed brick oven. The main entrance has an early 19th century door under a bracketed hood. Inside, the 17th century staircase survives<2> . NW of the house is a timber-framed and weatherboarded outbuilding on a low brick sill. The largely complete timber frame dates to the late 17th century; it is six bays long, aligned north-south, with sections of brick walling at the south end representing 18th and 19th century alterations. On the east side wall is an added lean-to, which may have replaced an earlier structure; the enclosed wall has wattle and plaster infill. The north and south gables have doors; inside, boarded partitions separate the two centre bays from the north and south sections<2> . For the dovecote, which has gone, see [6301]. The farmstead may have medieval origins: 'Burge End was probably the home of William atte Brugge', documented in 1302, and Nicholas ate Brigge, documented in 1307<3> . This was Bridge End in post-medieval records until a change of spelling before the 1818 Enclosure Act<3> . The later 19th century OS maps<4, 5> show the farmstead with the house at the SE end of the yard, which had barns and other farm buildings arranged in irregular fashion around it. A few small additions were made between 1882 and 1898. The farmstead stands alongside Washbrook Lane with a stream to the east, and two ponds. Some of the buildings shown on the 19th century maps have gone, but the layout survives. BURGE END FARM, PIRTON Site Name Building	Post Medieval	1501 to 1900	Post-medieval farmstead, with 17th century farmhouse and probable medieval origins	TIMBER FRAMED HOUSE; LOBBY ENTRY HOUSE; FARMHOUSE; FARMSTEAD; TIMBER FRAMED BARN
15903	MHT15903	BLD	THREE GABLES, 2 BURY END, PIRTON	A late medieval timber-framed open hall house (15th century or earlier, according to<2>) with cross- wing at the upper (west) end; only the west end of the hall remains, the passage and service end having been demolished. An upper floor was put into the hall in the 17th century; the existing brick chimney-stack is later, perhaps 18th century, and was probably built when the east range of the hall was demolished. The wing chimney-stack was added in the early 19th century; the hall range heightened from one storey and attics to two storeys; and thatch replaced by slate, early in the 20th century<1, 2> . It is now a two-storey T-plan house facing north, with a tall narrow west cross-wing with projecting gable, and a 20th century rear extension. The cross-wing has one large room on each floor, and a stair in the half-bay at the rear<2> .THREE GABLES, 2 BURY END, PIRTON Site Name Building	Medieval to Post Medieval	1066 to 1900	Late medieval open hall house	TIMBER FRAMED HOUSE; OPEN HALL HOUSE; CROSS WING HOUSE

PrefRef	MonUID	RecordType	Name	Description	Period	Dates	Summary	MonType
15905	MHT15905	BLD	DOCWRA MANOR (THE OLD HALL), PIRTON	The Old Hall, now called Docwra Manor, was built in 1609 for Thomas Docwra, who added a plaque to the west front (now reset above the principal fireplace). This bears his arms and the inscription '1609 / EN DIEV EST TOVT'. What Docwra built was a two-storey flint and limestone rubble structure with corners of red brick and moulded limestone windows, which was apparently a parlour wing added on the west end of an older timber-framed house; its east wall incorporates the timber framing. This was 'probably' an aisled hall house, which is said to have burnt down at the beginning of the 19th century. Docwra's west wing was a large two-storey cross-wing with two large rooms on each floor and a lobby between them, with a staircase at its west end and a large projecting chimney stack heating the north room on each floor. The south rooms remained unheated until a second chimney stack was added in the 18th century<1, 2> . After the destruction of much of the house in the early 19th century the surviving west wing became the Old Oak public house; this and large extensions to the east in the later 20th century have removed most older features<2> .DOCWRA MANOR (THE OLD HALL), PIRTON Site Name Building	Medieval to Post Medieval	1066 to 1900	Flint and rubble house, c.1609, incorporating part of an earlier timber-framed house	TIMBER FRAMED HOUSE; HOUSE; PUBLIC HOUSE
15906	MHT15906	BLD	28 SHILLINGTON ROAD, PIRTON	28 Shillington Road was built in the 16th century or earlier, as an open hall house, timber-framed on a stuccoed brick sill. It is an L-plan house set well back from the road, facing south, with a one and a half storey hall range and lower two-storey east cross-wing. This wing has two rooms on each floor, and was probably the upper or parlour end of the house. In the (early) 17th century a large external chimney was added to this wing. Extensions at the east end and at the rear date to the 20th century<1, 2> . In the SE corner of the plot, by the road, is a 17th century timber-framed barn on a red brick sill. It is a tall three-bay structure with double doors in the central bay, facing west, with plastered panels and exposed framing on the west side and weatherboarding on the east and south sides<2> . In the later 19th century<3, 4> the barn extended at right-angles along the road frontage, and there were other buildings to the north; this was then a small farmstead. More buildings are shown on a map dated 1801<7> ; see [31512]. Photographs show that the large chimney was rebuilt in the 1930s. Application was made in 2013 to replace the 1960s extension<5> . This is at the NE end of the house, where the 2014 groundworks revealed a possible yard surface of compacted chalk. This had a sand bedding layer, beneath which was the natural clay<6> . There were no finds.28 SHILLINGTON ROAD, PIRTON Site Name Building	Medieval to Post Medieval	1401 to 1900	Late medieval timber-framed house, with 17th century timber-framed barn	OPEN HALL HOUSE; CROSS WING HOUSE; TIMBER FRAMED HOUSE; FARMSTEAD; TIMBER FRAMED BARN
15907	MHT15907	BLD	WALNUT TREE FARM, PIRTON	The oldest part of the farmhouse is a late medieval timber-framed house at the east end; it comprised originally a two-storey east wing (no evidence of an original jetty), a low hall with an open hearth and, presumably, a service bay. In the late 17th century an internal-chimney house of brick with lobby- entrance, two storeys and attics, was added at the west end; it has a two-storey porch and the staircase was probably on the north side of the chimney-stack. Not long afterwards the presumed service bay of the original house was rebuilt in brick; a chimney-stack was built on the site of the cross-passage; and a staircase turret and gabled rear bay were added. After another comparatively short interval the internal-chimney house was converted into a house of double depth. There is no evidence of 18th century alteration. Considerable internal alterations took place in the late 19th century<1, 2> . The farm buildings on the road at the entrance to the yard are timber-framed and largely weatherboarded on brick sills, and consist of an east range of barns and storehouses, 17th century or earlier, and a lower 18th century north range open-fronted to the south. The east range has red brick infill on much of the east side. The north wall of the north range, facing the lane, is of chequered red and black brickwork, with a course of clunch at the eaves. At the NW end is an open-fronted six-bay cattle shed<2> . The farmstead retains much of the sprawling layout shown on the 1882 OS map<3> .WALNUT TREE FARM, PIRTON Site Name Building	Medieval to Post Medieval	1066 to 1900	Timber-framed farmhouse of late medieval origins, and large post-medieval farmstead	TIMBER FRAMED HOUSE; FARMHOUSE; FARMSTEAD; LOBBY ENTRY HOUSE; TIMBER FRAMED BARN; CATTLE SHELTER

PrefRef	MonUID	RecordType	Name	Description	Period	Dates	Summary	MonType
15956	MHT15956	MON	CROPMARKS OF RIDGE AND FURROW WEST OF PIRTON	Cropmarks of ridge and furrow, visible in an arable field SW of Priors Hill, west of Pirton. CROPMARKS OF RIDGE AND FURROW WEST OF PIRTON Site Name Monument	Historic: period uncertain	410 to 1900	Traces of medieval fields	RIDGE AND FURROW
16304	MHT16304	BLD	ELM TREE FARM, HAMBRIDGE WAY, PIRTON	The farmhouse is a 16th century timber-framed house, on a T plan; the south bay of the west crosswing dates to the early 17th century, and the NW wing was added in the later 17th century. This later wing is two storeys with a staircase and second entrance<1> . Most of the farm buildings have gone, but SE of the house, on the road, is a 17th century timber-framed and weatherboarded barn, a tall three-bay structure with a gabled projecting porch in the middle of the north wall, and a dovecote in the upper part of the gable<1> . The farmhouse and the barn are shown on the 1882 OS map<2> separated by a large irregular yard. Examination of the barn before conversion to domestic use included inspection of the brick sill, below ground<4> .ELM TREE FARM, HAMBRIDGE WAY, PIRTON Site Name Building	Post Medieval	1501 to 1900	Post-medieval farmstead	FARMHOUSE; FARMSTEAD; TIMBER FRAMED BARN; TIMBER FRAMED HOUSE; DOVECOTE
16620	MHT16620	PLA	PIRTON VILLAGE	Pirton has a long history of movement, expansion and contraction. For 5th to 9th century settlement NE of Priors Hill, in a field without later occupation, see [31108]. For 7th-9th century buildings, church and churchyard in the present village centre, see [9676, 9677], and for mid-late Saxon to medieval features between these two areas see [31388]. The standing parish church [4315], in a different position, dates to the 12th century and can be associated with the construction of the 12th century castle [32]. Test pitting across the area of the existing village in 2007, 2008 and 2009 confirmed the overall picture of a dynamic settlement sequence. A sherd of early/middle Saxon pottery, with some Roman pottery, residual in a medieval pit at Walnut Tree Farm [13757], may indicate some continuation from Roman to post-Roman. The test pits yielded nothing more until the later part of the late Saxon period, when settlement evidently became 'widespread across the eastern side of the present village, focused in particular on Burge End Farm, the area south of West Lane and the area north of Walnut Farm'<3> . Gaps in evidence between these areas may suggest polyfocal settlement. Nearly all the 56 2008-9 test pits yielded mid 11th to mid 14th century pottery, indicating a larger and more densely settled village which had become nucleated alongside the construction of the motte and bailey castle. After the 14th century the village contracted, test pits in the centre of the present village NE and SW of the church producing almost no contemporary pottery. It may have shrunk to no more than five clusters of farmsteads or cottages 'within an otherwise largely deserted landscape. Recovery does not seem to have been established until the 17th or even 18th century, and even then the volume of pottery recovered does not match that of the high medieval period'<3> . Further test pitting in 2010 concentrated at the north end of the village, where there is a notable lack of early to mid Saxon pottery; the later Saxon material suggests scattered farms rather than contiguous settlement here. These farms suffered less from the late medieval contraction than the village itself<6> . Test pitting in 2011 aimed to fill a number of gaps, and confirmed that the part of the settlement west of the motte and bailey 'came into existence at or shortly after the time when the castle was built', and was apparently less affected by the severe later medieval contraction of the rest of the village<7> . This contraction indicates that Pirton was severely affected by the Black Death. In a review of the test pitting programme across East Anglia<9> it became apparent that the drop in population at Pirton was especially severe; in 115 test pits across the village the amount of pottery for this period fell by 75%. The later 19th century OS maps show two greens, Great and Little Green, SW and NE of the castle and the parish church. Great Green [12427] is still lined with 15th to 17th century buildings, some of comparatively high status. Little Green, at the end of what in the 19th century was known as Town Street, is smaller and different in character but also has 16th to 17th century houses scattered around it. These greens are two of the post-medieval focal points of the village, but are relics of its earlier topography.<8> sees them as the remnants at each end of a 'once large tract of	Sub Roman to Modern	410 to 2050	Settlement with early Saxon origins and complex history, including a 75% drop in population at the time of the Black Death	VILLAGE

PrefRef	MonUID	RecordType	Name	Description	Period	Dates	Summary	MonType
				common pasture', upon which the Norman castle [32] was built. These remnants were gradually made even smaller by encroachment. A pre-1066 church and cemetery [9677], superseded by the present parish church [4315] within the castle bailey, 'lay to the north, on the edge of the former common'. PIRTON VILLAGE Site Name Place Description VILLAGE (Sub Roman to 21st Century - 410 AD to 2050 AD) Evidence DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE EXTANT BUILDING Evidence EXCAVATED FEATURE				
16666	MHT16666	BLD	HAMMOND'S ALMSHOUSES, 19-21 HIGH STREET, PIRTON	This pair of houses are shown on the later 19th century OS maps<1, 2> as 'Almshouses (Hammond's Charity)'. ' In 1641 John Hammond by his will....devised two cottages, to be occupied by poor families rent free. The charity is regulated by a scheme of the Charity Commissioners, 3 May 1904. A premium of £12 10s. is usually paid, and the cottages, rebuilt by the Hanscombe family, are used as almshouses'<3> . For Hammonds Farm, see [4513].HAMMOND'S ALMSHOUSES, 19-21 HIGH STREET, PIRTON Site Name Building	Post Medieval	1501 to 1900	Pair of cottages funded as almshouses under the will of John Hammond in 1641; rebuilt in the late 19th or early 20th century	ALMSHOUSE
16667	MHT16667	BLD	METHODIST CHAPEL, HIGH STREET, PIRTON	The building between nos.21 and 23 High Street is shown on the later 19th century OS maps<1, 2> as 'Methodist Chapel (Wesleyan)'. It had the common plan of a simple gable-ended building, the narrow gable end facing the street. In 1906 a new Methodist church was built 75m to the south on the other side of the High Street. The chapel is now a private house called, appropriately, Wesley.METHODIST CHAPEL, HIGH STREET, PIRTON Site Name Building	Post Medieval	1501 to 1900	19th century chapel now in residential use	WESLEYAN METHODIST CHAPEL
17170	MHT17170	MON	ROMAN PIT, PIRTON PRIMARY SCHOOL, HIGH STREET, PIRTON	An oval pit measuring about 1.35 x 0.9 m, and about 33 cm deep, was uncovered during construction of a new building NW of the primary school building. The pit contained animal bone and a sherd of later Roman Hadham ware, dating to the 3rd to 4th century AD. Nothing else was found, but the area to the immediate south had been truncated in the 20th century<1> .ROMAN PIT, PIRTON PRIMARY SCHOOL, HIGH STREET, PIRTON Site Name Monument	Late Roman	201 to 409	Oval pit containing a sherd of Hadham ware	PIT
17683	MHT17683	BLD	HILL FARM, PRIORS HILL, PIRTON	Hill Farm is shown on later 19th century OS maps<1, 2> as a small farmstead on the south side of 'Mudwall Lane' (now Priors Hill). In the early 1880s a large barn ran along the roadside, the house end-on to the road at the west end; more buildings lined the south side of the small rectangular yard east of the house, enclosed to the east by another building with a separate one beyond. By 1898 the small building enclosing the east end of the yard had been removed. In the 20th century the farm buildings were demolished, leaving the house in private occupation. Hill Farm is documented in 1513 as 'le Hill'<3> .HILL FARM, PRIORS HILL, PIRTON Site Name Building	Post Medieval	1501 to 1900	Small post-medieval farmstead, of which only the house survives	FARMSTEAD; FARMHOUSE
17684	MHT17684	MON	SITE OF BAPTIST CHAPEL, GREAT GREEN, PIRTON	The 1881 OS map<1> shows a building set back from the north side of Great Green, and approached via a narrow alley. It was a long narrow building with a projecting front porch, and is marked 'Baptist Chapel (Calvinistic)' (an unusual designation). The shape is typical of early 19th century chapels. It was demolished at some time in the 20th century, after 1924<3> .SITE OF BAPTIST CHAPEL, GREAT GREEN, PIRTON Site Name Monument	Post Medieval	1501 to 1900	Apparently early 19th century Calvinist Baptist chapel	BAPTIST CHAPEL
17685	MHT17685	MON	SITE OF GLOVE WORKS, PRIORS HILL, PIRTON	A building labelled 'Glove Works' is shown here on the 1924 map<1> ; the site was an empty field on earlier editions. It was demolished at some time in the mid 20th century, as buildings developed along Priors Hill. SITE OF GLOVE WORKS, PRIORS HILL, PIRTON Site Name Monument	Twentieth Century	1901 to 2000	Early 20th century factory	GLOVE FACTORY
17753	MHT17753	BLD	4 WALNUT TREE ROAD, PIRTON	An early 18th century house, one and a half storeys tall, timber-framed on a stuccoed sill with heavy exposed framing and plastered panels on the frontage, under a steep-pitched thatched roof. This has a decorative ridge and eyebrow dormers. The house has end chimneys and a plank door is near the centre front<1> . The 1882 OS map<2> shows the house backing onto the ditch surrounding Toot Hill [32], and facing east onto the south end of Little Green. From the map it appears likely that the house was built encroaching onto the green itself. It is also	Post Medieval	1501 to 1900	Early 18th century timber-framed cottage with thatched roof, possibly built	TIMBER FRAMED HOUSE

PrefRef	MonUID	RecordType	Name	Description	Period	Dates	Summary	MonType
				evident that by 1882 the house was divided into three cottages. No.6 [17754] was then two dwellings, making up a row of five. This arrangement was not altered until the 20th century.4 WALNUT TREE ROAD, PIRTON Site Name Building			encroaching onto Little Green	
17754	MHT17754	BLD	BURY COTTAGE, 6 WALNUT TREE ROAD, PIRTON	No. 6 was built in the early 19th century against the south end of no.4, an early 18th century house [17753]. They both face east onto the south end of Little Green, and back onto the ditch around Toot Hill [32]. No.6 is a two-storey, two-bay house, now roughcast, with a low-pitched slate roof, central chimney, casement windows, and a door beneath a bracketed hood. At the rear is a single-storey weatherboarded extension<1> . The 1882 OS map<2> shows that in the late 19th century it was divided into two dwellings, making with no.4 [17753] a row of five cottages. This arrangement had not changed by 1898<3> . Groundworks for new rear extensions in 2012 revealed a ditch or pit which was undated but could have been part of the original rear yard, perhaps part of its boundary<4> . Further west in the small garden only modern overburden lies on the clay natural, on the bank of the Blacksmith's Pond [12426]<5> .BURY COTTAGE, 6 WALNUT TREE ROAD, PIRTON Site Name Building	Post Medieval	1501 to 1900	Early 19th century house at Little Green, once divided into two	HOUSE
18218	MHT18218	MON	IRON AGE DITCH, HOLWELL ROAD, PIRTON	A ditch found in a 2011 evaluation<1> running across the field south of Holwell Road near the sharp bend contained nothing other than a fragment of poorly preserved animal bone, possibly a horse metatarsus. The ditch ran NE-SW, in line with the NE continuation of Holwell Road, and parallel with Royal Oak Lane and other boundaries shown on the 1882 OS map<2> . These alignments suggested that the ditch represented a field boundary removed before the later 19th century (possibly at enclosure in 1818). However, further investigation in 2015<2> and 2016<3> yielded five small fragments of apparently early to middle Iron Age pottery (tempered with flint and quartz sand), and a possible worked flint, near the base of the ditch. An upper fill contained 'three fragments of grog- tempered pottery of indeterminate prehistoric date and emmer wheat grains'<3> . On this basis the ditch is considered to be Iron Age. All the pottery is fragmented and in poor condition, and only two small parts of the ditch were investigated. For possibly related features see [31349].IRON AGE DITCH, HOLWELL ROAD, PIRTON Site Name Monument	Earlier Iron Age to Post Medieval	-800 to 1900	Ditch containing Iron Age pottery	DITCH; FIELD BOUNDARY
18265	MHT18265	BLD	THE FOX, 37 HIGH STREET, PIRTON	The Fox was built in the 17th century as a two-storey two-cell house with internal chimney and lobby entry plan, set back from the road. The house is timber-framed, with central entrance and rear outshut. In the early 18th century it was updated with a new front in red and blue brick, and later in the 18th century a lower two-storey wing, slightly set back and in lighter red brick, was added at the east side<1> . It is shown as The Fox PH on the later 19th century OS maps<2, 3> . In the front yard was a pump<3> .THE FOX, 37 HIGH STREET, PIRTON Site Name Building	Post Medieval	1501 to 1900	17th century timber-framed lobby entry house, later converted into a pub	TIMBER FRAMED HOUSE; LOBBY ENTRY HOUSE; PUBLIC HOUSE
18649	MHT18649	MON	ROMAN PIT, POLLARDS WAY, PIRTON	Evaluation of the NE corner of the field adjacent to housing in Pollards Way revealed two scattered features. One was a pit containing a Roman greyware base sherd and three cattle teeth; the other was part of a ditch running NW-SE. In the ditch fill was a piece of possibly Roman tile. The paucity of the finds suggests the features are some distance from Roman buildings, and the ditch may be a field boundary<1> . Further work<2> found that the Roman features here amounted to a large pit and perhaps a few smaller features. The pit contained various fills including dumps of cess; in a lower fill were six sherds including residual prehistoric pottery, a 1st century grog-tempered sherd and a sherd from a 1st-2nd century white ware flagon, beneath an upper fill containing seven sherds including one of late 3rd to 4th century date. A post hole and two ditch fills contained a few highly abraded sherds, too worn to date these features. Environmental sampling (charred plant remains including cereals) implied that they are post-Roman. Even the pit contained probably post-Roman cereals. They may be intrusive, but this is uncertain. The NGR is for the pit. ROMAN PIT, POLLARDS WAY, PIRTON Site Name Monument	Roman	50 to 409	A pit containing a sequence of Roman pottery, and other features which may be Roman, or later	PIT; DITCH

PrefRef	MonUID	RecordType	Name	Description	Period	Dates	Summary	MonType
18773	MHT18773	BLD	WRIGHT'S FARM, SHILLINGTON ROAD, PIRTON	Wright's Farm is shown on the 1882 OS map<1> as Haxham's Farm, a group of buildings approached by a track 200m north of Shillington Road. The 1882 map shows two rows of barns and other buildings defining a long narrow yard, with what appears to have been a farmhouse at the south end, and orchards to the SW. By 1898<2> it had become Wright's Farm. Most, but not all, of the buildings appear to have been replaced on much the same layout during the 20th century, and a new house built closer to the road. The post-medieval farmhouse was demolished c.1968, and a new house built 112m to the south<3> . See<3> for the 1801 and 1879 sales particulars. 70m to the SW is an active spring, the water flowing NE towards Burge End past the farm buildings. The channels shown on the later 19th century maps are extant, although apparently less wet. Their course just south of the post-medieval farmhouse may be two arms of a medieval homestead moat [31510], used as the farmhouse garden in the 19th century. The barn is the sole surviving element of the post-medieval farmstead. It is the remaining half of a mid- to late 18th century combination barn.<4>WRIGHT'S FARM, SHILLINGTON ROAD, PIRTON Site Name Building	Post Medieval	1501 to 1900	Post-medieval farmstead, known before the late 19th century as Haxham's Farm; with possible medieval origins	FARMSTEAD
20778	MHT20778	PAS	MEDIEVAL - POST-MEDIEVAL COPPER-ALLOY THIMBLE, PIRTON		Medieval to Post Medieval	1400 to 1550	A copper-alloy heavy-duty thimble	FINDSPOT
20779	MHT20779	PAS	POST-MEDIEVAL COPPER- ALLOY BUCKLE, PIRTON		Post Medieval	1501 to 1650	A copper-alloy double-oval buckle of early post-Medieval date	FINDSPOT
20780	MHT20780	PAS	POST-MEDIEVAL COPPER- ALLOY BUCKLE, PIRTON		Post Medieval	1501 to 1650	A copper-alloy double-oval buckle of probable early post-Medieval date	FINDSPOT
20781	MHT20781	PAS	MEDIEVAL - POST-MEDIEVAL COPPER-ALLOY TOKEN, PIRTON		Medieval to Post Medieval	1300 to 1700	A cast lead token of Medieval to post-Medieval date	FINDSPOT
20782	MHT20782	PAS	MEDIEVAL SILVER FARTHING, PIRTON		Medieval	1335 to 1343	A silver farthing of Edward III (1327-1377)	FINDSPOT
20783	MHT20783	PAS	MEDIEVAL SILVER FARTHING, PIRTON		Medieval	1470 to 1471	A clipped silver long-cross penny of Henry VI	FINDSPOT
20784	MHT20784	PAS	MEDIEVAL SILVER SHORT- CROSS PENNY, PIRTON		Medieval	1189 to 1204	A silver voided short-cross penny, probably of Richard I or John	FINDSPOT
20785	MHT20785	PAS	LATE ROMAN COPPER-ALLOY COIN, PIRTON		Late Roman	337 to 340	A copper-alloy nummus of Theodora (AD 337-341)	FINDSPOT

PrefRef	MonUID	RecordType	Name	Description	Period	Dates	Summary	MonType
20786	MHT20786	PAS	LATE ROMAN COPPER-ALLOY COIN, PIRTON		Late Roman	347 to 348	A copper-alloy nummus of Constantius II (AD 323-361)	FINDSPOT
20787	MHT20787	PAS	LATE ROMAN COPPER-ALLOY COIN, PIRTON		Late Roman	364 to 378	A copper-alloy nummus of the House of Valentinian	FINDSPOT
20788	MHT20788	PAS	LATE ROMAN COPPER-ALLOY COIN, PIRTON		Late Roman	347 to 348	A copper-alloy nummus of Constans (AD 333-350)	FINDSPOT
20789	MHT20789	PAS	LATE ROMAN COPPER-ALLOY COIN, PIRTON		Late Roman	270 to 271	A copper-alloy radiate of Claudius II	FINDSPOT
20790	MHT20790	PAS	LATE ROMAN COPPER-ALLOY COIN, PIRTON		Late Roman	260 to 268	A copper-alloy radiate of Gallienus, probably sole reign, AD 260-26	FINDSPOT
20791	MHT20791	PAS	LATE ROMAN COPPER-ALLOY COIN, PIRTON		Late Roman	318 to 318	A copper-alloy nummus of Constantine I (AD 306-337)	FINDSPOT
21635	MHT21635	PAS	WILLIAM & MARY SILVER COIN, PIRTON		Post Medieval	1501 to 1900	1689 Maundy fourpenny piece	FINDSPOT
21636	MHT21636	PAS	WILLIAM III HALFPENNY, PIRTON		Post Medieval	1501 to 1900	1700 halfpenny of William III	FINDSPOT
21637	MHT21637	PAS	FAKE SIXPENCE OF ELIZABETH I, PIRTON		Post Medieval	1561 to 1575	Silvered copper-alloy coin, probably a forgery of an Elizabeth I sixpence, AD 1561-75	FINDSPOT
25797	MHT25797	PAS	MEDIEVAL BUCKLE, PIRTON		Medieval	1300 to 1500	Medieval copper-alloy buckle, AD 1300-1500	FINDSPOT
27334	MHT27334	PAS	POST-MEDIEVAL COPPER-ALLOY TOKEN, PIRTON		Post Medieval	1600 to 1800	A cast lead token of probable post-medieval date with six-petaled flowerhead	FINDSPOT
27335	MHT27335	PAS	POST-MEDIEVAL COPPER-ALLOY BUCKLE, PIRTON		Post Medieval	1575 to 1700	A copper-alloy double-loop	FINDSPOT

PrefRef	MonUID	RecordType	Name	Description	Period	Dates	Summary	MonType
							asymmetrical buckle	
27469	MHT27469	PAS	MEDIEVAL SILVER LONG-CROSS PENNY, PIRTON		Medieval	1280 to 1280	A heavily worn, corroded and bent silver long-cross penny of Edward I	FINDSPOT
30146	MHT30146	BLD	LAVENDER COTTAGE, 21 SHILLINGTON ROAD, PIRTON	Lavender Cottage was built in the early 16th century as a small open hall house. It is timber-framed on a battered brick plinth, with steep thatched roof, and was originally a two-room house open to the roof. Thick soot on the roof timbers shows the location of the hearth in the west room, and two timbers on the ground floor have stopped grooves for wattle infill. In the early 17th century the house was updated, with the insertion of an upper floor and a chimney stack opposite the plank door, to heat the west room, and the addition of a one and a half storey west crosswing. This projects only to the front, and contained an unheated parlour with chamber over, reached by a stair in the SE corner. The chamber was set partly in the roof, and traces of large windows remain. The rear extension is 20th century<1> . The house is set back from the road with its west crosswing against a side lane which is now a footpath. It is shown on the later 19th century OS maps<2, 3> in its rectangular plot, which was then somewhat wider than it is now. At the SW corner, beside the lane, were a pair of small cottages (now nos.23-25 Shillington Road). Paths led from these and from Lavender Cottage to a well beyond the plot boundary, 26m east of the Cottage and within a small compound. This is now in the garden of no.19, and 19A has been inserted between nos.19 and 21.LAVENDER COTTAGE, 21 SHILLINGTON ROAD, PIRTON Site Name Building	Post Medieval	1501 to 1900	Early 16th century open hall house, updated and extended in the early 17th century	OPEN HALL HOUSE; TIMBER FRAMED HOUSE
30752	MHT30752	MON	SITE OF LITTLEGREEN FARM, ROYAL OAK LANE, PIRTON	Littlegreen Farm is shown on the later 19th century OS maps<1, 2> on the east side of what was then Deadhorse Lane, with a farmhouse and ranges of farm buildings around a trapezoidal yard; the west range ran along the road frontage, and to the east was an orchard. Little Green is at and west of the crossroads just to the south, at the High Street. In the late 20th century the farmstead was encroached upon by Elm Tree Farm [16304] just to the south, and demolished for housing c.2005; see [12824].SITE OF LITTLEGREEN FARM, ROYAL OAK LANE, PIRTON Site Name Monument	Post Medieval	1501 to 1900	Post-medieval farmstead	FARMSTEAD
30753	MHT30753	MON	SITE OF THE SHOULDER OF MUTTON PH, HAMBRIDGE WAY, PIRTON	The Shoulder of Mutton is shown on the 1882 OS map<1> as a public house, and on the 1898 map<2> as merely a beer house. It stood on the north side of Hambridge Way, then the road leading east out of Pirton village towards Ickleford; the main range projected into the roadway, with a rear projection making an L plan, and a long outbuilding and orchard trees in the rest of the plot. In the 1880s there was an open-fronted cartshed as well, forming the north range of a yard, but by 1898 this had been demolished. At some time in the 20th century the buildings were demolished; by 1980<3> only a single small building stood on the site, which has become part of Elm Tree Farm [16304]. The pub's decline is presumably related to the decline in function of Hambridge Way; buildings are shown here on the 1822 map<4> , which shows the road as the main route between Pirton and Ickleford and giving access to the highway running north from Hitchin. A 1928 photograph<5> shows the building, one storey and attic with possibly a lobby entry plan, and a long single-storey rear extension with a thatched roof. The Shoulder of Mutton was apparently a drovers' beer house, in Shoulder of Mutton Close on the 1818 enclosure award; it 'burnt down in 1928'<5> .SITE OF THE SHOULDER OF MUTTON PH, HAMBRIDGE WAY, PIRTON Site Name Monument	Post Medieval	1501 to 1900	Beer house on road which is now a bridleway	PUBLIC HOUSE; BEER HOUSE
31032	MHT31032	BLD	PIRTON WAR MEMORIAL, ST MARY'S CHURCHYARD, CRABTREE LANE, PIRTON	Pirton war memorial stands on the north side of the churchyard within a small compound reached from the roadside. It was designed by G Maile & Son, London, and was unveiled in April 1920. It is a square granite obelisk about 3m high, on a plinth above a two-stepped platform. The four sides of the plinth were carved with the names of the 30 men who died in	Twentieth Century	1901 to 2000	1920 village war memorial	WAR MEMORIAL

PrefRef	MonUID	RecordType	Name	Description	Period	Dates	Summary	MonType
				the First World War, but these names are covered over by a set of four cast bronze tablets. Three of these list the 30 original names, and the fourth is inscribed IN MEMORY OF/THE MEN WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES/DURING THE WAR/1939-1945 with six names. New steps, stone borders, gates and wooden fences were added in 2009<1> .PIRTON WAR MEMORIAL, ST MARY'S CHURCHYARD, CRABTREE LANE, PIRTON Site Name Building				
31036	MHT31036	MON	SITE OF 19TH CENTURY ALLOTMENTS, WEST LANE, PIRTON	A small area of allotment gardens is shown here on the 1882 OS map<1> , adjacent to a row of cottages. The setting up of allotments was a mid 19th century movement to provide land where the poor, often living in overcrowded cottages, could grow their own food. The plot is not shown as allotments on the 1898 map<2> , but they appear to have survived into the 20th century. SITE OF 19TH CENTURY ALLOTMENTS, WEST LANE, PIRTON Site Name Monument	Post Medieval	1501 to 1900	Small area of allotment gardens, built over in the 20th century	ALLOTMENT
31090	MHT31090	MON	REMAINS OF RIDGE & FURROW, NORTH OF HAMBRIDGE WAY, PIRTON	The characteristic traces of ridge & furrow cultivation were recorded by geophysics here, covering much of the centre of a long narrow field east of the village<1> .REMAINS OF RIDGE & FURROW, NORTH OF HAMBRIDGE WAY, PIRTON Site Name Monument	Medieval to Post Medieval	1066 to 1900	Traces of medieval and later strip fields	RIDGE AND FURROW
31108	MHT31108	MON	ANGLO-SAXON SETTLEMENT, PRIORS HILL, PIRTON	An enclosed Anglo-Saxon settlement, with excavated evidence of occupation from the 5th to the 9th centuries. Sites of this early date are rare, and the enclosed form of this settlement is also unusual<1> . The field is on chalk, on a north-facing slope at the east end of the Chiltern Hills. The NW edge of the field is bounded by a bank that stands about 0.25m high on its south-east side, but falls away to the north-west down a steep slope about 1.5m high. Its slight appearance on the south side of the boundary is due to a build-up of colluvium behind the bank, to an estimated depth of up to 1m. Pottery brought up by animal burrowing dates this boundary to the mid-Saxon period. At the west corner of the field the bank turns to the south-east, following the line of the hedge and merging into the hedge-bank that defines the south-west boundary of the field, along Priors Hill. An outer ditch may lie to the west of the hedge. There is also a slight bank marking the north-east boundary of the field. Geophysical survey in 2015<2> revealed two ring ditches [31109] and linear features, including one running north-eastwards from the field boundary with Priors Hill, roughly equidistant between, and parallel to, the north-west and south-east field boundaries, and marking a slight change of slope. Subsequent evaluation<3> revealed this to be a ditch, which may define the south side of an enclosed area. Parallel to this feature was probable medieval ridge and furrow, and similar linear features were identified at the north-east end of the field running at right-angles to these. The settlement seems to have been enclosed from the beginning. The majority of pottery found in pits, post-holes and ditches across the site can be dated to the 5th-7th or 9th century, and pottery of the earlier period was found in five of the seven trenches cut across the south-west to north-east ditch. No pottery was found that could be dated to the late Saxon or Saxo-Norman period. Most of the post- holes were clustered together at the east of the site, and are likely to represent post-built houses and other structures. To the north-east was a cluster of pits, several of which contained the larger pottery assemblages. Within this group of pits was the grave of an older adult male: a sample of his bone was radiocarbon dated to between AD 775 and 970<1, 3> .ANGLO-SAXON SETTLEMENT, PRIORS HILL, PIRTON Site Name Monument	Early Medieval	410 to 1065	Fifth to ninth-century enclosed settlement	BOUNDARY BANK; SETTLEMENT; DITCH; INHUMATION
31109	MHT31109	MON	RING DITCHES, PRIORS HILL, PIRTON	'Probable prehistoric ring ditches' were found in the field NE of Priors Hill during geophysics in 2015<1> . Subsequent evaluation confirmed the features as ring ditches; one contained no finds. The other contained in its fill 'mid 5th-9th century pottery' and animal bone. This ditch was recut, but the recut ditch contained no finds<2> .RING DITCHES, PRIORS HILL, PIRTON Site Name Monument	Late Neolithic to Earlier Bronze Age	-3000 to -1201	Circular gullies which may be the remains of prehistoric burial mounds; or may relate to 5th-9th century settlement in the same field	ROUND BARROW?; RING DITCH

PrefRef	MonUID	RecordType	Name	Description	Period	Dates	Summary	MonType
31320	MHT31320	MON	MEDIEVAL PIT, THE DIAL, WEST LANE, PIRTON	A pit found in an evaluation trench west of the house called The Dial was only partly uncovered, but was large and contained 12th to early 13th century pottery. Several fabrics were present, representing up to 21 vessels. Some sherds were found in the topsoil outside the pit, with post-medieval clay pipe fragments and a two-pronged iron fork<1> . Subsequent groundworks revealed a feature which was apparently part of the same pit, but containing no finds; and a second pit which yielded one sherd of 12th to 14th century pottery (Shelly Coarseware). Another 12th-14th century sherd (Sandy Oolitic Ware) and a sherd of Thetford Ware (10th-12th century) were in the topsoil<2> .MEDIEVAL PIT, THE DIAL, WEST LANE, PIRTON Site Name Monument	Medieval	1066 to 1500	Pit containing 12th to early 13th century pottery	PIT
31328	MHT31328	BLD	8-11 GREAT GREEN, PIRTON	Nos.8-11 Great Green were built as two adjoining houses in the 16th century or earlier. They are timber-framed on a brick sill, a long one and a half storey range set back from the Green. No.9 is a taller two-storey jettied crosswing, projecting to front and rear. Nos.8 and 9 are the southern part, with painted brick casing on the ground floor and the timber frame exposed on the upper floor front. No.8 has a gabled porch; no.9 a rectangular bay window beneath a gabled dormer, and a through passaged to the rear against the crosswing. This passage was probably the screens passage of a hall house. No.9 also once had an external chimney on the north side. Nos.10 and 11 are the northern part, which was cased in chequered red and black brick in the 18th century; the frontage to no.11 has been partly rebuilt. This part has three box dormers at the eaves, four ground floor windows and two doors. A very large projecting rear chimney in no.11 was rebuilt in the 18th century when the north gable was rebuilt in brick incorporating a parapet<1> . The 1882 OS map<2> shows the building already divided into four properties, with another directly adjoining no.8 on the south side and making a row of five. Four more stood perpendicular to this row, end-on to the Green. By 1898<3> the house adjoining no.8 had been demolished. Two paths approached the four cottages through their long front gardens.8-11 GREAT GREEN, PIRTON Site Name Building	Post Medieval	1501 to 1900	16th century or older pair of timber-framed houses, divided into four by the later 19th century	TIMBER FRAMED HOUSE; HALL HOUSE
31348	MHT31348	MON	LATE BRONZE AGE/EARLY IRON AGE ROUND HOUSE, HOLWELL ROAD, PIRTON	Seven post holes arranged in an incomplete circle, with two outliers on the east side, found in an evaluation trench south of Holwell Road, appeared to represent a round house. The fills held charcoal and a small amount of pottery, some unidentifiable and some late Bronze Age to early Iron Age. All the pottery was in poor condition and highly fragmented. There was no other domestic debris, but see [31349]<1, 2, 3> .LATE BRONZE AGE/EARLY IRON AGE ROUND HOUSE, HOLWELL ROAD, PIRTON Site Name Monument	Later Bronze Age to Earlier Iron Age	-1200 to -401	A circle of post holes with the appearance of a round house	ROUND HOUSE (DOMESTIC)?
31349	MHT31349	MON	LATE BRONZE AGE/EARLY IRON AGE QUARRY PITS, HOLWELL ROAD, PIRTON	Several groups of intercutting pits found south of Holwell Road appeared to have been dug as extraction pits. The largest group was about 6m by 3m overall, containing many intercutting pits and recuts. The NE quadrant had four steps leading down to the centre. Multiple fills in each of these pits contained coarse and fine ware pottery of late Bronze Age to early Iron Age date and some bone. Two fills sealing the entire group contained a great deal of bone, heated stones and charcoal, and similar pottery. A second group about 30m to the SW was similar but smaller, and without finds in the fills apart from some early or middle Iron Age coarse pottery; the sealing layer contained bone, possible worked flint, and some sandy Iron Age pottery. All the pottery was in poor condition and was highly fragmented. A few metres south of the second group of quarry pits were some scattered small pits, two of which contained a great deal of charcoal and cremated human bone<2, 3> . To the east, just beyond a ditch [18218] which appeared to be Iron Age in date, were two more groups of intercutting pits with single fills containing a very small amount of Iron Age pottery, some sand-tempered and some unidentifiable. These pits also contained a few pieces of worked flint (debitage, a damaged blade, and a hammer flake)<3> . The NGR is for the largest group of quarry pits. For a possible contemporary round house nearby, see [31348].LATE BRONZE AGE/EARLY IRON AGE QUARRY PITS, HOLWELL ROAD, PIRTON Site Name Monument	Later Bronze Age to Earlier Iron Age	-1200 to -401	Groups of intercutting pits containing multiple fills, and cremation pits	PIT; CREMATION

PrefRef	MonUID	RecordType	Name	Description	Period	Dates	Summary	MonType
31353	MHT31353	MON	MEDIEVAL OR LATER CHALK FLOOR, 6 BURY END, PIRTON	A rammed chalk rubble surface found beneath subsoil in the rear garden of 6 Bury End [31354] appeared to be the remains of a floor, laid directly onto the natural clay. It was constructed of nodules and blocks, and incorporated a few fragments of charcoal and tile. The tile fragments were hand made and could be late medieval in date. The floor was truncated by the 1940s extension to the house. Presumably the floor was laid within a building; more of it is assumed to survive further south<1> . A small outbuilding shown in the garden on the 1882 OS map<2> is a few metres further south than the chalk floor. MEDIEVAL OR LATER CHALK FLOOR, 6 BURY END, PIRTON Site Name Monument	Medieval to Post Medieval	1066 to 1900	Part of a floor of chalk rubble, presumably the floor of a building	FLOOR
31354	MHT31354	BLD	4-6 BURY END, PIRTON	Nos.4-6 were built as one house in the 18th century or earlier. It is a two-storey, two cell timber- framed house on a stuccoed sill, with roughcast exterior and painted red brick extensions. It is a lobby entry plan house with internal chimney, facing east, with a plank door at the top of two steps in the centre front. The other door is at the north end, adjacent to an exposed corner post. The extensions at each end were added in the 19th century (presumably when the house was divided); rear extensions date to the 1940s<2> . The house is shown on the 1882 OS map<3> already divided, with separate garden plots to the rear. For the chalk floor of a possibly earlier building in the garden of no.6, see [31353].4-6 BURY END, PIRTON Site Name Building	Post Medieval	1501 to 1900	18th century or earlier timber-framed house, now divided into two properties	TIMBER FRAMED HOUSE; LOBBY ENTRY HOUSE
31388	MHT31388	MON	SAXON & MEDIEVAL FEATURES, PIRTON PRIMARY SCHOOL, HIGH STREET, PIRTON	Features excavated at Pirton Primary School in 2017 included a pit containing a sherd of Maxey-type Ware pottery dating to AD 650-850; a ditch containing two sherds of St Neots Ware (AD 900-1150), cut by another ditch containing three sherds of medieval Hertfordshire Grey Ware; a gully containing one sherd of Shelly Coarseware (AD 1100-1400) and which may be part of the same medieval ditch; and undated features (a ditch, two post holes) which appeared likely to be contemporary. There was also some animal bone (cattle and horse), representing butchery and domestic refuse<1> . Later excavation found a possibly Middle Saxon pit, a Late Saxon ditch system, two Medieval ditches, a Medieval furnace bottom with iron slag.<2>SAXON & MEDIEVAL FEATURES, PIRTON PRIMARY SCHOOL, HIGH STREET, PIRTON Site Name Monument	Middle Saxon to Medieval	550 to 1500	Pits and ditches with Saxon and medieval pottery, and other features which may be contemporary	PIT; DITCH; PIT; FURNACE; DITCH; PIT; ENCLOSURE
31506	MHT31506	BLD	THE MOTTE & BAILEY (WHITE HORSE) PH, GREAT GREEN, PIRTON	The White Horse is shown on the later 19th century OS maps<1, 2> (with the label 'P.H.') facing the north end of Great Green. It was a long rectangular building with central projecting front porch and a rear projection at the north end. The large corner plot also contained outbuildings. In 1882 these were substantial, some lining the frontage of Crabtree Lane; by 1898 they had been reduced to two small buildings. The pub itself is now set slightly further back and has been reduced in size, with a three- gabled front. The northern outbuilding on the Crabtree Lane frontage, which is present on the 1882 map, has survived. The pub has been renamed the Motte & Bailey, as it backs onto the castle [32].THE MOTTE & BAILEY (WHITE HORSE) PH, GREAT GREEN, PIRTON Site Name Building	Post Medieval	1501 to 1900	Post-medieval public house, rebuilt in a slightly different position in the 20th century	PUBLIC HOUSE
31509	MHT31509	MON	POST-MEDIEVAL FIELD BOUNDARY, ROYAL OAK LANE, PIRTON	A ditch running east-west, found in two evaluation trenches in here in 2016<1> , is shown on the 1882 OS map<2> as an extant field boundary running for just over 100m, from the road to the extant eastern property boundary. This boundary 'appears on a pre-enclosure map of c.1800'<1> so must date to the 18th century or earlier. It may have been recut, as part of a very similar ditch was found running alongside it; and it is still extant beneath a line of trees in the pasture. POST-MEDIEVAL FIELD BOUNDARY, ROYAL OAK LANE, PIRTON Site Name Monument	Post Medieval	1501 to 1900	Ditched boundary dating to the 18th century or earlier	FIELD BOUNDARY; DITCH
31510	MHT31510	MON	PROBABLE MOATED SITE, WRIGHTS FARM, PIRTON	Wrights Farm [18773] stands on the Wash Brook, which rises to the SW and flows NE. The stream turns through two right-angles just south of the post-medieval farmstead, before widening into a millpond [31511] on the north side of the access track. A narrow channel runs towards the farmstead from the upper right-angled bend, giving the appearance of a moat. The field was known from before 1801 as Moat Close, and this could be a medieval homestead moat. The watercourse is the same on a map with the 1801 sales particulars<1> , and on the	Medieval	1066 to 1500	Watercourses with the appearance of a medieval homestead	MOAT

PrefRef	MonUID	RecordType	Name	Description	Period	Dates	Summary	MonType
				1882 OS map<2> . The moated enclosure served as the garden to the farmhouse, which stood across the north end of the enclosure until it was demolished c.1968. A small test pit dug on the island in 2010 produced pottery dating from the mid 12th to 19th centuries, with some medieval Herts Grey Ware sherds at the base of the pit unaccompanied by anything of a later date<3, 4> .PROBABLE MOATED SITE, WRIGHTS FARM, PIRTON Site Name Monument			moat at 'Moat Close'	
31511	MHT31511	MON	SITE OF WATERMILL, WRIGHTS FARM, PIRTON	The field east of the Wash Brook at Wrights Farm is named in sales particulars as Millers Close. The mill itself was at the SE end of the farmstead, on the north side of the access track. A small structure is shown here on maps with sales particulars dated 1801 and 1879, and also on the 1818 enclosure map<1> . It is not shown on the 1882 OS map<2> . 'Evidence for its surviving remains, including the wheel pit, was uncovered c.1970 by the then tenant farmer who afterwards re-covered the remains'<1> .SITE OF WATERMILL, WRIGHTS FARM, PIRTON Site Name Monument	Post Medieval	1501 to 1900	Post-medieval waterwheel on the Wash Brook, demolished c.1880	WATERMILL; WHEEL PIT
31512	MHT31512	MON	EARTHWORKS, SHILLINGTON ROAD, PIRTON	The field behind 28-30 Shillington Road, historically known as Doles Field, contains upstanding earthworks in the form of two large enclosures. They encompass no.28, which is a 16th century or older hall house [15906]. Large farm buildings shown here on a map drawn up in 1801<1> evidently belonged to the farmstead. North of these, and still within the earthwork enclosures, medieval pottery has been found in six test pits scattered across the field. Most of it is 12th-16th century but some 10th-11th century material was present in one of the pits<2, 3> . Very little of 16th to 19th century date was present, even though the farmhouse was already standing just to the south. Some of the test pits also had late Iron Age and Roman sherds at their base<3> .EARTHWORKS, SHILLINGTON ROAD, PIRTON Site Name Monument	Late Iron Age to Post Medieval	-100 to 1900	Earthworks around an area of Roman, medieval and later pottery finds	FINDSPOT; FINDSPOT; EARTHWORK
31514	MHT31514	MON	MEDIEVAL POTTERY AND POSSIBLY MEDIEVAL EARTHWORKS, DOLES MEAD, WRIGHTS FARM, PIRTON	The field behind Wrights Farm [18773], known as Doles Mead or The Mead, 'is covered in low and high-relief archaeological earthworks'<1> . Some may correspond to lines of trees shown on the 1882 OS map<2> , possibly marking boundary banks, but their variety and nature are unclear. Small test pits dug across the field in 2010 contained pottery dating from the late Saxon period to later medieval, with very little post-dating the Black Death in the mid 14th century<3, 4> . One test pit in particular (TP 25) appeared to be stratified, with a little late Saxon material beneath a quantity of medieval pottery. The other pits also contained a few Roman sherds. Two more test pits in the field to the north each contained a few Roman sherds, and plenty of 12th-14th century pottery; one also yielded a sherd of St Neots ware. As in the field to the south, there was nothing post-dating the Black Death. MEDIEVAL POTTERY AND POSSIBLY MEDIEVAL EARTHWORKS, DOLES MEAD, WRIGHTS FARM, PIRTON Site Name Monument	Medieval to Post Medieval	1066 to 1900	Earthworks, and medieval pottery found in test pitting	EARTHWORK; FINDSPOT
31515	MHT31515	MON	LATE BRONZE AGE & EARLY IRON AGE FEATURES, POLLARDS WAY, PIRTON	A substantial assemblage of prehistoric pottery (237 sherds) was found in pits and post holes here in 2016. In various flint-gritted fabrics, it appeared to date to the late Bronze Age to earlier Iron Age. Three large pits slightly to the south of the late Bronze Age features contained only earlier Iron Age pottery<1> .LATE BRONZE AGE & EARLY IRON AGE FEATURES, POLLARDS WAY, PIRTON Site Name Monument	Later Bronze Age to Earlier Iron Age	-1200 to -401	Pits and post holes, with prehistoric pottery	PIT; POST HOLE; PIT
31519	MHT31519	MON	RIDGE & FURROW, HOLWELL LANE, PIRTON	A pattern of ridge and furrow recorded here in a geophysical survey in 2017 ran roughly east-west, and represents medieval and later strip fields. Less dense anomalies in the south end of the same field may also be ridge and furrow, but run roughly north-south. The post-medieval field boundaries shown on the 1882 OS map<2> were also visible in the survey. RIDGE & FURROW, HOLWELL LANE, PIRTON Site Name Monument	Medieval to Post Medieval	1066 to 1900	Traces of medieval (and later) strip fields	RIDGE AND FURROW; FIELD BOUNDARY
31564	MHT31564	MON	CROPMARK OF RECTANGULAR ENCLOSURE, NORTH OF PUNCH'S CROSS, PIRTON	A rectangular enclosure, possibly double-ditched, is visible on<1> just south of a patch of woodland north of Punch's Cross. It adjoins a continuation of trackway cropmarks [2526].CROPMARK OF RECTANGULAR ENCLOSURE, NORTH OF PUNCH'S CROSS, PIRTON Site Name Monument	Unknown	Undated	Possibly double-ditched enclosure adjoining a probable trackway	RECTANGULAR ENCLOSURE

PrefRef	MonUID	RecordType	Name	Description	Period	Dates	Summary	MonType
31569	MHT31569	FS	MEDIEVAL POTTERY, LOWER CROFT FIELD, BURGE END LANE, PIRTON	Nine sherds of Early Medieval Sandy Ware and 11 sherds of Hertfordshire Greyware, found in a small test pit in the southern part of Lower Croft in 2011, indicate occupation of this area before the Black Death decimated the population of Pirton in the mid 14th century (see [16620]). Very little later pottery was present<1> .MEDIEVAL POTTERY, LOWER CROFT FIELD, BURGE END LANE, PIRTON Site Name Find Spot	Medieval	1066 to 1500	12th-13th century pottery	FINDSPOT
31570	MHT31570	BLD	ASHBURN, BURGE END LANE, PIRTON	Ashburn is a small timber-framed house built in the late 17th century, two storeys high with two windows on each floor and external gable chimneys. The timber frame stands on a red brick sill. In 1984 the house was renovated and a south wing added, with a weatherboarded upper floor. The door is within a single-storey porch on the south side of the 1984 crosswing; inside are exposed timbers<1> . A quantity of post-medieval pottery found in a test pit in front of the house in 2008 included a good deal of glazed red earthenware, and small amounts of Harlow Slipware and various kinds of stoneware<2> . There was nothing earlier. ASHBURN, BURGE END LANE, PIRTON Site Name Building	Post Medieval	1501 to 1900	Late 17th century timber-framed house	FINDSPOT; TIMBER FRAMED HOUSE
31571	MHT31571	FS	MEDIEVAL & POST-MEDIEVAL POTTERY SCATTER, SOUTH OF HAMMONDS FARM, BURGE END LANE, PIRTON	Pottery found in two test pits in the field south of Hammonds Farm included a single late Saxon sherd (St Neots type), two medieval sherds (Early Medieval Sandy Ware and Hertfordshire Greyware), and some post-medieval glazed red earthenware. All these were mixed with 19th century sherds. This area appears to have been fields, across which was spread manure mixed with other debris<1> .MEDIEVAL & POST-MEDIEVAL POTTERY SCATTER, SOUTH OF HAMMONDS FARM, BURGE END LANE, PIRTON Site Name Find Spot	Medieval to Post Medieval	1066 to 1900	Mostly post-medieval sherds apparently representing the manuring of fields	FINDSPOT
MHT31580	MHT31580	MON	EARLY NEOLITHIC PIT, SHILLINGTON ROAD, PIRTON		Early Neolithic	-4500 to -3501	A pit containing a small assemblage of flint.	PIT
MHT31609	MHT31609	MON	UNDATED FEATURES, PRIORS HILL, PIRTON		Unknown	Undated		DITCH
MHT31642	MHT31642	MON	SAXON AND MEDIEVAL FEATURES, 17 WALNUT TREE ROAD, PIRTON		Middle Saxon to Medieval	800 to 1199		DITCH; PIT
MHT31645	MHT31645	MON	ANGLO-SAXON FEATURES, REAR OF THE COACH HOUSE, SHILLINGTON ROAD, PIRTON		Middle Saxon to Medieval	850 to 1400	Anglo-Saxon features including ditches, pits and post holes as well as pottery and faunal remains.	PIT; DITCH; POST HOLE
MHT39138	MHT39138	PAS	LATE IRON AGE COIN, PIRTON		Late Iron Age	-60 to -50		FINDSPOT
MHT39812	MHT39812	MON	PARTIAL HUMAN SKULL, LATE SAXON, THE COACH HOUSE, SHILLINGTON ROAD, PIRTON		Unknown	Undated	A skull lacking facial bones, maxilla and mandible, dated to the Late Saxon, was interred in a small pit containing ash and traces of burning.	

PrefRef	MonUID	RecordType	Name	Description	Period	Dates	Summary	MonType
MHT40376	MHT40376	MON	ROMAN AND MEDIEVAL PITS AND DITCHES, WRIGHTS FARM, PIRTON		Unknown	Undated	A number of Roman, Medieval and post-Medieval features were identified.	
MHT40380	MHT40380	MON	LATE IRON AGE/EARLY ROMAN INHUMATION, SAXON STRUCTURES AND POST-MEDIEVAL FURROWS, PRIORS HILL, PIRTON		Later Bronze Age to Late Saxon	-1200 to 1065	Late Iron Age/Early Roman inhumation and Post-Medieval furrows, Priors Hill, Pirton	ROUND HOUSE (DOMESTIC); POST BUILT STRUCTURE; POST BUILT STRUCTURE; WATERHOLE

9.5 EVENTS

EvUID	RecordType	Name	Description	Organisati	Ref	Location
EHT1206	EVT	Test pits in Pirton village, 2007	Five test pits dug on different sites around the village as part of the 'Currently Occupied Rural Settlements' project; only one had anything useful. This was in one of the rear plots NW of the West Lane/Burge End Lane corner.	University of Cambridge Higher Education Field Academy (HEFA)	PIR/07	Pirton village
EHT1296	EVT	Test pits at St Mary's church, Pirton, 2003-4	Two test pits dug against the north wall of the chancel to assess the archaeological impact of works to address subsidence and repairs to cracked wall. An unrecorded modern brick and concrete pad was discovered around the chancel (and presumably the south transept), evidently a previous attempt to stabilise the building. This involved a trench at least 65cm wide around the chancel, destroying any in situ deposits; but the original foundation of the north transept was seen.	Albion Archaeology		St Mary's church, Pirton
EHT1658	EVP	AIR PHOTO OF CROPMARKS OF A SUB-RECTANGULAR ENCLOSURE, PIRTON		Air Photos from CUCAP		
EHT2603	EVP	AIR PHOTO OF CROPMARKS OF A RING DITCH AND LINEAR DITCH, PIRTON		Air Photos from CUCAP		
EHT3078	EVP	AIR PHOTO, PIRTON		Air Photo Services Air Photos		
EHT3079	EVP	AIR PHOTO, PIRTON		Air Photo Services Air Photos		
EHT3080	EVP	AIR PHOTO, TOOT HILL, PIRTON		Air Photo Services Air Photos		
EHT3081	EVP	AIR PHOTO OF MOTTE AND BAILEY CASTLE, TOOT HILL, PIRTON		Air Photo Services Air Photos		
EHT3082	EVP	AIR PHOTO, PIRTON		Air Photo Services Air Photos		
EHT3083	EVP	AIR PHOTO		Air Photo Services Air Photos		
EHT3084	EVP	AIR PHOTO		Air Photo Services Air Photos		
EHT3886	EVP	PHOTOGRAPH OF ST MARYS CHURCH AND TOOT HILL CASTLE, PIRTON		HCC (General/Archaeology)		
EHT3887	EVP	PHOTOGRAPH OF ST MARYS CHURCH AND TOOT HILL CASTLE, PIRTON		HCC (General/Archaeology)		
EHT3888	EVP	PHOTOGRAPH OF ST MARYS CHURCH AND TOOT HILL CASTLE, PIRTON		HCC (General/Archaeology)		

EvUID	RecordType	Name	Description	Organisati	Ref	Location
EHT4188	EVT	Evaluation of land to the rear of The Fox PH, Pirton, 1993	13 evaluation trenches across a substantial area of land on the north side of the High Street revealed well-preserved medieval archaeology in 11 trenches. The other two, near the NW corner of the area, revealed topsoil over natural.	The Heritage Network		The Fox PH, High Street, Pirton
EHT4203	EVT	Excavation on land to the rear of The Fox PH, Pirton, 1995	Three areas of open excavation following evaluation (EHT4188) confirmed the presence of dense and well-preserved remains. These remains evidently extended well beyond the excavated areas in every direction <2>.	North Hertfordshire District Council Museums Service		The Fox PH, High Street, Pirton
EHT4209	EVT	Watching brief at Walnut Tree Farm, Pirton, 1996		The Heritage Network	HN022	Walnut Tree Farm, Pirton
EHT4567	EVT	Watching brief at Rectory Farm, Pirton, 1996		The Heritage Network	HN051	Rectory Farm, Pirton
EHT4805	EVT	Observations at Barn 2, Walnut Tree Farm, Pirton, 1997		The Heritage Network	HN091	Walnut Tree Farm, Pirton
EHT4816	EVT	Monitoring at 77 High Street, Pirton, 1998	Monitoring of groundworks during redevelopment of a plot on the north side of the High Street noted that although the plot had been extensively disturbed and built up, post-medieval remains survived. There were no signs of earlier occupation. Silty clay subsoil overlay decayed chalk marl natural.	The Heritage Network	HN 202	77 High Street, Pirton
EHT5319	EVT	Excavation on land at Little Lane, Pirton, 2001-2	Three areas were excavated following evaluation, revealing considerable 19th and 20th century disturbance as well as Saxon features and pottery residual in later features. The excavated areas appeared to be part of a larger area of surviving archaeology <2>.	Heritage Network	181	Land at Little Lane, Pirton
EHT5322	EVT	Watching brief at 14 Priors Hill, Pirton, 2002-3	Monitoring of groundworks and landscaping for a new house and garage recorded no archaeological finds, features or deposits. Several cut features were seen but were evidently modern. Silty clay topsoil overlay clay natural.	The Heritage Network	202	14 Priors Hill, Pirton
EHT5425	EVT	Evaluation at Elm Tree Farm, Hambridge Way, Pirton, 2004	Seven evaluation trenches in the area of the farmyard before the construction of housing. Yard surfaces and made ground overlay mature subsoil above natural clay which here is about 0.65m below ground level. Three trenches contained no archaeology.	Archaeological Solutions Ltd		Elm Tree Farm, Hambridge Way, Pirton
EHT5576	EVT	Evaluation of land at 11-13 Bury End, Pirton, 2000	A thick layer of allotment soil overlay three features. The terrace adjacent to Great Bury Field was found to truncate an undulation in the natural strata, not part of the earthworks.	Bedfordshire County Archaeology Service		Land at 11-13 Bury End, Pirton
EHT5581	EVT	Evaluation at Elm Tree Farm, Pirton, 2006	Further work in the area of the former farmyard.	Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd		Elm Tree Farm, Hambridge Way, Pirton
EHT6790	EVT	Watching brief at Pirton Primary School, High Street, Pirton, 2010	Monitoring of groundworks for a new school building NW of the existing building; the area of the building itself had been truncated by a swimming pool. The single archaeological feature was immediately north of the truncated area; there were no other archaeological finds, features or deposits. Made ground overlay natural chalk and clay.	Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd		Pirton Primary School, High Street, Pirton
EHT6846	EVT	Evaluation of land at Holwell Turn, Holwell Road, Pirton, 2011	Six evaluation trenches across a field south of Holwell Road just before the bend revealed a single field boundary ditch and only one find, a fragment of poorly preserved animal bone. Topsoil and subsoil overlay natural clay and chalky till.	Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd	HHRP11	Holwell Road, Pirton
EHT7057	EVT	Evaluation at 6 Priors Hill, Pirton, 2011	A single trench in the garden west of the house revealed no archaeological finds, features or deposits. Topsoil overlay subsoil containing modern debris, above natural clay and chalk.	Heritage Network	HN953	6 Priors Hill, Pirton

EvUID	RecordType	Name	Description	Organisati	Ref	Location
EHT7102	EVT	Monitoring at 6 Walnut Tree Road, Pirton, 2012	Groundworks for the demolition and replacement of a rear extension included a test pit and new footing trenches. The uniform stratigraphy was of topsoil over a clayey silt subsoil above silty clay natural.	Heritage Network	HN971	6 Walnut Tree Road, Pirton
EHT7310	EVT	Evaluation of land adjacent to Pollards Way, Pirton, 2012	Five evaluation trenches across the NE corner of a field beside Pollards Way revealed two Roman features. Topsoil, subsoil and natural were all of silty clay. For subsequent work see EHT7824.	Heritage Network	HN 1017	Pollards Way, Pirton
EHT7428	EVT	Evaluation at The Dial, West Lane, Pirton, 2013	Two evaluation trenches across the footprint of a new house within the grounds of a 1960s house revealed a medieval pit. Topsoil overlay chalky marl natural.	Allen Archaeology	PIDI13	The Dial, West Lane, Pirton
EHT7556	EVS	Building recording of the Great Barn, Rectory Farm, Pirton, 2012	Recording of the great barn before its repair and conversion to domestic use.	The Heritage Network	HN976	Rectory Farm, Shillington Road, Pirton
EHT7653	EVT	Watching brief at The Dial, West Lane, Pirton, 2015	Groundworks for an extension on the west side of the house, including service runs, revealed topsoil above natural chalk.	Allen Archaeology	PIDI15	The Dial, West Lane, Pirton
EHT7816	EVT	Monitoring of garden works at Bury Cottage, 6 Walnut Tree Road, Pirton, 2013	Works in the garden west of the house included removal of metal shuttering and hardcore inserted against the edge of the pond in 2012, and excavation of a footing trench for a garden wall and a soakaway. Mixed overburden lay above natural grey clay; there were no archaeological finds, features or deposits.	The Heritage Network	HN1070	Bury Cottage, 6 Walnut Tree Road, Pirton
EHT7817	EVT	Monitoring at 28 Shillington Road, Pirton, 2014	Groundworks for replacement of the 1960s rear extension revealed mostly modern disturbance, mixed overburden with modern debris. In the NE corner was a compacted chalk layer above a sandy bedding layer on the natural clay. There were no other archaeological finds, features or deposits.	Heritage Network	HN1096	28 Shillington Road, Pirton
EHT7821	EVS	2 Bury End, Pirton		Heritage Network		
EHT7822	EVT	2 Bury End, Pirton		Heritage Network		
EHT7824	EVT	Excavation and Monitoring on land adjacent to Pollards Way, Pirton, 2014-15	Strip, map & record across the area of ground level reduction (for housing and access road), and monitoring of new footings and service trenches, followed evaluation (EHT7310). Topsoil overlay silty clay subsoil, above natural compact silty clay.	Heritage Network	HN1141	Pollards Way, Pirton
EHT7865	EVS	Magnetometer survey of land at Priors Hill, Pirton, 2015	Geophysical survey of the field produced evidence of a range of archaeological anomalies, tested in subsequent evaluation (EHT8220). The correlation between the anomalies and the evaluation proved to be good.	Archaeological Solutions Limited	AS1740	Priors Hill, Pirton
EHT7865	EVS	Magnetometer survey of land at Priors Hill, Pirton, 2015		Archaeological Solutions Limited	AS1740	Priors Hill, Pirton
EHT7979	EVS	Geophysical survey on land adjacent to Elm Tree Farm, Hambridge Way, Pirton, 2015	Geophysical survey of the 400m strip of land north from Hambridge Way behind the housing to Holwell Road identified little of archaeological origin other than traces of ridge & furrow, and a few possible cut features (ditches and a possible pit) in the northern part of the area.	Stratascan	J8754	Elm Tree Farm, Hambridge Way, Pirton
EHT8016	EVT	Evaluation of land at Holwell Road, Pirton, 2015	15 evaluation trenches to inform an application for a housing development on farmland;	HEADLAND ARCHAEOLOGY LTD	HOPH15	Elm Tree Farm, Pirton/Holwell Road, Pirton
EHT8041	EVT	Evaluation of land at 40 Royal Oak Lane, Pirton, 2016	Seven trial trenches across the grounds south of the house itself revealed no features or deposits predating the post-medieval period. All but one of the features revealed (in three of the trenches) were either natural, undated, or modern, and there were no finds. Topsoil overlay soft silty clay subsoil, over natural clay.	Heritage Network	HN1239	Copford House, 40 Royal Oak Lane, Pirton

EvUID	RecordType	Name	Description	Organisati	Ref	Location
EHT8111	EVT	Monitoring at 28 High Street, Pirton, 2016	Groundworks for a rear extension, new porch, and conversion and enlargement of an outbuilding, revealed no archaeological finds, features or deposits. Topsoil overlay patches of modern made ground or levelling, above silty clay subsoil and/or natural clay.	Archaeological Solutions Ltd	AS1858	28 High Street, Pirton
EHT8202	EVS	Geophysical survey of land at Shillington Road, Pirton, 2016		Stratascan	J10243	Shillington Road/Priors Hill, Pirton
EHT8202	EVS	Geophysical survey of land at Shillington Road, Pirton, 2016	Weak anomalies detected at the SW end of the site may be archaeological; the rest of the site produced no anomalies which could be archaeological.	Stratascan	J10243	Shillington Road/Priors Hill, Pirton
EHT8203	EVT	Evaluation at land adjacent to The Coach House, Shillington Road, Pirton, 2016	Four evaluation trenches revealed a number of archaeological features pits, ditches, gullies, post-holes and a large pit-like feature.	KDK Archaeology		The Coach House, Shillington Road, Pirton
EHT8220	EVT	Evaluation of land at Pollards Way/Priors Hill, Pirton, 2015	Predetermination evaluation of the field to inform an application for housing involved 20 trenches targeting anomalies identified in geophysics (EHT7865). (As a result the northern half of the field was Scheduled.)	Archaeological Solutions Limited	AS1740	Priors Hill, Pirton
EHT8352	EVT	Archaeological 'strip and map' excavation at Holwell Road, Pirton, 2016-17	Following evaluation in 2015 (EHT8016) a strip and map excavation was opened out at the north end of the site where features had been identified.	HEADLAND ARCHAEOLOGY LTD	HRPM/01	Holwell Road, Pirton, Hitchin, SG5 3UQ
EHT8353	EVT	Monitoring at 6 Bury End, Pirton, 2017	Groundworks for a rear extension: below the modern hard standing was sterile subsoil over a rubble surface.	Gil Burleigh	N	6 Bury End, Pirton
EHT8371	EVT	Archaeological evaluation at Pirton School, High Street, Pirton, 2017	Two evaluation trenches to investigate the area on the east side of the primary school building, in advance of a possible new classroom and hardstanding, both revealed well-preserved features cut into the chalky clay natural beneath the subsoil.	Archaeology South-East	PIR-PS-17	Pirton School, High Street, Pirton SG5 3PS
EHT8400	EVT	Evaluation at Land at Shillington Road, Pirton, 2017		Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd		Land at Shillington Road, Pirton
EHT8416	EVS	Geophysical survey of land off Holwell Road, Pirton, 2017	A Bartington Grad 601 fluxgate gradiometer survey found no anomalies indicating archaeological remains, other than old field boundaries and some ridge and furrow.	SUMO Survey	11635	Holwell Road, Pirton
EHT8468	EVT	Watching brief at 19 Shillington Road, Pirton, 2017	Groundworks for an extension to the existing outbuilding at the SE corner of the plot revealed no archaeological finds, features or deposits. The stratigraphy was intact: tarmac and gravel over modern made ground, above a silty clay subsoil and firm clay natural.	Archaeological Solutions Limited	AS1918	19 Shillington Road, Pirton SG5 3QJ
EHT8473	EVT	Test pits in Pirton village, 2008	23 test pits dug on different sites around the village, the second season here of the 'Currently Occupied Rural Settlements' project.	University of Cambridge Higher Education Field Academy (HEFA)	PIR/08	Pirton
EHT8474	EVT	Test pits in Pirton village, 2009	28 test pits dug on different sites around the village, the third season here of the 'Currently Occupied Rural Settlements' project.	University of Cambridge Higher Education Field Academy (HEFA)	PIR/09	Pirton
EHT8475	EVT	Test pits in Pirton village, 2010	27 test pits dug on different sites around the village, the fourth season here of the 'Currently Occupied Rural Settlements' project.	University of Cambridge Higher Education Field Academy (HEFA)	PIR/10	Pirton
EHT8476	EVT	Test pits in Pirton village, 2011	16 test pits dug on different sites around the village, the fifth season here of the 'Currently Occupied Rural Settlements' project. (Some of these pits appear to have been organised by locals, in addition to those dug by HEFA.)	University of Cambridge Higher Education Field Academy (HEFA)	PIR11	Pirton

EvUID	RecordType	Name	Description	Organisati	Ref	Location
EHT8495	EVT	Evaluation at Land off Holwell Road, Pirton, 2018	It appears that this evaluation did not happen; the planning application was refused. New event record entered (eht 9352) for evaluation by AOC, 2018.	WYG Environment Planning Transport Limited		Land off Holwell Road, Pirton
EHT8629	EVT	Excavation at Pirton School, High Street, Pirton, 2017		Archaeology South-East	2018512	Pirton School, High Street, Pirton, SG5 3PS
EHT8629	EVT	Excavation at Pirton School, High Street, Pirton, 2017	Middle and Late Saxon ditched features were noted, and St. Neots ware pottery was recovered. A 12th century furnace bottom and iron slag were also found. None of the Medieval features was 14th century or later.	Archaeology South-East	2018512	Pirton School, High Street, Pirton, SG5 3PS
EHT8630	EVT	Evaluation at Land Rear Of 17 Walnut Tree Road Pirton, 2018	10 evaluation trenches across a field to the rear of 17 Walnut Tree Road revealed features across the site dating to the 9-12th century. Hand sieving of the subsoil resulted in the recovery of numerous sherds of generally abraded pottery. The topsoil, subsoil and natural were all of silty clay.	Heritage Network		Land Rear Of 17 Walnut Tree Road Pirton Hertfordshire
EHT8634	EVT	Evaluation at Pirton Court, 1 Priors Hill, Pirton, 2018	An evaluation at this site revealed a ditch and a possible ditch terminal.	Archaeological Solutions Ltd	AS1973	Pirton Court, 1 Priors Hill, Pirton
EHT8641	EVT	Strip and map at 14 High Street, Pirton, 2019		Archaeological Solutions Ltd		14 High Street, Pirton
EHT8657	EVT	Archaeological test pits at 11 Royal Oak Lane Pirton, 2018		Gil Burleigh		11 Royal Oak Lane Pirton Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 3QT
EHT8659	EVS	Building appraisal at Wrights Farm, Pirton, 2019	Level 2 assessment at pre-planning application stage			Wright's Farm, Pirton
EHT8668	EVT	Evaluation at Land at Wrights Farm, Pirton, 2019	Roman and Medieval features were discovered sealed beneath post-Medieval and Modern deposits.	HEADLAND ARCHAEOLOGY LTD	WFPH19	Land at Wrights Farm, Pirton
EHT8869	EVT	Monitoring at Land Adjacent To Elm Tree Farm, Hambridge Way, Pirton 2020	Watching brief started on northern area in 2018? Was underway, 10/09/2018, and 13/9/18. Ongoing, 13/12/2018. 04/01/2019 - no archaeology at all, apart from the IA ditch found in either the minimum or maximum area. Have agreed that the WB need not continue in the maximum area. Monitoring of southern area (former Shoulder of Mutton PH site) underway 16/7/19	HEADLAND ARCHAEOLOGY LTD		Land Adjacent To Elm Tree Farm, Hambridge Way, Pirton
EHT8874	EVT	Test pits and strip, map and record at 7 Royal Oak Lane Pirton, 2020		Archaeological Solutions Ltd		7 Royal Oak Lane Pirton
EHT8884	EVT	Strip and map and monitoring at 11 Royal Oak Lane Pirton 2021		Minerva Archaeology Ltd		11 Royal Oak Lane Pirton

EvUID	RecordType	Name	Description	Organisati	Ref	Location
EHT8893	EVT	Excavation at land adjacent to The Coach House, Shillington Road, Pirton, 2017	Excavation of the footprints of the two new houses, and new access road	KDK Archaeology		Land adjacent to The Coach House, Shillington Road, Pirton
EHT8902	EVT	Excavation at Land Rear Of 17 Walnut Tree Road Pirton, 2020		HEADLAND ARCHAEOLOGY LTD		Land Rear Of 17 Walnut Tree Road Pirton
EHT8914	EVT	Strip, map and record at The Methodist Church Hall, High Street, Pirton, 2021		Wardell Armstrong		The Methodist Church Hall, High Street, Pirton
EHT8932	EVT	Excavation at Land Rear Of 17 Walnut Tree Road, Pirton, 2021	Open area excavation of the footprints of houses in Plots 7 and 8	HEADLAND ARCHAEOLOGY LTD		Land Rear Of 17 Walnut Tree Road, Pirton
EHT8941	EVT	Evaluation and test pit at 12 Davis Crescent Pirton, 2021		Minerva Archaeology Ltd		12 Davis Crescent Pirton
EHT8952	EVT	Monitoring at 12 Davis Crescent Pirton, 2021		Minerva Archaeology Ltd		12 Davis Crescent Pirton
EHT9016	EVT	Monitoring at 33a High Street Pirton, 2019		Archaeological Solutions Ltd		33a High Street Pirton
EHT9088	EVT	Strip and map and monitoring at Springfields Bury End Pirton, 2022		Minerva Archaeology Ltd		Springfields Bury End Pirton
EHT9105	EVT	Monitoring at 17 Walnut Tree Road, Pirton, 2022		Minerva Archaeology Ltd		17 Walnut Tree Road, Pirton
EHT9109	EVT	Strip map and record at Ashburn Burge End Lane Pirton, 2022		Icknield Archaeology		Ashburn Burge End Lane Pirton
EHT9206	EVT	Monitoring at Pirton School High Street Pirton, 2022		Albion Archaeology		Pirton School High Street Pirton
EHT9310	EVT	Monitoring at 1 West Lane Pirton, 2024		DRP Archaeology		1 West Lane Pirton
EHT9352	EVT	Evaluation at Land off Holwell Road, Pirton, 2018	AOC for WYG Environment Planning Transport Limited, report says started 15/1/18.	AOC Archaeology Group		Land off Holwell Road, Pirton

EvUID	RecordType	Name	Description	Organisati	Ref	Location
EHT9404	EVT	Evaluation at Pirton Sports And Social Club Walnut Tree Road Pirton, 2024		Minerva Archaeology Ltd		Pirton Sports And Social Club Walnut Tree Road Pirton
EHT9486	EVS	Walkover Survey, 30 Shillington Road, Pirton 2022	It was concluded that there was significant potential for archaeology within the footprint of the proposed development, and that there was a likely impact on the setting of the Scheduled Monument.	Minerva Archaeology Ltd	MA 410	30 Shillington Road, Pirton
EHT9490	EVT	Archaeological Evaluation, Priors Hill, Pirton 2017	A total of four trial trenches, measuring 38m, 40m, 13m and 20m in length, were excavated and recorded. Remains of a small number of Post-Medieval furrows and undated small pits were revealed across the site, and an undated human burial was identified but not excavated at the south western end of the site.	Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd	13138	
EHT9493	EVT	Supplementary Evaluation, Priors Hill, Pirton	The evaluation identified two phases of activity. First, an inhumation (young adult female) later dated to the Iron Age. Two sections of a segmented ditch found in the same trench approximately c. 4m to the north of the grave may be associated with this burial. Second, furrows of post medieval date or later were found in the southern and western part of the site.	Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd	13138	Priors Hill, Pirton
EHT9495	EVT	Area Excavation and Watching Brief, Priors Hill, Pirton 2019	Archaeology from the Mesolithic to the Post-Medieval was found.	Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd	13947	Priors Hill, Pirton, Hertfordshire
EHT9497	EVT	14a High Street, Pirton Strip, Map and Record and Watching Brief 2024	Except for a single pit, containing a few pieces of medieval pottery, no significant archaeological features, artefacts or deposits were encountered.	Minerva Archaeology Ltd	MA 421	14a High Street, Pirton, Hertfordshire

9.6 AREA OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE (AAS)

DesigUID	RecordType	Name
DHT1069	AAS	Pirton historic village area and surrounds, including Prehistoric and Roman cropmarks to the south of the village and Medieval ridge and furrow earthworks by Rectory Manor Farm.

9.7 HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION (HLC)

HLCUID	Name	FullTypeCo	BroadTypeC	HLCTypeCod	HLCTypeDes	YearFrom	YearTo	Summary
HHT1654	Pirton	BUM-ba	BUM	ba	BUILT-UP AREAS - URBAN DEVELOPMENT	2000	2000	Pre-migration HLC type: BUILT-UP AREAS - URBAN DEVELOPMENT
HHT3008		TEF-bl	TEF	bl	BOUNDARY LOSS	2000	2000	Pre-migration HLC type: POST 1950 BOUNDARY LOSS
HHT3009		TEF-bl	TEF	bl	BOUNDARY LOSS	2000	2000	Pre-migration HLC type: POST 1950 BOUNDARY LOSS
HHT3010		TEF-bl	TEF	bl	BOUNDARY LOSS	2000	2000	Pre-migration HLC type: POST 1950 BOUNDARY LOSS
HHT7554		LEF-pe	LEF	pe	FORMAL STYLE PARLIAMENTARY ENCLOSURE	1880	1880	Pre-migration HLC type: FORMAL 18TH - 18THCENTURY PARLIAMENTARY ENCLOSURE
HHT7555		LEF-pe	LEF	pe	FORMAL STYLE PARLIAMENTARY ENCLOSURE	1880	1880	Pre-migration HLC type: FORMAL 18TH - 18THCENTURY PARLIAMENTARY ENCLOSURE
HHT7556		LEF-pe	LEF	pe	FORMAL STYLE PARLIAMENTARY ENCLOSURE	1880	1880	Pre-migration HLC type: FORMAL 18TH - 18THCENTURY PARLIAMENTARY ENCLOSURE

HLCUID	Name	FullTypeCo	BroadTypeC	HLCTypeCod	HLCTypeDes	YearFrom	YearTo	Summary
HHT7557		TEF-te	TEF	te	"20thC" ENCLOSURE	2000	2000	Pre-migration HLC type: POST 1950'S ENCLOSURE
HHT7558		AEF-if	AEF	if	IRREGULAR ENCLOSURE	1880	1880	Pre-migration HLC type: PRE-18TH CENTURY 'IRREGULAR' ENCLOSURE
HHT7559		TEF-br	TEF	br	BOUNDARY LOSS - WITH RELICT ELEMENTS	2000	2000	Pre-migration HLC type: POST 1950 BOUNDARY LOSS - WITH RELICT ELEMENTS
HHT7561		TEF-te	TEF	te	"20thC" ENCLOSURE	1950	1950	Pre-migration HLC type: POST 1950'S ENCLOSURE
HHT7562		LEF-pe	LEF	pe	FORMAL STYLE PARLIAMENTARY ENCLOSURE	1880	1880	Pre-migration HLC type: FORMAL 18TH - 18THCENTURY PARLIAMENTARY ENCLOSURE
HHT7563	Toot Hill	EAR-he	EAR	he	HISTORIC EARTHWORK	1880	1880	Pre-migration HLC type: HISTORIC EARTHWORK
HHT7564		TEF-te	TEF	te	"20thC" ENCLOSURE	2000	2000	Pre-migration HLC type: POST 1950'S ENCLOSURE
HHT7567		WDS-wp	WDS	wp	18TH-20TH CENTURY WOODLAND PLANTATION	2000	2000	Pre-migration HLC type: 19TH-20TH CENTURY WOODLAND PLANTATION
HHT7568		BUM-ba	BUM	ba	BUILT-UP AREAS - URBAN DEVELOPMENT	2000	2000	Pre-migration HLC type: BUILT-UP AREAS - URBAN DEVELOPMENT
HHT7571		LEF-le	LEF	le	PIECEMEAL ENCLOSURE BY AGREEMENT	1880	1880	Pre-migration HLC type: LATER ENCLOSURE - 18TH CENTURY OR LATER
HHT7573		AEF-if	AEF	if	IRREGULAR ENCLOSURE	1880	1880	Pre-migration HLC type: PRE-18TH CENTURY 'IRREGULAR' ENCLOSURE
HHT7574		HOR-ag	HOR	ag	ALLOTMENTS	1880	1880	Pre-migration HLC type: ALLOTMENTS
HHT7575		PGR-tl	PGR	tl	LEISURE / RECREATION	2000	2000	Pre-migration HLC type: 20TH CENTURY LEISURE
HHT7576		WDS-wp	WDS	wp	18TH-20TH CENTURY WOODLAND PLANTATION	2000	2000	Pre-migration HLC type: 19TH-20TH CENTURY WOODLAND PLANTATION
HHT7578		LEF-pe	LEF	pe	FORMAL STYLE PARLIAMENTARY ENCLOSURE	1880	1880	Pre-migration HLC type: FORMAL 18TH - 18THCENTURY PARLIAMENTARY ENCLOSURE
HHT7579		TEF-br	TEF	br	BOUNDARY LOSS - WITH RELICT ELEMENTS	2000	2000	Pre-migration HLC type: POST 1950 BOUNDARY LOSS - WITH RELICT ELEMENTS
HHT7587		TEF-bl	TEF	bl	BOUNDARY LOSS	2000	2000	Pre-migration HLC type: POST 1950 BOUNDARY LOSS
HHT7588		LEF-pe	LEF	pe	FORMAL STYLE PARLIAMENTARY ENCLOSURE	1880	1880	Pre-migration HLC type: FORMAL 18TH - 18THCENTURY PARLIAMENTARY ENCLOSURE

10 APPENDIX 2 – PLANNING FRAMEWORK

10.1 NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY FRAMEWORK

- 10.1.1 The significance of a heritage asset is defined in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (December 2024) as being made up of four main constituents, architectural interest, historical interest, archaeological interest and artistic interest. The setting of the heritage asset can also contribute to its significance. Setting is defined in the NPPF (Glossary) as follows:

“The surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the significance of an asset, may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral.”

- 10.1.2 Historic England advocates in The Setting of Heritage Assets: Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning: 3 (Revised December 2017) that a stepped approach should be taken to the assessment of impacts on setting and significance. This guidance, which was originally issued by English Heritage in 2011, is generally known as GPA3. It should be noted that the advice states in paragraph 1 that it does not constitute a prescriptive methodology.
- 10.1.3 A useful authority relating to the concept of the setting of heritage assets is to be found in the case known as *Catesby Estates*¹¹, which in essence confirms that the setting of heritage assets is not confined to visual matters or views. Abstract and historical considerations are part of setting, and while it is reasonable to consider the extent of setting there is usually no fixed boundary to it.
- 10.1.4 The assessments of setting and significance (and the assessments of impact) are normally made with primary reference to the four main elements of special significance identified in the NPPF.
- 10.1.5 The NPPF requires any impact involving harm to the significance of a designated heritage asset to be considered in terms of either “*substantial harm*” or “*less than substantial harm*” as described in paragraphs 212 to 215 of that document. Paragraph 212 states that:

“When considering the impact of a proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage asset, great weight should be given to the asset’s conservation (and the more important the asset, the greater the weight should be). This is irrespective of whether any potential harm amounts to substantial harm, total loss or less than substantial harm to its significance.”

¹¹ *Catesby Estates Limited v Steer* [2018] EWCA Civ. 1697.

10.1.6 Paragraph 213 of the NPPF then states that:

“Any harm to, or loss of, the significance of a designated heritage asset (from its alteration or destruction, or from development within its setting), should require clear and convincing justification. Substantial harm to or loss of:

a) grade II listed buildings, or grade II registered parks or gardens, should be exceptional;

b) assets of the highest significance, notably scheduled monuments, protected wreck sites, registered battlefields, grade I and II listed buildings, grade I and II* registered parks and gardens, and World Heritage Sites, should be wholly exceptional⁷².”*

10.1.7 Paragraph 214 then states that:

“Where a proposed development will lead to substantial harm to (or total loss of significance of) a designated heritage asset, local planning authorities should refuse consent, unless it can be demonstrated that the substantial harm or total loss is necessary to achieve substantial public benefits that outweigh that harm or loss, or all of the following apply:

a) the nature of the heritage asset prevents all reasonable uses of the site; and

b) no viable use of the heritage asset itself can be found in the medium term through appropriate marketing that will enable its conservation; and

c) conservation by grant-funding or some form of not for profit, charitable or public ownership is demonstrably not possible; and

d) the harm or loss is outweighed by the benefit of bringing the site back into use.”

10.1.8 Paragraph 215 explains the balancing exercise in cases where there is less than substantial harm as follows:

“Where a development proposal will lead to less than substantial harm to the significance of a designated heritage asset, this harm should be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal including, where appropriate, securing its optimum viable use.”

10.1.9 Paragraph 216 of the NPPF describes the approach to be taken towards non-designated heritage assets, as follows:

“The effect of an application on the significance of a non-designated heritage asset should be taken into account in determining the application. In weighing applications that directly or indirectly affect non-designated heritage assets, a balanced judgement will be required having regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset.”

10.1.10 Footnote 75 of the NPPF, which is attached to paragraph 213, states that *“Non-designated heritage assets of archaeological interest, which are demonstrably of equivalent significance to scheduled monuments, should be considered subject to the policies for designated heritage assets.”*

10.1.11 Further guidance on non-designated heritage assets is contained in National Planning Practice Guidance, as revised on 23 July 2019, notably paragraph 040 which states that *“Irrespective of how they are identified, it is important that the decisions to identify them as non-designated heritage assets are based on sound evidence”*, and paragraph 041 which in full reads as follows:

“What are non-designated heritage assets of archaeological interest and how important are they?”

The National Planning Policy Framework identifies two categories of non-designated heritage assets of archaeological interest:

(1) Those that are demonstrably of equivalent significance to scheduled monuments and are therefore considered subject to the same policies as those for designated heritage assets (National Planning Policy Framework footnote 63). They are of 3 types:

- *those that have yet to be formally assessed for designation.*
- *those that have been assessed as being nationally important and therefore, capable of designation, but which the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport has exercised his/her discretion not to designate.*
- *those that are incapable of being designated by virtue of being outside the scope of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 because of their physical nature.*

The reason why many nationally important monuments are not scheduled is set out in the document Scheduled Monuments, published by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport. Information on location and significance of such assets is found in the same way as for all heritage assets. Judging whether sites fall into this category may be assisted by reference to the criteria for scheduling monuments. Further information on scheduled monuments can be found on the Department for Culture, Media and Sport’s website.

(2) Other non-designated heritage assets of archaeological interest. By comparison this is a much larger category of lesser heritage significance, although still subject to the conservation objective. On occasion the understanding of a site may change following assessment and evaluation prior to a planning decision and move it from this category to the first.

Where an asset is thought to have archaeological interest, the potential knowledge which may be unlocked by investigation may be harmed even by minor disturbance, because the context in which archaeological evidence is found is crucial to furthering understanding.

Decision-making regarding such assets requires a proportionate response by local planning authorities. Where an initial assessment indicates that the site on which

development is proposed includes or has potential to include heritage assets with archaeological interest, applicants should be required to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation. However, it is estimated that following the initial assessment of archaeological interest only a small proportion – around 3% – of all planning applications justify a requirement for detailed assessment.

Paragraph: 041 Reference ID: 18a-041-20190723

Revision date: 23 07 2019"

10.1.12 Paragraph 218 of the NPPF also makes provision for the recording of heritage assets that are likely to be demolished or destroyed by development.

10.1.13 Paragraphs 219 and 220 of the NPPF advise on development affecting conservation areas and World Heritage Sites.

10.2 LEGISLATION

10.2.1 Legislation affecting scheduled monuments is contained the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979. The Act details the designation, care and management of scheduled monuments, as well as the procedures needed to obtain permission for works which would directly impact upon their preservation.

10.2.2 The decision maker is required by section 66(1) of the Planning (listed buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 to have special regard to the desirability of preserving a listed building or its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses. The decision maker must also give considerable importance and weight to the desirability of preserving the setting of the listed building¹². For present purposes, one of the meanings of preservation, as it is meant in section 66(1) of the Act, is to keep safe from harm¹³. There is a strong presumption against the grant of permission for development that would harm the setting of the listed building, though the presumption can be overcome in certain circumstances.

10.2.3 The decision maker is required by section 72(1) of the Planning (listed buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 to pay special attention to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character or appearance of a conservation area. The decision maker must also give considerable importance and weight to the desirability of those objectives¹⁴. For present purposes, one of the meanings of preservation, as it is meant in section 66(1) of the Act, is to keep safe from harm¹⁵. There is a strong presumption against the grant of permission for development that would harm the character and appearance of the conservation area, though the presumption can be overcome in certain

¹² Barnwell Manor Wind Energy Limited v East Northamptonshire District Council and others [2014] EWCA Civ. 137.

¹³ South Lakeland v Secretary of State for the Environment [1992] 2 AC 141.

¹⁴ Barnwell Manor Wind Energy Limited v East Northamptonshire District Council and others [2014] EWCA Civ. 137.

¹⁵ South Lakeland v Secretary of State for the Environment [1992] 2 AC 141.

circumstances.

- 10.2.4 The decision maker is required by section 16(2) of the Planning (listed buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 to have special regard to the desirability of preserving a listed building or its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses. The decision maker must also give considerable importance and weight to the desirability of preserving the setting of the listed building¹⁶. For present purposes, one of the meanings of preservation, as it is meant in section 66(1) of the Act, is to keep safe from harm¹⁷. There is a strong presumption against the grant of permission for development that would harm the setting of the listed building, though the presumption can be overcome in certain circumstances. In this instance, Heritage Setting is covered by a separate document and is not commented upon further here.

¹⁶ Barnwell Manor Wind Energy Limited v East Northamptonshire District Council and others [2014] EWCA Civ. 137.

¹⁷ South Lakeland v Secretary of State for the Environment [1992] 2 AC 141

11 APPENDIX 3 - HEDGEROW REGULATIONS 1997

11.1 THE HEDGEROWS REGULATIONS

- 11.1.1 Are intended to protect important countryside hedges from destruction or damage. The Regulations define what a hedgerow is in terms of the regulations and set out the criteria for determining what an 'important' hedgerow is. The existence of hedgerows can be important in archaeological terms, as they can be an indicator of ancient land use patterns and systems of tenure. In planning terms an early awareness of their existence can help to guide ways of integrating ecologically and archaeologically landscape elements into a masterplan.

*Hedgerow Regulations*¹⁸

The regulations define a hedgerow as being;

'any hedgerow growing in, or adjacent to, any common land, protected land, or land used for agriculture, forestry or the breeding or keeping of horses, ponies or donkeys, if—

it has a continuous length of, or exceeding, 20 metres; or

it has a continuous length of less than 20 metres and, at each end, meets (whether by intersection or junction) another hedgerow'.

In terms of the criteria for determining what an 'important' hedgerow is, for the purposes of this assessment these will be limited to those criteria within the Regulations which define a hedgerow which is considered 'important' in terms of archaeology and history. These are as follows:

'1. The hedgerow marks the boundary, or part of the boundary, of at least one historic parish or township; and for this purpose "historic" means existing before 1850.

2. The hedgerow incorporates an archaeological feature which is—

included in the schedule of monuments compiled by the Secretary of State under section 1 (schedule of monuments) of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979; or

recorded at the relevant date in a Sites and Monuments Record.

3. The hedgerow—

is situated wholly or partly within an archaeological site included or recorded as mentioned in paragraph 2 or on land adjacent to and associated with such a site; and is associated with any monument or feature on that site.

¹⁸ <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/1997/1160/contents/made>

4. *The hedgerow—*

marks the boundary of a pre-1600 AD estate or manor recorded at the relevant date in a Sites and Monuments Record or in a document held at that date at a Record Office; or

is visibly related to any building or other feature of such an estate or manor.

5. *The hedgerow—*

is recorded in a document held at the relevant date at a Record Office as an integral part of a field system pre-dating the Inclosure Acts; or

is part of, or visibly related to, any building or other feature associated with such a system, and that system—

is substantially complete; or

is of a pattern which is recorded in a document prepared before the relevant date by a local planning authority, within the meaning of the 1990 Act, for the purposes of development control within the authority's area, as a key landscape characteristic.'

12 APPENDIX 4 – EXISTING AND PROPOSED



NOTES

1. ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN METERS UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

2. THE DEVELOPER SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR OBTAINING ALL NECESSARY PERMITS AND APPROVALS FROM THE RELEVANT AUTHORITIES.

3. THE DEVELOPER SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR OBTAINING ALL NECESSARY PERMITS AND APPROVALS FROM THE RELEVANT AUTHORITIES.

4. THE DEVELOPER SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR OBTAINING ALL NECESSARY PERMITS AND APPROVALS FROM THE RELEVANT AUTHORITIES.

5. THE DEVELOPER SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR OBTAINING ALL NECESSARY PERMITS AND APPROVALS FROM THE RELEVANT AUTHORITIES.

PRELIMINARY
PENTANGLE
DESIGN GROUP

19 WALNUT TREE ROAD, MILTON, HISHIN
01843 800 123 | 01843 800 123 | 01843 800 123

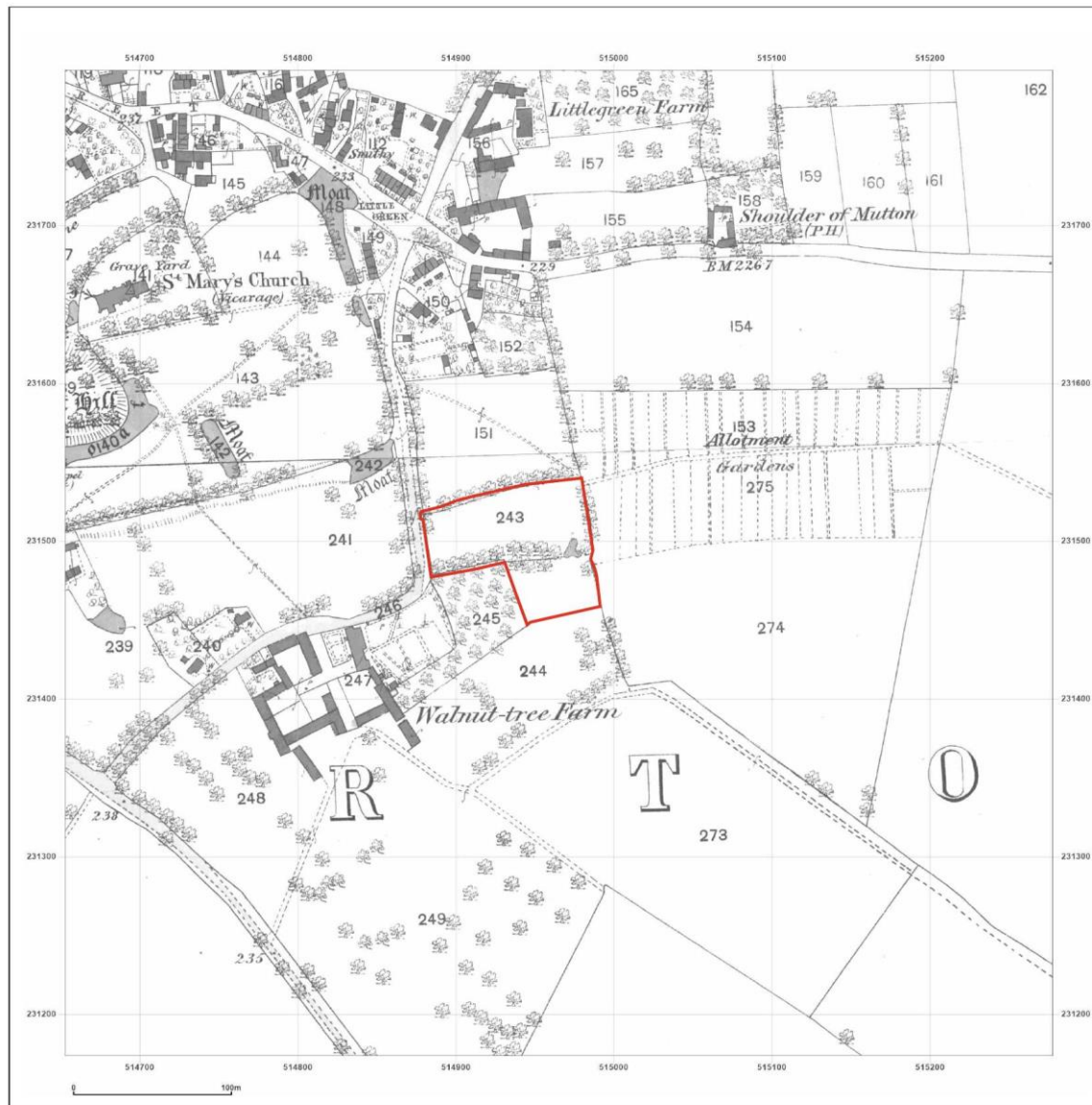
Proposed Residential Development at
19 Walnut Tree Road, Milton, Hishin

Proposed Site Plan

Scale	1:200	06	A
Date	Oct 25		
Sheet	A1	3942	

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13 APPENDIX 5 – HISTORIC ORDNANCE SURVEY MAPS



BLACKWELL'S MAPPING SERVICES PERSONAL & PROFESSIONAL MAPPING

Site Details:

Pirton (Hertfordshire)

Client Ref: CMAPS-BW1-1250899-1533188-57218-161125
Report Ref: CMAPS-BW1-1250899-1533188-57218-161125HI
Grid Ref: 514965, 231486

Map Name: County Series

Map date: 1881-1882

Scale: 1:2,500

Printed at: 1:2,500



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Revised 1882
Edition N/A
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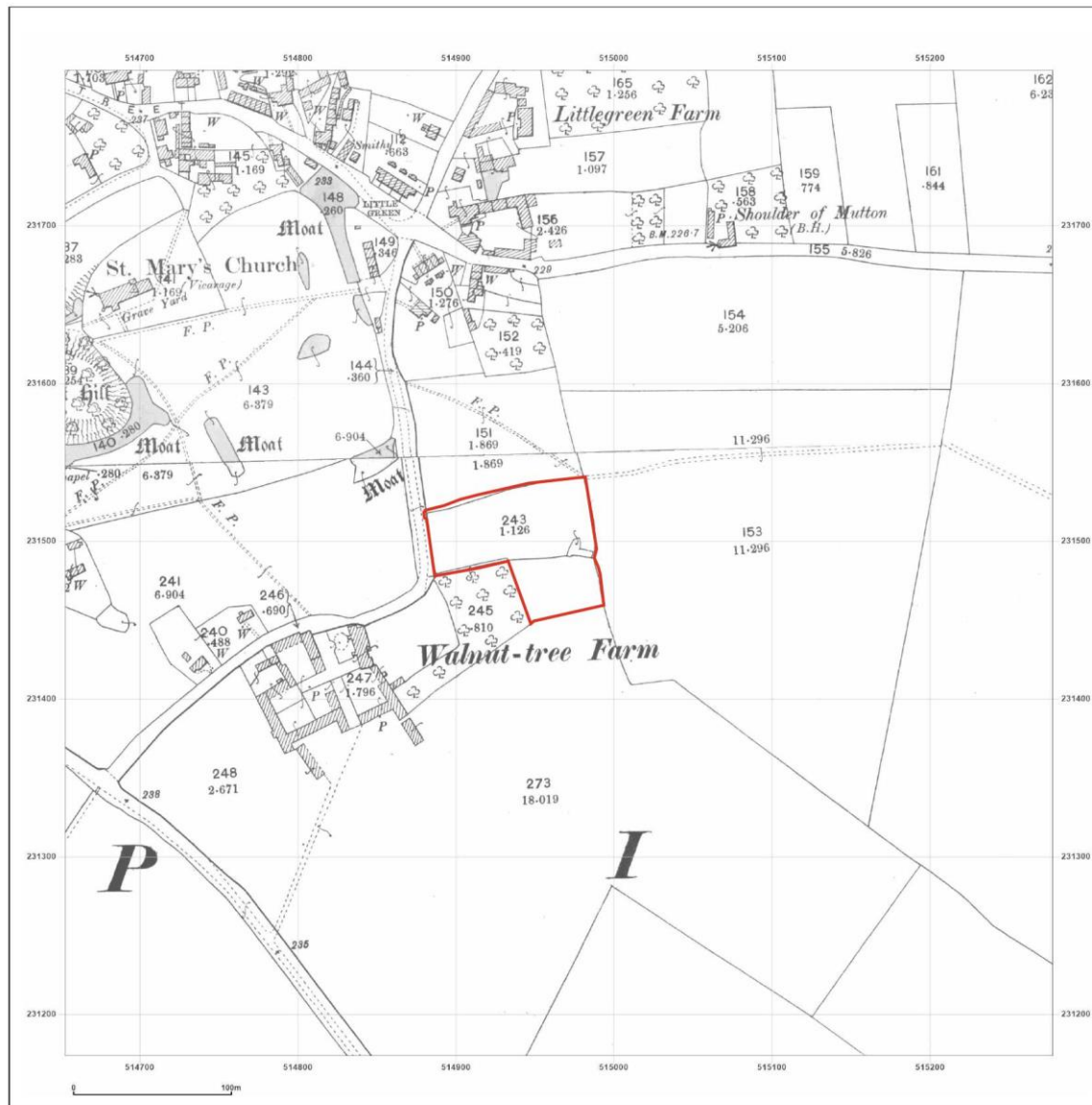


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BLACKWELL'S MAPPING SERVICES PERSONAL & PROFESSIONAL MAPPING

Site Details:

Pirton (Hertfordshire)

Client Ref: CMAPS-BW1-1250899-1533188-57218-161125
Report Ref: CMAPS-BW1-1250899-1533188-57218-161125HI
Grid Ref: 514965, 231486

Map Name: County Series

Map date: 1898

Scale: 1:2,500

Printed at: 1:2,500



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Revised 1898
Edition N/A
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Surveyed 1898
Revised 1898
Edition N/A
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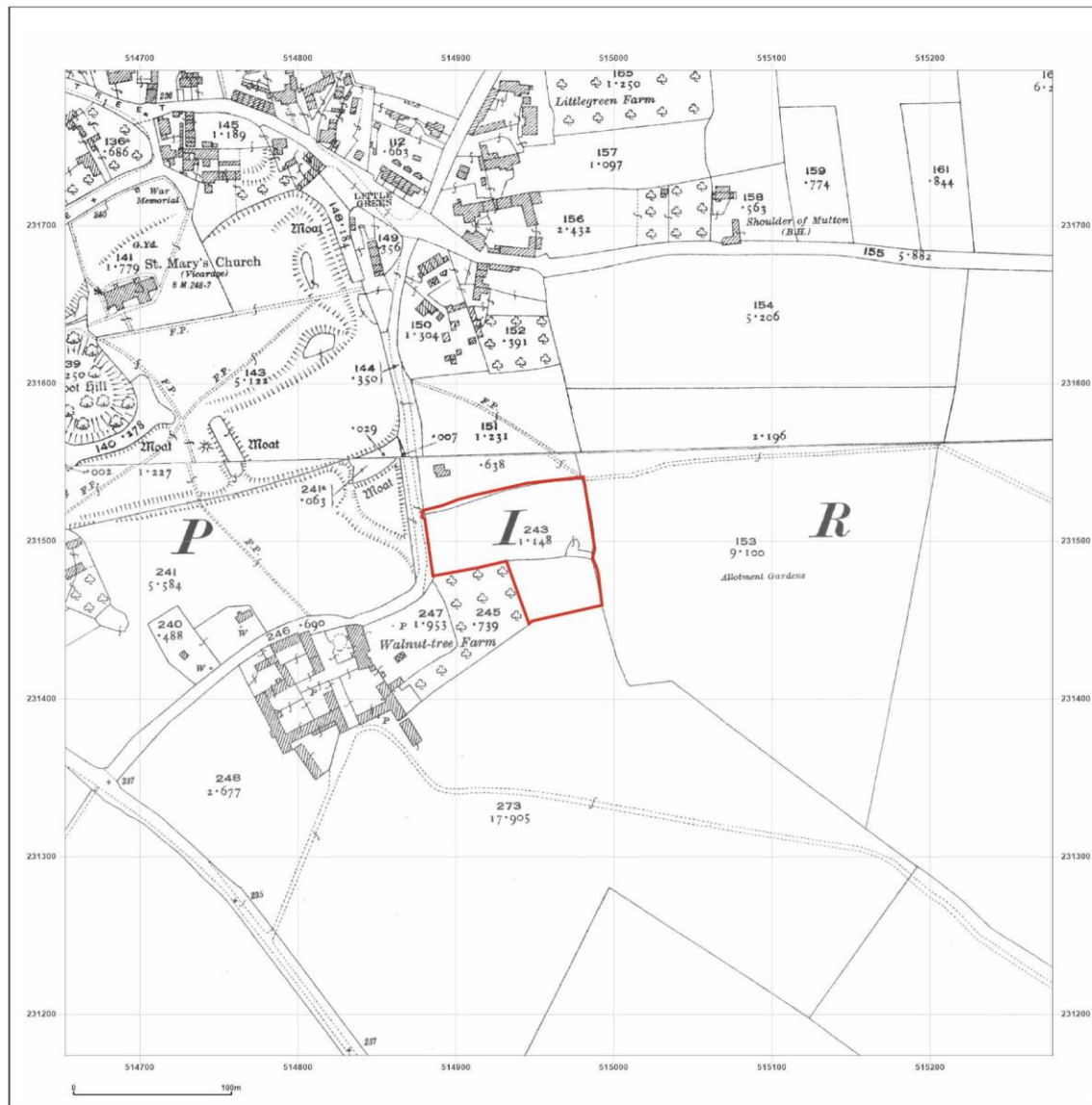


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Site Details:

Pirton (Hertfordshire)

Client Ref: CMAPS-BW1-1250899-1533188-57218-161125
Report Ref: CMAPS-BW1-1250899-1533188-57218-161125H
Grid Ref: 514965, 231486

Map Name: County Series

Map date: 1924

Scale: 1:2,500

Printed at: 1:2,500



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Edition N/A
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Surveyed 1924
Revised 1924
Edition N/A
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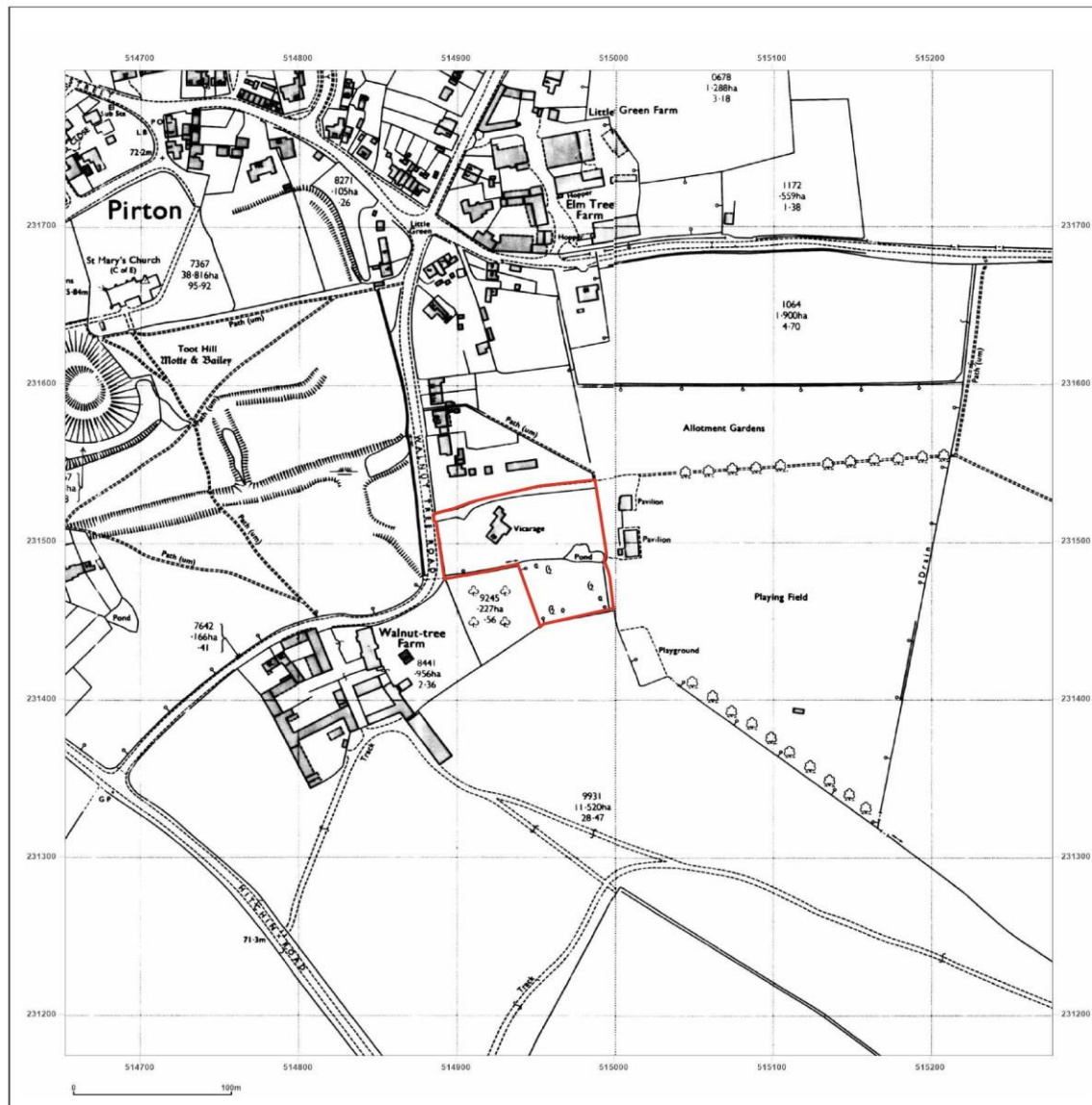


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Site Details:

Pirton (Hertfordshire)

Client Ref: CMAPS-BW1-1250899-1533188-57218-161125
Report Ref: CMAPS-BW1-1250899-1533188-57218-161125HI
Grid Ref: 514965, 231486

Map Name: National Grid

Map date: 1980

Scale: 1:2,500

Printed at: 1:2,500



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Revised N/A
Edition N/A
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Revised N/A
Edition N/A
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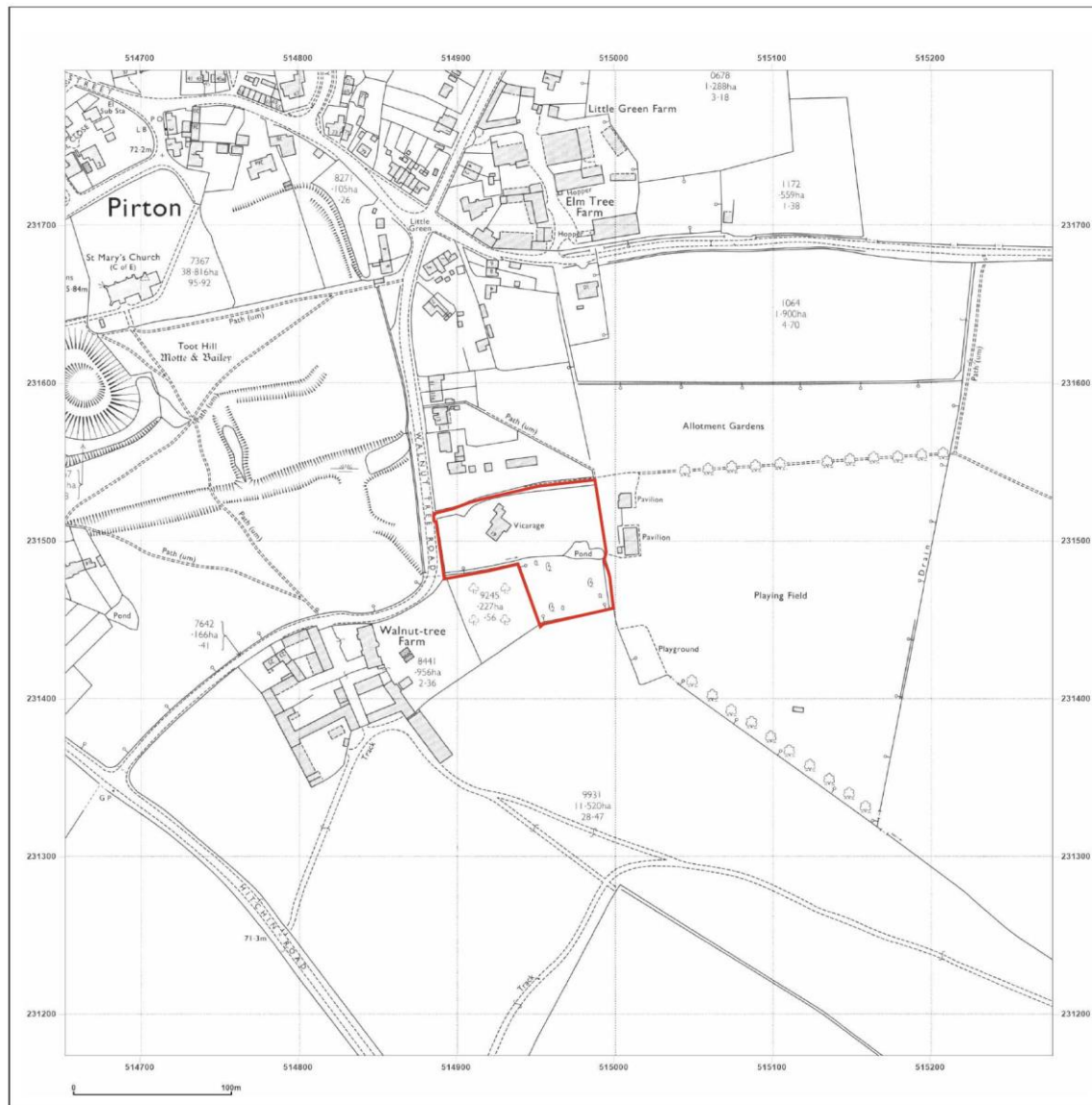


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Site Details:

Pirton (Hertfordshire)

Client Ref: CMAPS-BW1-1250899-1533188-57218-161125
Report Ref: CMAPS-BW1-1250899-1533188-57218-161125H
Grid Ref: 514965, 231486

Map Name: National Grid

Map date: 1980

Scale: 1:2,500

Printed at: 1:2,500



Surveyed 1978
Revised 1978
Edition N/A
Copyright 1980
Levelled 1957



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Production date: 16 November 2025

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Site Details:

Pirton (Hertfordshire)

Client Ref: CMAPS-BW1-1250899-1533188-57218-161125
Report Ref: CMAPS-BW1-1250899-1533188-57218-161125HI
Grid Ref: 514965, 231486

Map Name: National Grid

Map date: 1993

Scale: 1:2,500

Printed at: 1:2,500



Surveyed N/A
Revised N/A
Edition N/A
Copyright 1993
Levelled N/A

Surveyed 1993
Revised N/A
Edition N/A
Copyright 1993
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BLACKWELL'S MAPPING SERVICES PERSONAL & PROFESSIONAL MAPPING

Site Details:

Pirton (Hertfordshire)

Client Ref: CMAPS-BW1-1250899-1533188-57218-161125
Report Ref: CMAPS-BW1-1250899-1533188-57218-161125HI
Grid Ref: 514965, 231486

Map Name: National Grid

Map date: 1995

Scale: 1:2,500

Printed at: 1:2,500



Surveyed N/A
Revised N/A
Edition N/A
Copyright N/A
Levelled N/A



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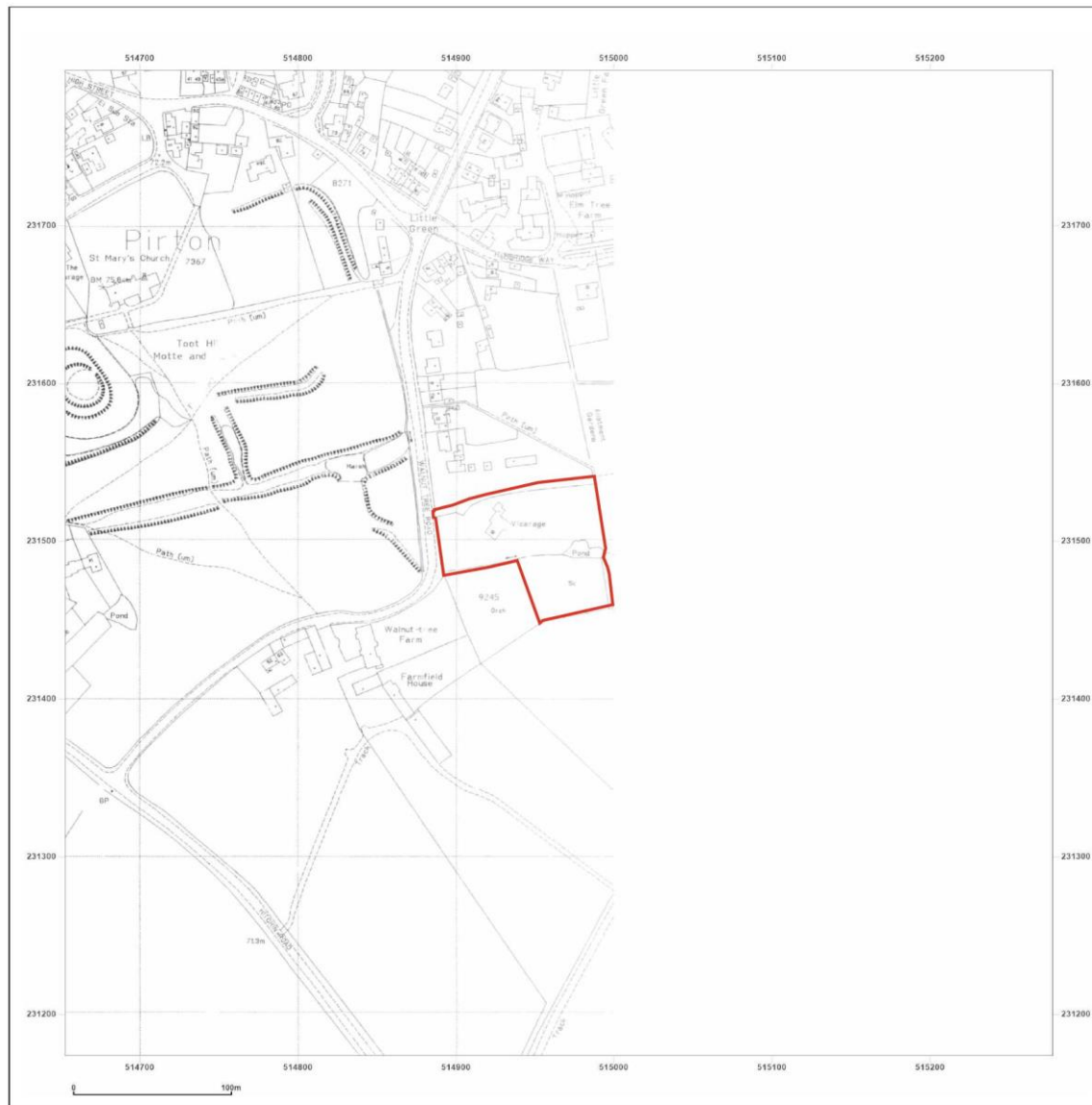


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Production date: 16 November 2025

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BLACKWELL'S MAPPING SERVICES PERSONAL & PROFESSIONAL MAPPING

Site Details:

Pirton (Hertfordshire)

Client Ref: CMAPS-BW1-1250899-1533188-57218-161125
Report Ref: CMAPS-BW1-1250899-1533188-57218-161125HI
Grid Ref: 514965, 231486

Map Name: National Grid

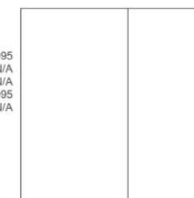
Map date: 1995

Scale: 1:2,500

Printed at: 1:2,500



Surveyed 1995
Revised N/A
Edition N/A
Copyright 1995
Levelled N/A



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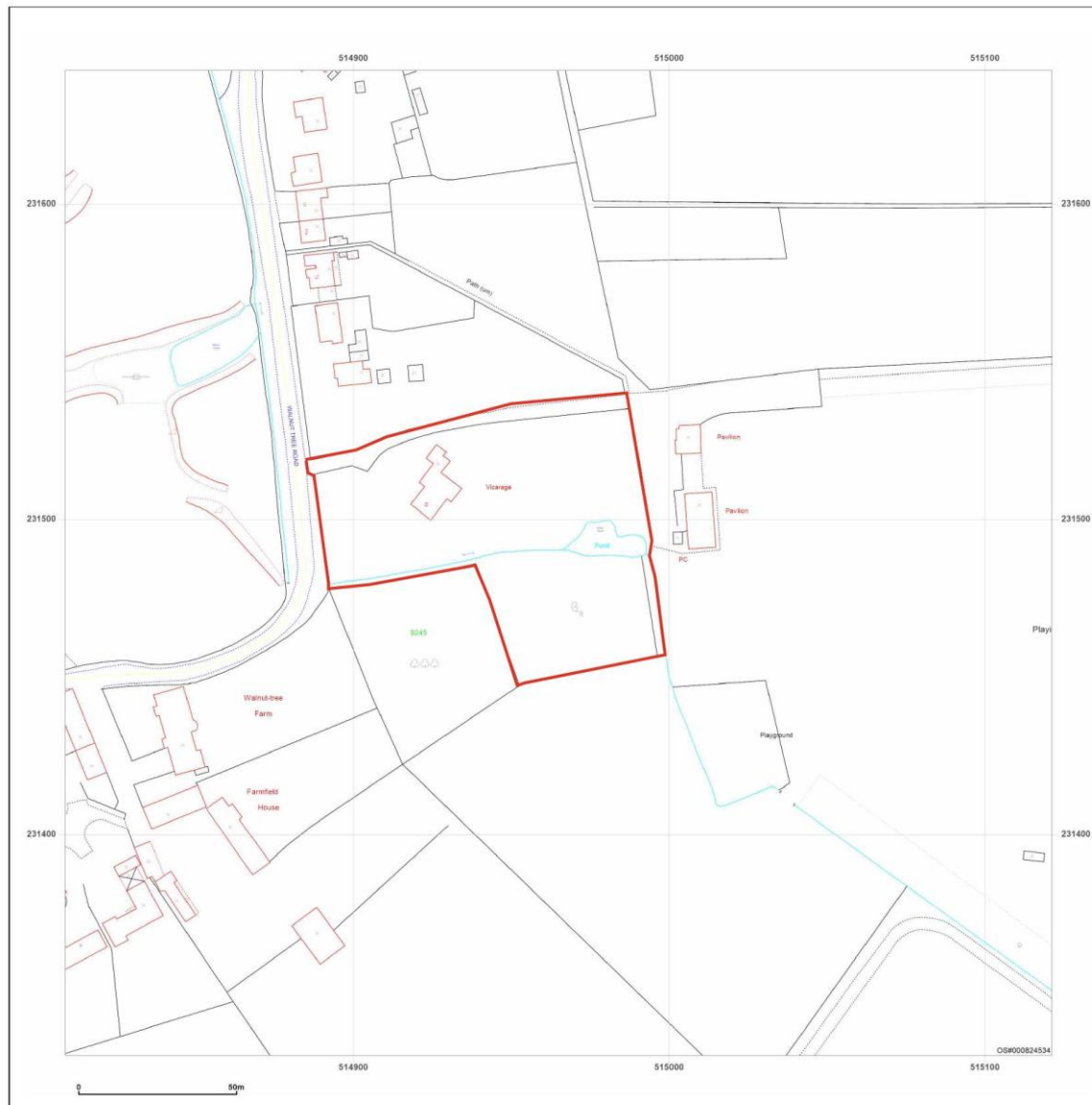


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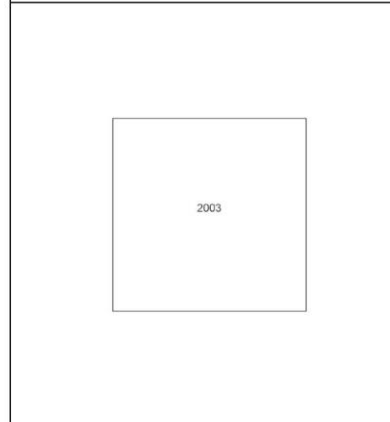


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Site Details:
 Pirton (Hertfordshire)

Client Ref: CMAPS-BW1-1250899-1533188-57218-161125
Report Ref: CMAPS-BW1-1250899-1533188-57218-161125HI
Grid Ref: 514965, 231486

Map Name: LandLine
Map date: 2003
Scale: 1:1,250
Printed at: 1:1,250



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14 FIGURES

