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Enviromena Project Management UK
Limited

Chicklade Solar Farm,
Wiltshire

Archaeological Assessment

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This assessment provides a detailed understanding of the baseline historic environment of only archaeological interest within a 1km study area of the Site and has considered the impacts of the Proposed Development on designated heritage assets, including Scheduled Monuments, as well as non-designated assets listed on the Wiltshire Historic Environment Record (HER). The assessment is required support a planning application for a Chicklade Solar Farm, Wiltshire. The Site currently comprises approximately 12 hectares of arable farmland which is described as gently undulating. Only part of the Site to the south will be developed, with the rest of the Site remaining agricultural.

There is only one designated heritage asset related to archaeology within the study area: a Scheduled Monument (**1015937**) located 940m from Site.

The HER data for the study area includes undated cropmarks, some of which are mapped as extending partially into the Site. The potential for archaeological remains within the Site is Low. Any remains that date between the Later Prehistoric to medieval periods may have Low to Medium importance depending on their significance. Archaeological remains that relate to the medieval or post-medieval period, such as former field boundaries, cultivation regimes and any extraction activity will have Low importance.

The geophysical anomalies present within the Site may relate to parts of former boundary ditches, parts of a possible field system or other elements of agricultural land management. None of these anomalies correspond with known cropmarks recorded within HER dataset.

Further detail on the design, and in particular the depth of any invasive groundworks. However, by their nature, the footprint of solar farms and the amount of ground-breaking that is required is generally limited. Impacts depend on the depth of the archaeological horizon, the depth of ground-breaking, the archaeological potential as well as the state of preservation and the significance of any remains. Due to the limited nature of the ground-breaking required, the impact is likely to be less than substantial in NPPF terms.

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1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 BWB Consulting Limited (BWB) was instructed by Enviromena Project Management UK Limited to undertake a Heritage Statement for Chicklade Solar Farm ('the Site') in respect of a detailed planning application for a proposed solar farm ('the Proposed Development').
- 1.2 The purpose of the report is to assess the significance of any recorded heritage assets related to archaeology within a 1km study area of the Site boundary and assess the potential for archaeological remains to be present within the Site. The assessment also considers any potential impacts on the archaeological resource, in line with the requirements of National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).¹ The Archaeological Assessment does not assess the significance or setting of any built heritage assets or potential impacts as a result of the Proposed Development.

Site Location and Topography

- 1.3 The Site is located north of A303 road and is approximately centred on National Grid Reference ST 90180 34651. The proposed Site boundary is shown on **Figure 1**.
- 1.4 The Site comprises approximately 12 hectares of arable field, (**Appendix 5, Plates 1 and 2**). The Site is bound by field boundaries and further arable land to all directions, as well as a farmstead to the south. The Site is located approximately 12km to the north-east of Shaftesbury, 2km north-west of the village of Hindon and approximately 750m to the west of the village of Chicklade.
- 1.5 The Site is situated approximately 170m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD).² The datum of the Site slopes from approximately 180m AOD in the north-western corner of the Site to approximately 160m AOD in the south and can be described as gently undulating.

Geology and Soils

- 1.6 According to the online British Geological Survey (BGS) mapping, the underlying bedrock geology across the Site comprises Seaford Chalk formed during the Cretaceous period. Superficial deposits are not recorded for this site.³ The soils consist of shallow lime-rich soils over chalk or limestone⁴

¹ Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government, 2012 (as amended 2023), *National Planning Policy Framework*, Chapter 16, paragraph 194.

² FreeMapTools, <https://www.freemaptools.com/elevation-finder.htm> (last accessed 3rd July 2023).

³ British Geological Survey, *Geology of Britain Viewer*, <https://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home>.

⁴ Cranfield Environment Centre, supported by Defra, Soilscales LandIS - Land Information System - Soilscales soil types viewer

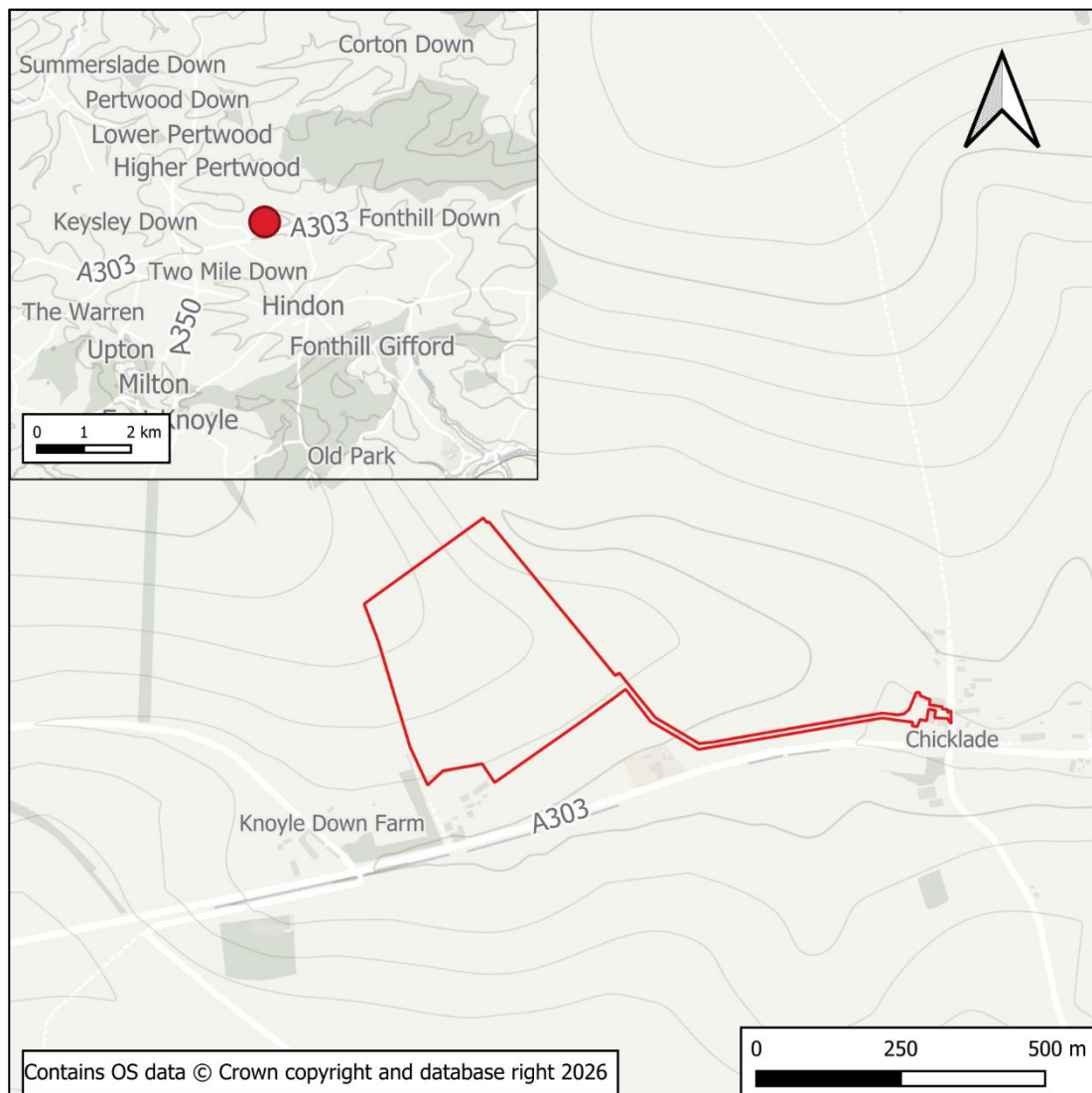


Figure 1: Site Location

Proposed Development

- 1.7 The Proposed Development comprises the installation of a solar farm which will part of the southern half of the Site, with the majority of the Site remaining undeveloped (**Appendix 1; DWG_ENV00267-02-PlanningLayout_RevL**). The solar farm will comprise photovoltaic cells (PV cells) arranged in lines running east to west. A low voltage transformer station will be installed in the centre of the Site. The planning layout includes proposals to provide screening by hedgerow around the Proposed Development to mitigate the visual impact of the solar farm. A perimeter fence will be installed around the PV cells.
- 1.8 An access track will be constructed as part of the Proposed Development. The track accesses the Site from the road to the east, adjacent to Seymour Farm, and heads west and then north to the southern boundary (**Appendix 1; DWG_ENV00267-08-PermissiveRoute-RevB**).

2. PLANNING BACKGROUND

Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979

- 2.1 The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act, 1979 outlines the provisions for designation, control of works and enforcement measures relating to Scheduled Monuments. The Act consolidates and amends the law relating to ancient monuments; to make provision for the investigation, preservation and recording of matters of archaeological or historical interest and (in connection therewith) for the regulation of operations or activities affecting such matters; to provide for the recovery of grants under section 10 of the Town and Country Planning (Amendment) Act 1972 or under section 4 of the Historic Buildings and Ancient Monuments Act 1953 in certain circumstances; and to provide for grants by the Secretary of State to the Architectural Heritage Fund.

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)⁵

- 2.2 Chapter 16 of the NPPF Paragraph 202 states, 'Heritage assets range from sites and buildings of local historic value to those of the highest significance, such as World Heritage Sites which are internationally recognised to be of Outstanding Universal Value. These assets are an irreplaceable resource and should be conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance, so that they can be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of existing and future generations.
- 2.3 Chapter 16, paragraph 203 states that 'Plans should set out a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment, including heritage assets most at risk through neglect, decay or other threats. This strategy should take into account:
- d) the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets, and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation;
 - e) the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits that conservation of the historic environment can bring;
 - f) the desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness; and
 - g) opportunities to draw on the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of a place.'
- 2.4 Paragraph 205 of the NPPF states that 'Local planning authorities should maintain or have access to a historic environment record. This should contain up-to-date evidence about the historic environment in their area and be used to:
- h) *assess the significance of heritage assets and the contribution they make to their environment; and*
 - i) *predict the likelihood that currently unidentified heritage assets, particularly sites of historic and archaeological interest, will be discovered in the future'.*

⁵ National Planning Policy Framework, Chapter 16.

- 2.5 Paragraph 206 states that 'Local planning authorities should make information about the historic environment, gathered as part of policy-making or development management, publicly accessible'.
- 2.6 Chapter 16, paragraph 207, of the NPPF states that 'In determining applications, local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance. As a minimum the relevant historic environment record should have been consulted and the heritage assets assessed using appropriate expertise where necessary. Where a site on which development is proposed includes, or has the potential to include, heritage assets with archaeological interest, local planning authorities should require developers to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation'.
- 2.7 Paragraphs 208 states that 'Local planning authorities should identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset that may be affected by a proposal (including by development affecting the setting of a heritage asset) taking account of the available evidence and any necessary expertise. They should take this into account when considering the impact of a proposal on a heritage asset, to avoid or minimise any conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the proposal'.
- 2.8 Paragraph 210 states that 'in determining applications, local planning authorities should take account of:
- a) the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation;
 - b) the positive contribution that conservation of heritage assets can make to sustainable communities including their economic vitality; and
 - c) the desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness'.
- 2.9 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'.
- 2.10 Paragraph 213 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 exceptional'.

- 2.11 Paragraph 214 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'.
- 2.12 Paragraph 215 states that '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'.
- 2.13 Paragraph 216 states that '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'.
- 2.14 Paragraph 217 states that 'Local planning authorities should not permit the loss of the whole or part of a heritage asset without taking all reasonable steps to ensure the new development will proceed after the loss has occurred'.
- 2.15 Paragraph 218 states that 'Local planning authorities should require developers to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence (and any archive generated) publicly accessible. However, the ability to record evidence of our past should not be a factor in deciding whether such loss should be permitted'.
- 2.16 Paragraph 219 states that 'Local planning authorities should look for opportunities for new development within Conservation Areas and World Heritage Sites, and within the setting of heritage assets, to enhance or better reveal their significance. Proposals that preserve those elements of the setting that make a positive contribution to the asset (or which better reveal its significance) should be treated favourably'.
- 2.17 Paragraph 220 states that 'not all elements of a Conservation Area or World Heritage Site will necessarily contribute to its significance. Loss of a building (or other element) which makes a positive contribution to the significance of the Conservation Area or World Heritage Site should be treated either as substantial harm under paragraph 207 or

less than substantial harm under paragraph 208, as appropriate, taking into account the relative significance of the element affected and its contribution to the significance of the Conservation Area or World Heritage Site as a whole'.

- 2.18 Paragraph 221 states that 'Local planning authorities should assess whether the benefits of a proposal for enabling development, which would otherwise conflict with planning policies but which would secure the future conservation of a heritage asset, outweigh the disbenefits of departing from those policies'.

Local Policy

Wiltshire Core Strategy Development Plan 2015-2026⁶

- 2.19 The Site is located within the administrative area of Wiltshire Council. The Wiltshire Core Strategy Development Plan Document ('the plan') was formally adopted on 20 January 2015. The plan provides a positive and flexible overarching planning policy framework for Wiltshire for the period up to 2026. The contains the following policy of relevance to archaeology.

- 2.20 Policy ENV3: Valuing our Heritage states that:

"Where possible, heritage assets should be used to reinforce local distinctiveness, create a sense of place, and assist in the delivery of the economic well-being of the area. This can be achieved by putting assets, particularly those at risk, to an appropriate, viable and sustainable use.

The significance, views, setting, character, appearance and context of heritage assets, both designated and non-designated, should be conserved, especially the key features that contribute to the East Riding's distinctive historic character including:

- a. Those elements that contribute to the special interest of Conservation Areas, including the landscape setting, open spaces, key views and vistas, and important unlisted buildings identified as contributing to the significance of each Conservation Area in its appraisal;*
- b. Listed Buildings and their settings;*
- c. Historic Parks and Gardens and key views in and out of these landscapes;*
- d. The dominance of the church towers and spires as one of the defining features of the landscape, such as those of Holderness and the Wolds;*
- e. Heritage assets associated with the East Yorkshire coast and the foreshore of the Humber Estuary;*
- f. The historic, archaeological and landscape interest of the Registered Battlefield at Stamford Bridge;*

⁶ Wiltshire Council, Wiltshire Core Strategy Adopted January 2015

- g. The historic cores of medieval settlements, and, where they survive, former medieval open field systems with ridge and furrow cultivation patterns;*
 - h. The nationally important archaeology of the Yorkshire Wolds; and*
 - i. Those parts of the nationally important wetlands where waterlogged archaeological deposits survive.*
- 2.21 *Development that is likely to cause harm to the significance of a heritage asset will only be granted permission where the public benefits of the proposal outweigh the potential harm. Proposals which would preserve or better reveal the significance of the asset should be treated favourably.*
- 2.22 *Where development affecting archaeological sites is acceptable in principle, the Council will seek to ensure mitigation of damage through preservation of the remains in situ as a preferred solution. When in situ preservation is not justified, the developer will be required to make adequate provision for excavation and recording before or during development."*

3. INFORMATION SOURCES

- 3.1 The following sources of information have been consulted in order to meet the requirements of the assessment and are in line with guidelines laid down by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.⁷
- 3.2 Historic England's National Heritage List for England (NHLE) database was consulted for information on all designated heritage assets within the study area.⁸
- 3.3 Information on non-designated heritage assets and previous archaeological finds and investigations within the study area was obtained from a search of the Wiltshire Historic Environment Record (HER) on the 25 of November 2025. Scans of relevant aerial images were provided by the HER and reviewed.
- 3.4 Relevant historic mapping from available online sources were reviewed.⁹ Other internet sources, including the Historic England Aerial Photo Explorer¹⁰ and the Planning Portal, were also reviewed.
- 3.5 **Appendix 5** contains photographs of the Site from a site visit to place it within context
- 3.6 A geophysical survey was conducted in December 2025 which has provided additional information on the archaeological baseline. The geophysical survey forms Appendix 6.

⁷ Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2020, *Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-based Assessment*.

⁸ Historic England, *The National Heritage List for England*, <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list>.

⁹ National Library of Scotland Map Finder (accessed 20 November 2025).

¹⁰ Historic England. Aerial Photo Explorer (accessed 5 January 2026)

4. ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 An assessment of the importance of heritage assets within a 1km study area of the Site has been undertaken. Scheduled Monuments, Grade I and II* Listed Buildings, Registered Parks and Gardens, Registered Battlefields and World Heritage Sites have *high importance*.
- 4.2 The basis for assessing impacts on the historic environment is an understanding of the heritage assets that might be affected by a proposal. Planning policy and guidance emphasise the need to understand the cultural significance of heritage assets, including their setting, reflecting that the primary purpose is to preserve significance rather than no change. The process of gaining this understanding can be broken down into three distinct stages:
- **Description:** Research leading to a preliminary factual statement that establishes the location, nature and setting of the asset;
 - **Cultural significance:** Analysis of what we value about the asset and the contribution made by its setting, leading to a statement of cultural significance. Cultural significance is not scaled but can be expressed in terms of four key 'heritage values' (see **Table 4.1**), as outlined in Conservation Principles: Policies and Guidance for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment¹¹; and
 - **Importance:** A conclusion regarding the level of protection or consideration that the asset merits in planning policy and cultural heritage legislation. A judgement on importance is scaled and can therefore be expressed in terms of the criteria set out within **Table 4.2**.

Table 4.1: Heritage Interests

Value	Description
Archaeological	There will be archaeological interest in a heritage asset if it holds, or potentially holds, evidence of past human activity worthy of expert investigation at some point.
Historic	Heritage assets with historic interest provide a material record as well as providing meaning for communities with collective experience and can embody aspects of local and cultural identity
Artistic	Where other human creative skills contribute to the interest of the asset. This can arise directly or fortuitously from an association e.g. depicted in a work of art or literature
Architectural:	Interests in the design of a place. This can arise from conscious design or fortuitously from how the heritage asset has evolved. Architectural interest can lie in the art or science of the design, construction, craftsmanship and decoration of the building or structure

¹¹ English Heritage, 2008, *Conservation Principles: Policies and Guidance for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment*.

Table 4.2: Importance of Heritage Assets Criteria

Importance	Examples
Very High	World Heritage Sites; and Places of international importance due to their 'outstanding universal value'.
High	Scheduled Monuments; Grade I or II* Listed Buildings; Grade I or II* Registered Parks and Gardens; Battlefields; Places or structures of national importance; and Non-designated heritage assets of equivalent national importance or potential to contribute significantly to national research objectives.
Medium	Grade II Listed Buildings; Grade II Registered Parks and Gardens; Conservation Areas; and Non-designated assets of regional or high local importance with potential to contribute significantly to regional and local research objectives. This includes assets which have particular regional associations or may have important associations at a local level (e.g. they have significance to local population or embody something of the special identity of a locality).
Low	Locally Listed Buildings; and Non-designated assets which are relatively poorly preserved or have limited importance at a local level and low potential to add to local and regional research objectives.
Negligible	Assets that have very limited or no archaeological, historical or cultural importance.
Uncertain	Sites where there is evidence that a heritage asset may exist, but where there is insufficient information to determine its nature, extent and degree of survival given current knowledge.

4.3 Having understood cultural significance, the next step is to understand the proposed change(s) and the impact they would have on cultural significance. The process of evaluating the consequences of change can be usefully broken down into three distinct analytical stages:

- **Change:** A factual statement of how a proposal would change an asset or its setting including physical, visual appearance, scale, nature and duration;
- **Impact:** An assessment of the degree to which any changes would increase or decrease the cultural significance of an asset. Impact is scaled and the magnitude of impact is a reflection of the extent to which the cultural significance of an asset is changed by a proposal. A judgement of magnitude of impact can be made based criteria set out within **Table 4.3**; and
- **Effect:** A conclusion regarding whether an impact matters or not, reflecting the importance of the affected heritage asset. The effect is the measure that brings

together the magnitude of the impact and the heritage asset's importance. This is a critical stage of the assessment process as this determines the weight that should be given to the matter in either influencing the design of the proposal or ultimately in the test as to whether the proposal will be acceptable and permitted. The effect can be articulated through the use of a matrix which brings together the importance of an asset and the magnitude of impact on the asset's significance (see

- **Table 4.4).** Where there are two options for a level of effect, it is a matter of professional judgement which should be articulated in the text description as to the level of effect appropriate.

Table 4.3: Magnitude of Impact

Impact	Criteria
Major Negative	Causes total destruction or change to most key elements of the asset that results in substantial loss of integrity and cultural significance. Comprehensive change to the setting of the asset which is a critical aspect of the asset's cultural significance. Any such change would not normally be reversible.
Moderate Negative	Causes change to, or loss of many key elements which results in a moderate loss of integrity and cultural significance of the asset. Moderate changes to the setting of the asset where this makes an important contribution to the cultural significance of the asset.
Minor Negative	Change to some elements which lead to a limited loss of integrity and cultural significance of the asset. Change to the setting of the asset where this makes a limited contribution to the cultural significance of the asset.
Negligible / No change	No appreciable change to the cultural significance of the asset or its setting.
Minor Positive	Change to some elements which leads to limited improvement in integrity and cultural significance of the asset, or arrests decline. Change to the setting of the asset where this makes a limited contribution to the cultural significance of the asset.
Moderate Positive	Causes change to many key elements which result in a moderate enhancement to integrity and cultural significance of the asset or reverses decline. Moderate changes to the setting of the asset where this makes an important contribution to the cultural significance of the asset.
Major Positive	Causes significant change to most key elements of the asset that results in substantial enhancement of cultural significance. Comprehensive change to the setting of the asset which is a critical aspect of the asset's cultural significance.

Table 4.4: Effect Matrix

Importance of Asset	Magnitude of Impact			
	Major	Moderate	Minor	Negligible / No Change
Very High	Very Large	Very Large/Large	Large/Moderate	Slight/Neutral
High	Very Large/Large	Large/Moderate	Moderate/Slight	Slight/Neutral
Medium	Large/Moderate	Moderate	Slight	Neutral
Low	Moderate/Slight	Slight	Slight/Neutral	Neutral

5. BASELINE ASSESSMENT

5.1 The assessment considers in detail the archaeological and heritage baseline within the study area. Tabulated gazetteers summarising pertinent information for individual heritage assets and archaeological events are presented in **Appendix 2 (Tables 1 to 3)**. Within **Appendix 3, Figure 2 – 4** depict the locations of designated heritage assets, non-designated heritage assets and previous archaeological events respectively. **Appendix 4** contains historic maps of the area used during the map regression and **Appendix 5** contains photographs taken during the site walkover survey presented as plates. **Appendix 6** contains the geophysical survey.

5.2 Where designated heritage assets, such as Scheduled Monuments, are mentioned in the text, the relevant National Heritage List England (NHLE) list entry numbers are given. Non-designated heritage assets included on the Wiltshire HER are followed by the relevant HER number.

Designated Heritage Assets

5.3 The study area contains no World Heritage Sites, Registered Battlefields or Registered Parks and Gardens.

5.4 The NHLE records one designated asset within the study area. This is a Scheduled Monument that relates to an undated bowl barrow (**1015937**) located 940m south-west of the Site. The further discussion is presented in the section below.

Archaeological and Historical Background

5.5 The following outlines the archaeological and historical background of the study area and is compiled from a review of the Wiltshire HER as well as available secondary sources.

Prehistoric

5.6 There are no assets within the HER data that relate to Palaeolithic, Mesolithic or Neolithic periods.

5.7 A study/compilation of all recorded Lower and Middle Palaeolithic discoveries south of the rivers Severn and Thames has been recorded and includes the study area (**EWI6653**). Areas covered in Wiltshire are as follows: Severn, Upper Thames, Kennet, Avon and Nadder Valleys. There is no further information for potential within these periods from that event.

5.8 There is one entry within the HER data that relates to a bowl barrow (**1015937**). This asset is a Scheduled Monument and is located approximately 940m south-west to the Site. This asset is visible as a 'Tumulus' feature on historic mapping. Within HER dataset it is described as 'Undated' although a prehistoric interpretation is more likely (**Appendix 2, Table 1**).

Iron Age and Romano British

- 5.9 There are no assets within the HER data that specifically relate to the Iron Age and Romano-British periods. However;
- 5.10 Asset **MW13258**, which covers multiple cropmarks interpreted as a field system, is classed as undated within the HER data, although some fragments of Romano-British pottery fragments have been recorded from the surface in this location c. 950m north-east of the Site.

Early Medieval and Medieval Period

- 5.11 Early medieval activity has been recorded within the study area with Chicklade being a settlement with Saxon origins, situated approximately 1km south-east of the Site (**MW13384**).
- 5.12 Further medieval activity comprising medieval lynchets been recorded c. 500m north of the Site (**MW1366**).

Post-medieval and Modern Period

- 5.13 Three 19th century farmsteads have been recorded within the study area (**MW165116**, **MW165117** and **MW165010**). The first two assets are completely demolished and are located c. 770m east of the site. The third farmstead is located c. 350m south-west of the Site.
- 5.14 Two demolished 19th century outfarm have been also recorded within the study area (**MW165011**, **MW165118**) located c. 430m south-west and c. 750m east of the Site respectively.
- 5.15 Event **EW1312** refers to an excavation of a farmstead at Cratt Hill with estimated dates between 1800 -1810. The event is located c. 660m north-east of the Site. No further information is available within HER dataset.
- 5.16 There are no entries within the HER data that relate to the Modern period.

Unknown

- 5.17 The remaining eight entries within the HER are categorised as cropmarks unknown in origin or date. The HER numbers cover multiple crop marks and an extensive area. One of these entries (**MW113402** includes cropmarks within the Site, described as Undated Field System West and North-West of Hindon). The crop marks within the Site are all linear and discontinuous and on a north-west to south-east orientation.
- 5.18 Another set of cropmarks is described as Undated Settlement at Cratt Hill (**MW1357**) and is situated c. 820m north-east of the Site. A D-shaped enclosure (**MW1349**) is located c. 640m to the north of the Site.

- 5.19 Four outstanding entries relate to cropmarks that are interpreted as undated field system or earthworks. (**MW1402, MW1429, MW1675, MW13259**).

Geophysical Survey

- 5.20 A geophysical survey was undertaken in 2025 over whole Site, including the area that will remain undeveloped to provide context. The survey encountered some anomalies that were interpreted as being possibly of archaeological origin. The anomalies are described as linear and curvilinear, weak positive anomalies, indicative of possible ditch-like features and are tentatively interpreted as fragmented undated field boundaries, possibly parts of broader undated field system. No anomalies relating to obvious settlement were present in the survey data. The anomalies do not correlate to the cropmarks present on the HER data, which have not been detected by the survey, in otherwise good data.
- 5.21 Anomalies of an agricultural origin related to modern ploughing trends have also been identified within the survey area. Magnetic disturbance was detected and caused by metal fencing and telegraph poles within the fields as well as field's premises.

Cartographic Analysis

- 5.22 Cartographic depictions of the Site have been used to assess how it has developed and changed since the mid-19th century.¹² The superimposed Site boundary has been located as accurately as possible to aid interpretation (**Appendix 4, Figure 5 to Figure 7**).
- 5.23 A review of the cartographic depictions from the Tithe map onwards¹³ indicates the Site has changed very little (**Figure 5**). The Site at this time was an agricultural field, bounded by agricultural land on three sides and a track to the west. A possible former field boundary or a footpath running north-east to south-west is visible on Tithe map, running through the southern part of the Site. This feature was not detected by geophysical survey. The 1887 First Edition Ordnance Survey (OS) map still depicts the Site as a field. There is a small feature annotated as 'old quarry' in the north-east corner of the Site (**Figure 6**). The old quarry is still depicted on later OS maps along with a field boundary orientated roughly north-east to south-west (**Figure 7**). The Site remains as arable land throughout all historic depictions. The old quarry was detected by geophysical survey.

Aerial Photography

- 5.24 Google Earth Pro contains a number of publicly accessible images of the Site.¹⁴ These images show no significant changes to the site. The imagery from 2015 shows a possible trackway or pathway running roughly on north-west to south-east alignment towards the eastern gate which is obviously modern. Aerial Images from 1944 have been consulted¹⁵ and show the Site in use as arable land that has been cultivated and divided into smaller parcels. The fields continue to be agricultural land through to the

¹² National Library of Scotland, 2023, accessed via <https://maps.nls.uk/>

¹³ The Genealogist <https://www.thegenealogist.co.uk/>

¹⁴ Google Earth Pro (last accessed 5th January 2026).

¹⁵ Historic England, Aerial Photo Explorer, viewed January 2026; image: us_7ph_gp_loc231_v_5025

present day. A scanned aerial photograph from the HER dating to 1991, provided by the HER does not add any new information regarding archaeological potential.

Historic Landscape Characterisation

- 5.25 The Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC) identifies the entirety of the Site as 'Fields and enclosed land' (**HWI9779**). These fields are modern and have been created by altering the regular planned fields on the historic OS mapping. These former fields were likely of Post-medieval date, and some elements of their character remain legible.

6. ASSESSMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

- 6.1 The Site is likely to have limited potential for remains from the early prehistoric periods until the Bronze Age based on the baseline assessment. The archaeological potential for remains dated to the Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic periods is Negligible to Low. Remains dated to these periods may have Low to Medium importance depending on any potential to aid in the understanding of human activity in the respective periods and answer regional research questions, if present.
- 6.2 Within the Study Area, approximately 940m south-west from the centre of the Site, a bowl barrow is located (**1015937**). Within the HER dataset, this asset is described as 'Undated' although a Later Prehistoric, possible Bronze Age interpretation is quite likely. Potential undated field systems are evidenced by cropmarks which are located within the study area as well as within the Site itself (**MW113402**).
- 6.3 Any remains dating to the Later Prehistoric or Romano-British periods, in particular mortuary monuments or settlement evidence, could have Medium importance for the ability to aid in understanding of human activity in prehistory and to answer regional research questions.
- 6.4 There are no records for assets dating to the Post-medieval and Modern periods within the Site. Analysis of historic mapping and aerial photography records only agricultural activity such as changes in field boundaries and a feature annotated as an old quarry. Any remains from these periods will have Negligible to Low importance.
- 6.5 The results of a geophysical survey have provided more information on the archaeological baseline for the Site, and within discrete parts of the Site, there are some responses that are interpreted as possibly of archaeological origin, but may also relate to other activities, like agricultural. These anomalies do not correspond with known cropmarks recorded within HER dataset within the Site. The majority of anomalies of possible archaeological origin detected by geophysics are situated within the northern extent of the Site, which will remain undeveloped (**Appendix 1**). The assets recorded as undated field systems within the Site have also not been detected by the geophysical survey, possibly suggesting they have been ploughed out since the aerial interpretation was made, or that they were not of archaeological origin.
- 6.6 Based on the HER and geophysical survey, the archaeological potential of the Site is Low for remains of settlement in all periods. There is some potential for possible archaeological remains based on the results of the geophysical survey, although the anomalies, which are sinuous and discontinuous do not form any coherent or easily recognisable feature(s), such as enclosures or field systems. This could possibly be due to later truncation, and in a wider area that contains evidence of obvious relict ridge-and-furrow agriculture, the absence of cultivation furrows in the geophysical survey is perhaps worthy of note. An anomaly in the north-east corner of the Site correlates with the depiction of an old quarry on historic mapping. The majority of the anomalies are located outside of the area of the Proposed Development.

7. IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Impacts on Designated Heritage Assets

- 7.1 There will be no impact on any designated heritage asset as a result of the Proposed Development.

Impact upon Potential Sub-surface Archaeological Remains

- 7.2 Intrusive ground investigations and site preparations, including temporary works, excavations and buried service installation, have the potential to impact buried archaeological remains. The impact, where it occurs, will be irreversible. Archaeological features, if present, would be expected to be below the topsoil and sub-soil horizons. Works that require groundworks have the potential to disturb, truncate or remove potential buried archaeological remains, if they exceed that depth.
- 7.3 The detailed design for the type and depth of footings and foundations for a solar farm will aim to avoid or minimise any impacts on below ground remains if they are present. The nature of the groundworks required for a solar farm is unlikely to result in the entire removal of any archaeological features, with impacts restricted to footings and invasive works that reach the archaeological horizon where remains would be encountered, if present. The effect can be a cumulative impact, although the area of the intrusive footprint compared to the area of the Site as a whole is limited. Where there is a wayleave between each array, as an example, there will be no impact on the archaeological horizon.
- 7.4 Historic England guidance¹⁶ identifies groundworks, such as those for solar panel supports, cable trenches, hardstanding and access (where needed), as well as footings for ancillary infrastructure, such as substations and fencing, as having the potential to impact archaeological remains.
- 7.5 Historic England have produced draft guidance for consultation to help provide an overarching approach for the industry and those advising and deciding on planning applications.¹⁷ The draft guidance has been produced through consultation with the renewables industry and with input from a diverse steering group, including Archaeological Advisors. The aim of the guidance is to broadly set out good practice and consistency when dealing with solar farm applications.
- 7.6 It is increasingly accepted that solar panel supports are classed as low intensity in terms of the impacts they have on archaeological remains. As a result, the draft guidance recommends moving the majority of intrusive data collection from pre-submission and pre-determination to post-consent in an iterative and nuanced approach based on the level of impacts that are predicted. The impact on any buried archaeological remains, if present, would be on their archaeological interest. As with all solar farms at this stage in the planning process, the layout is conceptual and there is some design flexibility. The detailed design will not be available until consent has been obtained, although the

¹⁶ Historic England., 2021., *Commercial Renewable Energy Development and the Historic Environment (Advice Note 15)*

¹⁷ Historic England, 2026 Solar Farms: Good Practice Guide. Available from: <https://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/2025-08/Good-Practice-Guide-Archaeology-and-Solar-Farms-Ver-1.11-CONSULTATION-DRAFT.pdf>

method of anchoring solar panels to the ground is understood. The draft guidance acknowledges that the zone of impact may also change.

- 7.7 The archaeological potential within the Site has been described as Low. There are some discontinuous anomalies present within the geophysical survey, that have been interpreted as possible archaeology for which a function or possible date remains unclear, although these features do not correlate to the cropmarks on the HER, which are not present in the geophysical data. The anomalies have been assessed as having Low importance.
- 7.8 The Proposed Development will last for 40 years during which time the land will not be ploughed. The nature of the groundworks required for a solar farm is unlikely to result in the entire removal of any archaeological features, with any impacts restricted to footings and invasive works that reach the archaeological horizon where remains are present.
- 7.9 The majority of the Site will not be developed resulting in no change. The Proposed Development covers part of the south of the Site. The impact on any possible archaeological remains, if present in that area, would be on the archaeological interest. A Minor Negative magnitude of impact would result in a Slight Negative significance of effect, likely to be at the lower end of that scale as a result of the insertion of supports for PV arrays. In terms of NPFF the impact on archaeological remains is likely to be less than substantial, at the lower end of that scale.

8. CONCLUSION

- 8.1 The assessment provides a detailed understanding of the baseline historic environment and heritage assets of archaeological interest and considered the impacts of the Proposed Development on designated heritage assets as well as non-designated assets listed on the Wiltshire HER, within a 1km study area of the Site.
- 8.2 Apart from some sinuous linear anomalies in the geophysical survey, which lack any definitive form to aid in their interpretation, and not withstanding discrete features are hard to detect by geophysical survey, the potential for archaeological remains within the Site is Low. Any remains that date between the Later Prehistoric to medieval periods may have Low to Medium importance depending on their significance. The impact on any buried archaeological remains, if present, would be on their archaeological interest where develop is proposed. A Minor Negative magnitude of impact would result in a Slight Negative significance of effect.
- 8.3 Archaeological remains that relate to the medieval or post-medieval period, such as former field boundaries, cultivation regimes and any extraction activity will have Low importance. The Proposed Development will last for 40 years during which time the land will not be ploughed. Ploughing can be detrimental to the survival of archaeological remains and the Proposed Development will ensure that the archaeological remains will not be impacted by cultivation or any other future development during its lifetime.
- 8.4 Further detail on the design, and in particular the depth of any invasive groundworks will be supplied later. However, by their nature, the footprint of solar farms and the amount of ground-breaking that is required is generally limited. Impacts depend on the depth of the archaeological horizon, the depth of ground-breaking, the archaeological potential as well as the state of preservation and the significance of any remains. Due to the limited nature of the ground-breaking required and the relatively Low potential for remains, the impact is likely to be less than substantial in NPPF terms.

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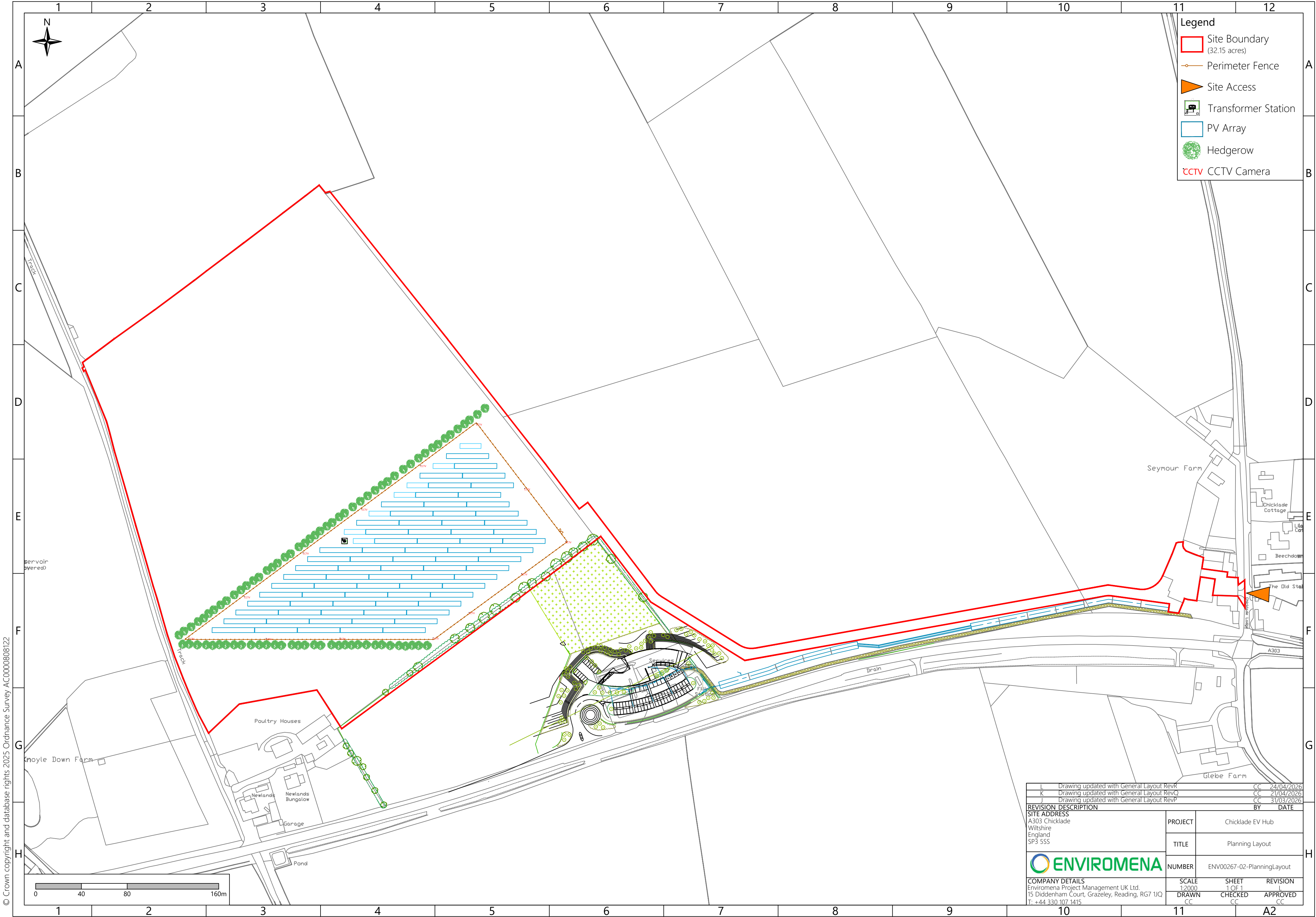
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The Historic England GIS Data contained in this material was obtained on 19 November 2025. The most publicly available up to date Historic England GIS Data can be obtained from [HistoricEngland.org.uk](https://historicengland.org.uk).

The 1991 aerial photography was obtained from HER on 14 January 2026 for a view only.

APPENDICES

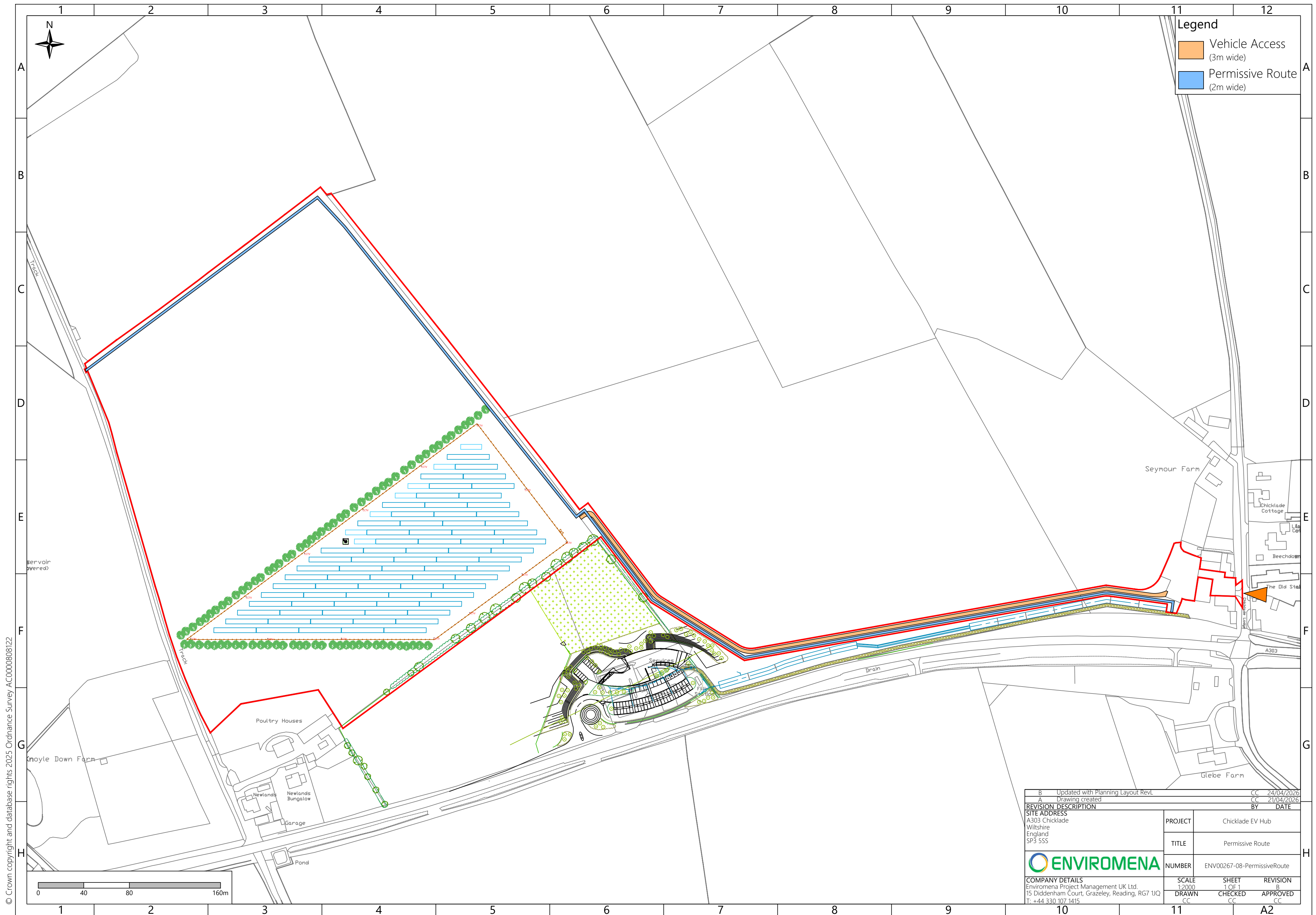
APPENDIX 1: Planning Layout



Legend

- Site Boundary (32.15 acres)
- Perimeter Fence
- Site Access
- Transformer Station
- PV Array
- Hedgerow
- CCTV CCTV Camera

L	Drawing updated with General Layout RevK	CC	24/04/2026
K	Drawing updated with General Layout RevQ	CC	21/04/2026
J	Drawing updated with General Layout RevP	CC	31/03/2026
REVISION DESCRIPTION		BY	DATE
SITE ADDRESS		PROJECT	Chicklade EV Hub
A303 Chicklade		TITLE	Planning Layout
Wiltshire		NUMBER	ENV00267-02-PlanningLayout
England		SCALE	1:2000
SP3 5SS		SHEET	1 OF 1
COMPANY DETAILS		DRAWN	REVISION
Enviromena Project Management UK Ltd.		CC	CC
15 Diddenham Court, Grazeley, Reading, RG7 1UQ		CHECKED	APPROVED
T: +44 330 107 1415		CC	CC



APPENDIX 2: Gazetteer of Heritage Assets and Archaeological Events

APPENDIX 1

Catalogue entries for heritage assets and archaeological events recorded on the Historic Environment Record (HER), and those identified as part of this assessment, are provided below. Each entry includes a National Grid Reference (NGR) and the relevant List Entry or HER reference numbers.

Table 1: Gazetteer of Designated Assets

REF (List Entry No./ HER)	NAME	GRID REF	DESIGNATION	DESCRIPTION
1015937	Bowl barrow 700m south-east of Field Barn	ST 8940 3411	Scheduled Monument	The scheduled monument is a bowl barrow located c.700m south-east of Field Barn. No additional information is available.

Table 2: Gazetteer of Non-designated Assets

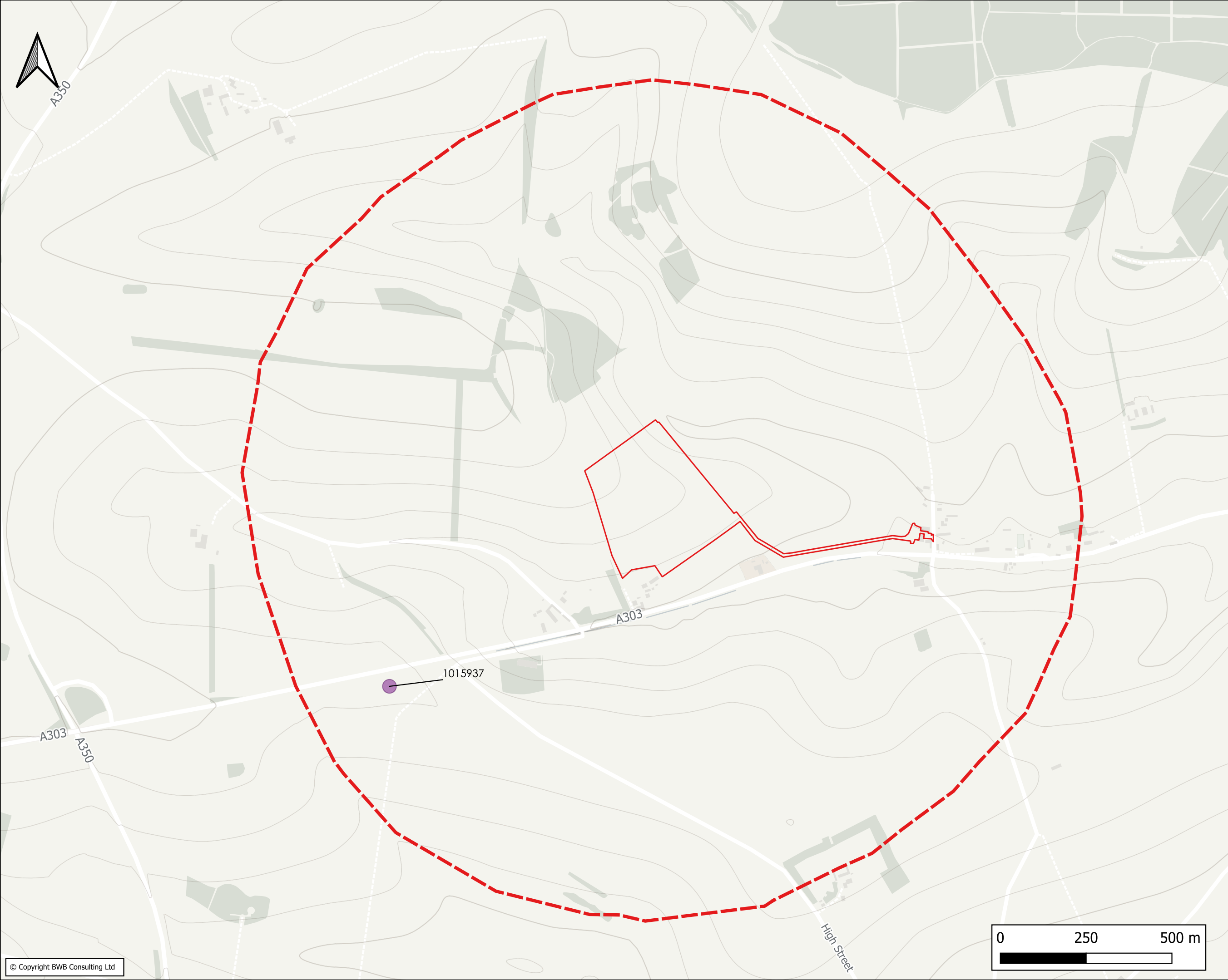
REF (HER)	NAME	PERIOD	DESCRIPTION
MW1349	Enclosure, Cratt Hill	Undated	An undated D-shaped enclosure.
MW1357	Undated Settlement, Cratt Hill	Undated	An undated settlement.
MW1366	Possible Medieval Lynchets, Cratt Hill	Medieval	Undated strip lynchets, possibly medieval.
MW1402	Field System, Upper Pertwood Bushes	Undated	Undated field system/earthworks.
MW1429	Field System, North of Bockerly Hill	Undated	An undated field system.
MW1663	Barrow, Two Mile Down	Undated	Scheduled Monument - 26818 Bowl barrow 700m south-east of Field Barn.
MW1675	Field System, Two Mile Down	Undated	Undated field system.
MW13258	Field System, Chilfinch Hill Area	Undated	Field system which has produced Romano-British pottery fragments.
MW13259	Field System, Cratt Hill	Undated	Undated field system.

REF (HER)	NAME	PERIOD	DESCRIPTION
MW13384	Chicklade Settlement	Early Medieval (Saxon) - 410 AD to 1065 AD	A village with Saxon origins.
MW113402	Undated Field System, West and North-West of Hindon	Undated	Undated field system.
MW165010	Knoyle Down Farm	1801 AD to 1900 AD	A partially extant 19th century farmstead.
MW165011	Site of Outfarm, North-West of Knoyle Down Farm	1801 AD to 1900 AD	A demolished 19th century outfarm.
MW165116	Site of Yard in Chicklade	1801 AD to 1900 AD	A demolished 19th century farmstead.
MW165117	Site of Farmstead in Chicklade	1801 AD to 1900 AD	A demolished 19th century farmstead.
MW165118	Site of Outfarm in Chicklade	1801 AD to 1900 AD	A demolished 19th century outfarm.

Table 3: Gazetteer of Archaeological Events

REF (HER)	NAME	DESCRIPTION
EWI1312	Excavation at Cratt Hill	An Intervention excavation at Cratt Hill with estimated dates between 1800-1810.
EWI6653	Southern Rivers Palaeolithic Project 1991-1992	A study/compilation of all recorded Lower and Middle Palaeolithic discoveries in that part of England south of the rivers Severn and Thames. Areas covered in Wiltshire: Severn, Upper Thames, Kennet, Avon and Nadder Valleys.

APPENDIX 3: Figures



Notes

1.Do not scale this drawing. All dimensions must be checked/ verified on site. If in doubt ask.

2.This drawing is to be read in conjunction with all relevant architects, engineers and specialists drawings and specifications.

3.All dimensions in millimetres unless noted otherwise. All levels in metres unless noted otherwise.

4.Any discrepancies noted on site are to be reported to the engineer immediately.

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- Key
- Site Boundary
 - 1km Study Area
 - Scheduled Monument

P03	29/04/2026	FINAL ISSUE		FG	PM
P02	05/01/2026	DRAFT ISSUE		AC	PM
P01	24/11/2025	DRAFT ISSUE		AC	PM
Rev	Date	Details of issues/ revision		Drw	Rev

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Client

**ENVIROMENA PROJECT
MANAGEMENT UK LIMITED**

Project Title

Chicklade Solar Farm

Drawing Title

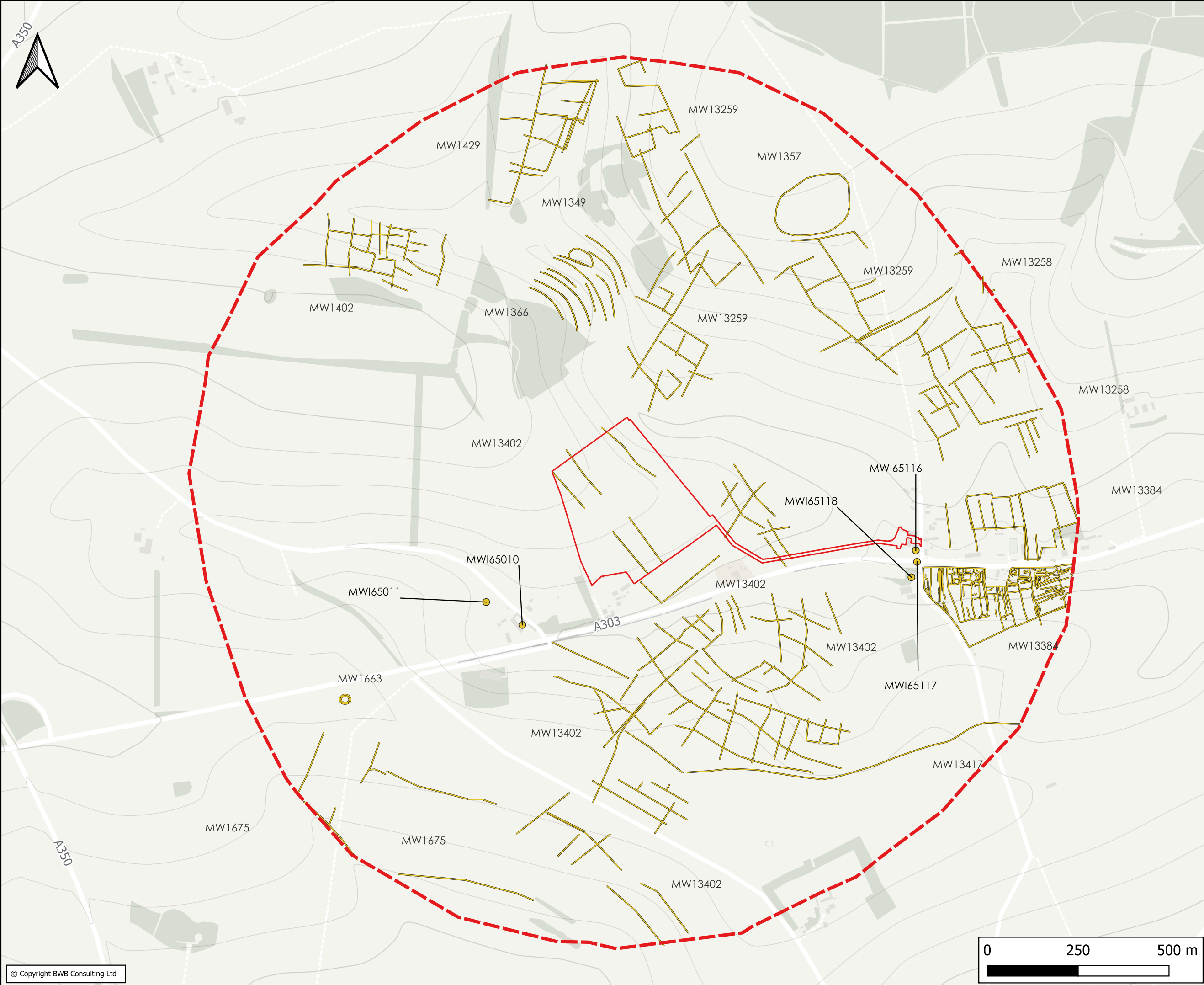
**FIGURE 2: LOCATION OF
DESIGNATED HERITAGE
ASSETS**

Drawn:	Anna Chmielewska	Reviewed:	Phil Moore
BWB Ref:	256327	Date:	29/04/2026
		Scale@A3:	NTS

Drawing Status

FINAL

Project -	Originator -	Zone -	Level -	Type -	Role -	Number	Status	Rev
256327-BWB-ZZ-XX-RP-LH-0001							S2	P03



Notes

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4.Any discrepancies noted on site are to be reported to the engineer immediately.

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Key

- Site Boundary
- 1km Study Area
- HER Monuments (Line)
- HER Monuments (Point)

P03	29/04/2026	FINAL ISSUE	FG	PM
P02	05/01/2026	DRAFT ISSUE	AC	PM
P01	25/11/2025	DRAFT ISSUE	AC	PM
Rev	Date	Details of issues/ revision	Drw	Rev

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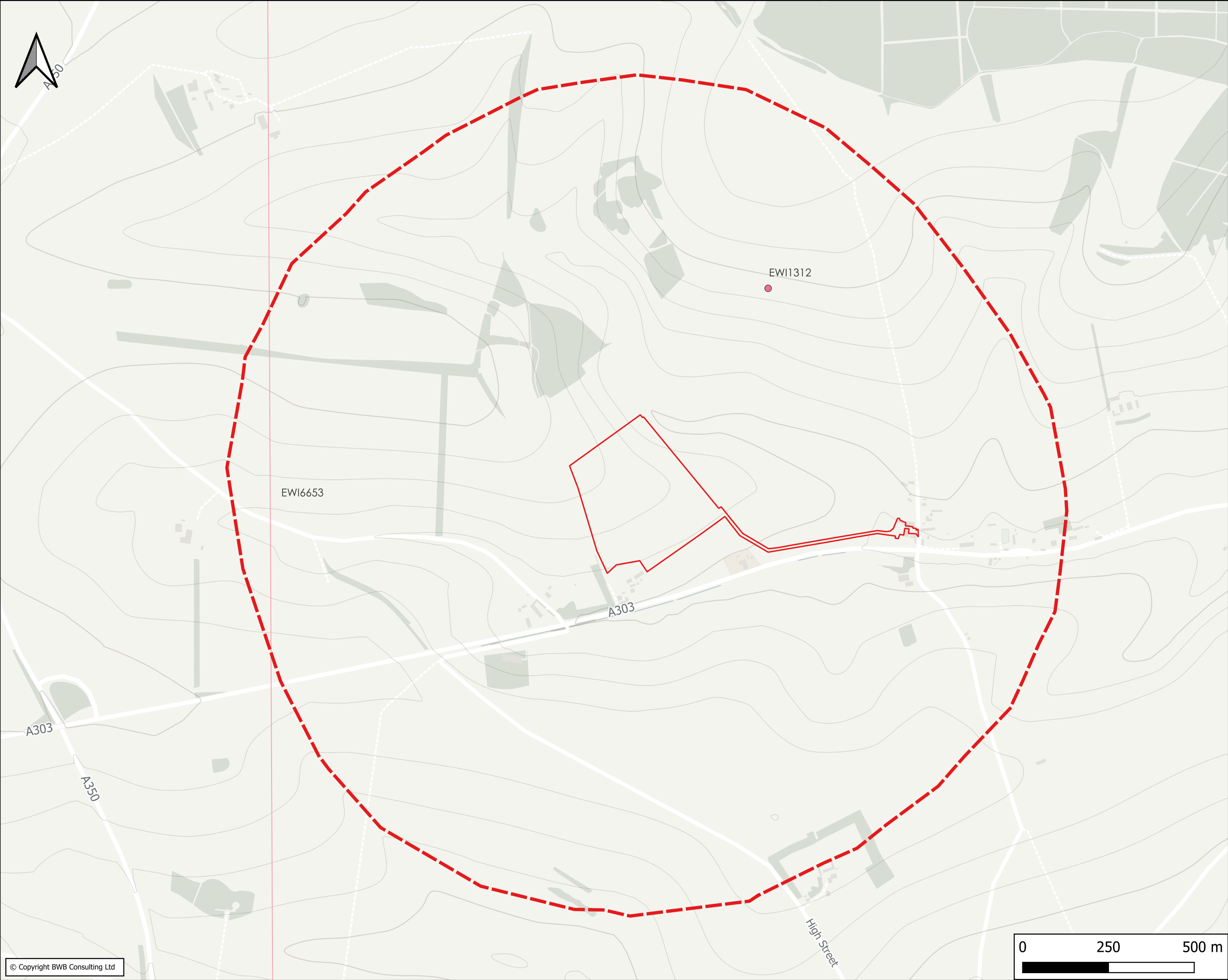
Project Title

Chicklade Solar Farm

Drawing Title

**FIGURE 3: LOCATION OF
NON-DESIGNATED ASSETS**

Drawn:	AC	Reviewed:	PM
BWB Ref:	256327	Date:	29/04/2026
Scale:	A3	NTS	
Drawing Status	FINAL		
Project - Originator - Zone - Level - Type - Role - Number	Status	Rev	
256327-BWB-ZZ-XX-RP-LH-0001	S2	P03	



Notes

1.Do not scale this drawing. All dimensions must be checked/ verified on site. If in doubt ask.

2.This drawing is to be read in conjunction with all relevant architects, engineers and specialists drawings and specifications.

3.All dimensions in millimetres unless noted otherwise. All levels in metres unless noted otherwise.

4.Any discrepancies noted on site are to be reported to the engineer immediately.

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- Key
- Site Boundary
 - 1km Study Area
 - Events (Point)
 - Events (Line)

P02	29/04/2026	FINAL ISSUE		FG	PM
P01	01/12/2025	DRAFT ISSUE		AC	PM
Rev	Date	Details of issues/ revision		Drw	Rev

Issues & Revisions

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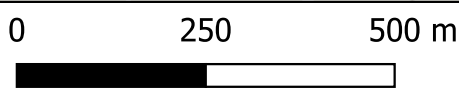
Project Title

Chicklade Solar Farm

Drawing Title

**FIGURE 4: LOCATION OF
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EVENTS**

Drawn:	AC		Reviewed:	PHIL MOORE	
BWB Ref:	256327	Date:	29/04/2026	Scale@A3:	NTS
Drawing Status					
FINAL					
Project - Originator - Zone - Level - Type - Role - Number				Status	Rev
256327-BWB-ZZ-XX-RP-LI				S2	P02



APPENDIX 4: Map Regression

APPENDIX 4

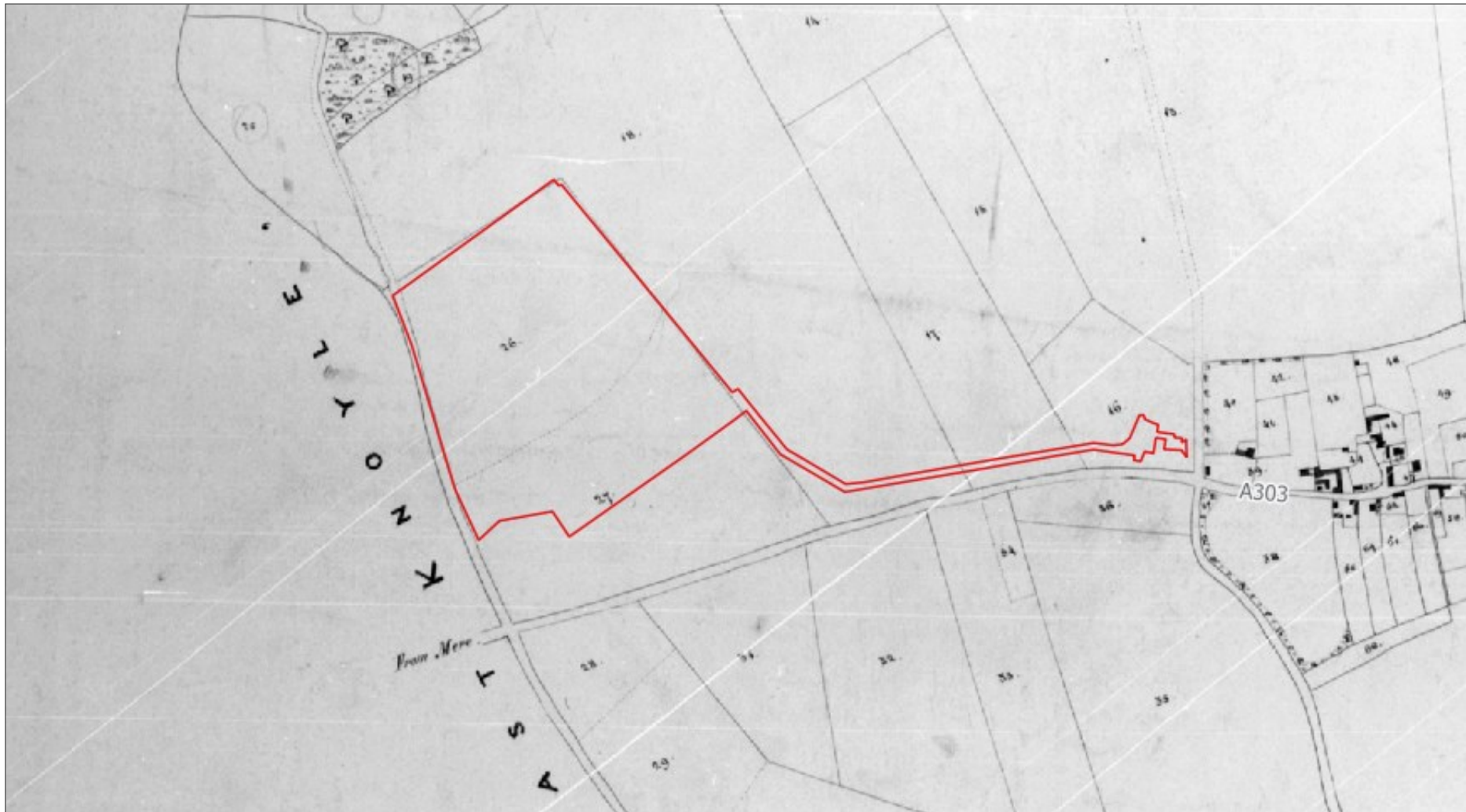


Figure 5: Parish of Chicklade Tithe Mapping of 1838. Reproduced with the permission of the Genealogist.

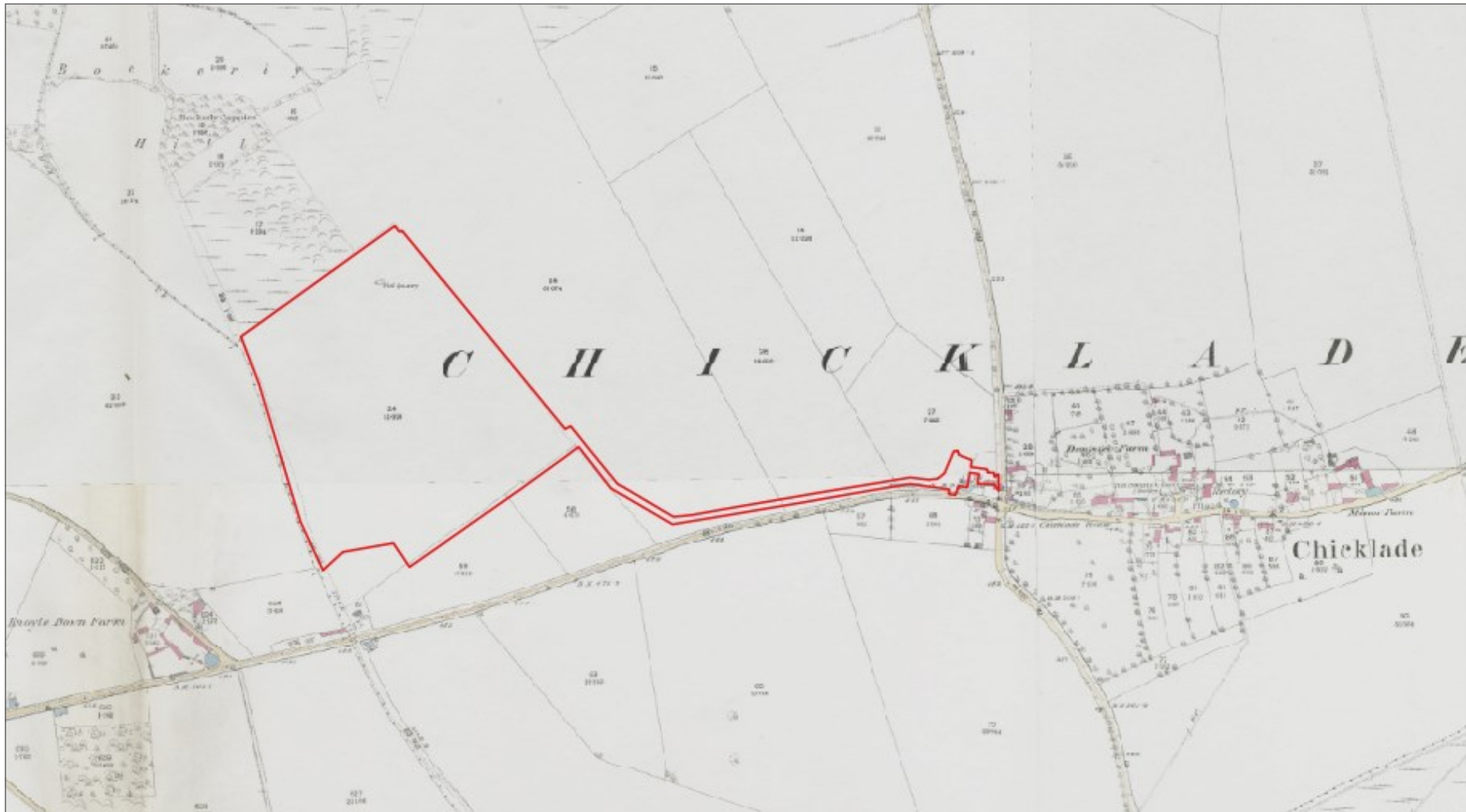


Figure 6: UK Great Britain, Ordnance Survey 25-inch England and Wales 1841-1952, published 1887. Reproduced with the permission of the National Library of Scotland.



Figure 7: UK Great Britain, Ordnance Survey 25-inch to the mile 1850s-1960s. Published 1924 and 1925. Reproduced with the permission of the National Library of Scotland.

APPENDIX 5: Plates



Plate 1: View to the south-eastern border of the Site.



Plate 2: View to the south of the Site.



Plate 3: View to the north-west of the Site.



Plate 4: View to the north-east of the Site.

APPENDIX 6: Geophysical Survey



**magnitude
surveys**

**Geophysical Survey Report
Land at Chicklade,
Wiltshire**

**For
BWB Consulting Ltd**

Magnitude Surveys Ref: MSSU2310

January 2026



**magnitude
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Report By:

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Report Approved By:

Krasimir Dyulgerski BA MRes MCIfA

Issue Date:

15 January 2026

Abstract

Magnitude Surveys was commissioned to assess the subsurface archaeological potential of a c. 12ha area of land near Chicklade, Wiltshire. Anomalies of a possible archaeological origin have been identified. An anomaly relating to a former mapped quarry has also been detected. Magnetic disturbance was caused by metal fencing and telegraph poles within the fields.

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Figure 8:	GNSS Lines	1:2,000 @ A3

1. Introduction

- 1.1. Magnitude Surveys Ltd (MS) was commissioned by BWB Consulting Ltd to undertake a geophysical survey over a c. 12ha area of land near Chicklade, Wiltshire (ST 90196 34663).
- 1.2. The geophysical survey comprised hand-carried GNSS-positioned fluxgate gradiometer survey. Magnetic survey is the standard primary geophysical method for archaeological applications in the UK due to its ability to detect a range of different features. The technique is particularly suited for detecting fired or magnetically enhanced features, such as ditches, pits, kilns, sunken featured buildings (SFBs) and industrial activity (David *et al.*, 2008).
- 1.3. The survey was conducted in line with the current best practice guidelines produced by Historic England (David *et al.*, 2008), the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA, 2020) and the European Archaeological Council (Schmidt *et al.*, 2015).
- 1.4. The survey was conducted in line with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by MS (Fadare, 2025).
- 1.5. The survey commenced on the 26th of November 2025 and took two days to complete.

2. Quality Assurance

- 2.1. Magnitude Surveys is a Registered Organisation of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), the chartered UK body for archaeologists, and a corporate member of ISAP (International Society for Archaeological Prospection).
- 2.2. The directors of MS are involved in cutting edge research and the development of guidance/policy. Specifically, Dr Chrys Harris has a PhD in archaeological geophysics from the University of Bradford, is a Member of CIfA and was the Vice-Chair of the International Society for Archaeological Prospection (ISAP); Finnegan Pope-Carter has an MSc in archaeological geophysics and is a Fellow of the London Geological Society, as well as a member of GeoSIG (CIfA Geophysics Special Interest Group); Dr Paul Johnson has a PhD in archaeology from the University of Southampton, is a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London and a Member of CIfA, has been a member of the ISAP Management Committee since 2015, and is currently the Chair of the Archaeological Prospection Community of the European Archaeological Association.
- 2.3. All MS managers, field and office staff have degree qualifications relevant to archaeology or geophysics and/or field experience.

3. Objectives

- 3.1. The objective of this geophysical survey was to assess the subsurface archaeological potential of the survey area.

4. Geographic Background

4.1. The survey area was located c. 1.8km north-west of Hindon (Figure 1). Gradiometer survey was undertaken across a field under arable cultivation. The survey area was bordered by arable fields on all sides, with a farmhouse located to the southwest and the A303 to the south of the survey area (Figure 2).

4.2. Survey considerations:

Survey Area	Ground Conditions	Further Notes
1	Arable field which sloped steeply to the north and gently to the south.	The survey area was bordered by hedgerows to the east and southeast, wire fencing to the northwest, and a wooden fence to the west and southwest. A telegraph pole with an overhead cable crossed the field in an east–west alignment near the southern boundary. Four metal feeders were located along the eastern boundary.

4.3. The underlying geology comprises chalk of the Seaford Chalk Formation. No superficial deposits were recorded in the survey area (British Geological Survey, 2026).

4.4. The soils consist mostly of shallow lime-rich soils over chalk, and freely draining slightly acidic loamy soils to the northwest (Soilscales, 2026).

5. Archaeological Background

5.1. The following is a summary of information taken from consultation of historical OS mapping of the survey area alongside a Desk Based Assessment produced and provided by BWB Consulting (BWB, 2025).

5.2. The survey area is located within a wider historical landscape. Two sites are depicted on historical map as a series of earthworks labelled 'British Village (Site of)'. These are located c. 720m northeast and c. 960m southwest of the survey area.

5.3. Prehistoric activity includes a bowl barrow (1015937) recorded c. 740m to the southwest of the survey area. This asset has been designated as a scheduled monument and is recorded on historical mapping as a tumulus.

5.4. The settlement of Chicklade (MW13384), c. 1km south of the survey area is of Saxon origin. Possible medieval lynchets are recorded c. 500m north of the survey area (MW1366).

5.5. Undated field systems are recorded as cropmarks within the survey area (MWI3402) with further field systems also recorded within a 1km radius of the survey area in all directions (MWI3259, MWI402). These anomalies have not been detected in the survey data.

6. Methodology

6.1.Data Collection

6.1.1.Magnetometer surveys are generally the most cost effective and suitable geophysical technique for the detection of archaeology in England. Therefore, a magnetometer survey should be the preferred geophysical technique unless its use is precluded by any specific survey objectives or the site environment. For this site, no factors precluded the recommendation of a standard magnetometer survey.

6.1.2.Geophysical prospection comprised the magnetic method as described in the following table.

6.1.3.Table of survey strategies:

Method	Instrument	Traverse Interval	Sample Interval
Magnetic	Bartington Instruments Grad-13 Digital Three-Axis Gradiometer	1m	200Hz reprojected to 0.125m

6.1.4.The magnetic data were collected using MS' bespoke hand-carried GNSS-positioned system.

6.1.4.1. MS' hand-carried system was comprised of Bartington Instruments Grad 13 Digital Three-Axis Gradiometers. Positional referencing was through a multi-channel, multi-constellation GNSS Smart Antenna RTK GPS outputting in NMEA mode to ensure high positional accuracy of collected measurements. The RTK GPS is accurate to 0.008m + 1ppm in the horizontal and 0.015m + 1ppm in the vertical.

6.1.4.2. Magnetic and GPS data were stored on an SD card within MS' bespoke datalogger. The datalogger was continuously synced, via an in-field Wi-Fi unit, to servers within MS' offices. This allowed for data collection, processing and visualisation to be monitored in real-time as fieldwork was ongoing.

6.1.4.3. A navigation system was integrated with the RTK GPS, which was used to guide the surveyor. Data were collected by traversing the survey area along the longest possible lines, ensuring efficient collection and processing.

6.2.Data Processing

6.2.1.Magnetic data were processed in bespoke in-house software produced by MS. Processing steps conform to the EAC and Historic England guidelines for 'minimally enhanced data' (see Section 3.8 in Schmidt *et al.*, 2015: 33 and Section IV.2 in David *et al.*, 2008: 11).

Sensor Calibration – The sensors were calibrated using a bespoke in-house algorithm, which conforms to Olsen *et al.* (2003).

Zero Median Traverse – The median of each sensor traverse is calculated within a specified range and subtracted from the collected data. This removes striping effects caused by small variations in sensor electronics.

Projection to a Regular Grid – Data collected using RTK GPS positioning requires a uniform grid projection to visualise data. Data are rotated to best fit an orthogonal grid projection and are resampled onto the grid using an inverse distance-weighting algorithm.

Interpolation to Square Pixels – Data are interpolated using a bicubic algorithm to increase the pixel density between sensor traverses. This produces images with square pixels for ease of visualisation.

6.3.Data Visualisation and Interpretation

6.3.1.This report presents the gradient of the sensors' total field data as greyscale images (Figure 4), as well as the total field data from the lower sensors (Figure 3). The gradient of the sensors minimises external interferences and reduces the blown-out responses from ferrous and other high contrast material. However, the contrast of weak or ephemeral anomalies can be reduced through the process of calculating the gradient. Consequently, some features can be clearer in the respective gradient or total field datasets. Multiple greyscale images of the gradient and total field at different plotting ranges have been used for data interpretation. Greyscale images should be viewed alongside the XY trace plot (Figure 6). XY trace plots visualise the magnitude and form of the geophysical response, aiding anomaly interpretation.

6.3.2.Geophysical results have been interpreted using greyscale images and XY traces in a layered environment, overlaid against open street maps, satellite imagery, historical maps, LiDAR data, and soil and geology maps. Google Earth (2026) was also consulted, to compare the results with recent land use. HER data was also provided by BWB.

6.3.3.Geodetic position of results – All vector and raster data have been projected into OSGB36 (ESPG27700) and can be provided upon request in ESRI Shapefile (.SHP) and Geotiff (.TIF) respectively. Figures are provided with raster and vector data projected against OS Open Data.

7. Results

7.1.Qualification

7.1.1.Geophysical results are not a map of the ground and are instead a direct measurement of subsurface properties. Detecting and mapping features requires that said features have properties that can be measured by the chosen technique(s) and that these properties have sufficient contrast with the background to be identifiable. The interpretation of any identified anomalies is inherently subjective. While the scrutiny of the results is undertaken by qualified, experienced individuals and rigorously checked for quality and consistency, it is often not possible to classify all anomaly sources. Where possible, an anomaly source will be identified along with the certainty of the interpretation. The only way to improve the interpretation of results is through a process of comparing excavated results with the geophysical reports. MS actively seek feedback on their reports, as well as reports from further work, in order to constantly improve our knowledge and service.

7.2. Discussion

- 7.2.1. The geophysical results are presented in combination with satellite imagery and historical maps (Figure 7).
- 7.2.2. A fluxgate gradiometer survey was successfully undertaken across the survey area. Anomalies of agricultural and undetermined origins were detected. Magnetic interference was mostly limited to field boundaries.
- 7.2.3. Linear and curvilinear anomalies were detected within the survey area. These anomalies do not correspond with any features recorded on historical mapping or visible on satellite imagery. HER data for the survey area has identified a number of possible undated field systems both within the survey area and in the immediate vicinity. However, the parallel linear cropmarks recorded in the HER have not been identified in the survey data.
- 7.2.4. An amorphous anomaly corresponding to an area depicted on historical mapping as a former quarry has been detected in the northeast of the survey area. This anomaly likely represents the subsequent infilling of this extraction area with a strongly magnetically enhanced material.

7.3. Interpretation

7.3.1. General Statements

- 7.3.1.1. Geophysical anomalies will be discussed broadly as classification types across the survey area. Only anomalies that are distinctive or unusual will be discussed individually.
- 7.3.1.2. **Ferrous (Spike)** – Discrete dipolar anomalies are likely to be the result of isolated pieces of modern ferrous debris on or near the ground surface.
- 7.3.1.3. **Magnetic Disturbance** – The strong anomalies produced by extant metallic structures, typically including fencing, pylons, vehicles and service pipes, have been classified as 'Magnetic Disturbance'. These magnetic 'haloes' will obscure weaker anomalies relating to nearby features, should they be present, often over a greater footprint than the structure causing them.
- 7.3.1.4. **Undetermined** – Anomalies are classified as Undetermined when the origin of the geophysical anomaly is ambiguous and there is no supporting contextual evidence to justify a more certain classification. These anomalies are likely to be the result of geological, pedological or agricultural processes, although an archaeological origin cannot be entirely ruled out. Undetermined anomalies are generally distinct from those caused by ferrous sources.

7.3.2. Magnetic Results - Specific Anomalies

- 7.3.2.1. **Possible Archaeology (Strong/Weak)** – Several positive linear and curvilinear anomalies were detected within Area 1 (Figure 4). These anomalies do not align with identified agricultural regimes and do not correspond to any features visible on historical mapping and satellite imagery. These have therefore been ascribed a possible archaeological origin. These anomalies do not correspond to any of the cropmarks recorded in the HER and identified as field systems. The cropmarks are not visible in the survey data. These anomalies rather than being full field systems seem to be shortened, discontinuous systems.
- 7.3.2.2. **Industrial/Modern** – A strongly magnetically enhanced amorphous anomaly has been detected in the northeast of the survey area (Figure 4). This anomaly corresponds to the location of an anomaly depicted on historical mapping of the survey area (Figure 7). This anomaly is recorded as a former quarry site. It is therefore likely that this anomaly

8. Conclusions

- 8.1. A fluxgate gradiometer survey was successfully completed over a c. 12ha area of land near Chicklade, Wiltshire. Modern interference was mainly limited to field boundaries.
- 8.2. Linear and curvilinear anomalies of a possible archaeological origin have been identified. These anomalies do not correspond to undated field systems recorded in the HER as cropmarks. No anomalies related to these cropmarks are visible in the survey data.
- 8.3. An amorphous anomaly corresponding to a former quarry site has been identified in the northeast of the survey area.

9. Archiving

- 9.1. MS maintains an in-house digital archive, which is based on Schmidt and Ernenwein (2013). This stores the collected measurements, minimally processed data, georeferenced and un-georeferenced images, XY traces and a copy of the final report.
- 9.2. MS contributes reports to the ADS Grey Literature Library upon permission from the client, subject to any dictated time embargoes.

10. Copyright

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11. References

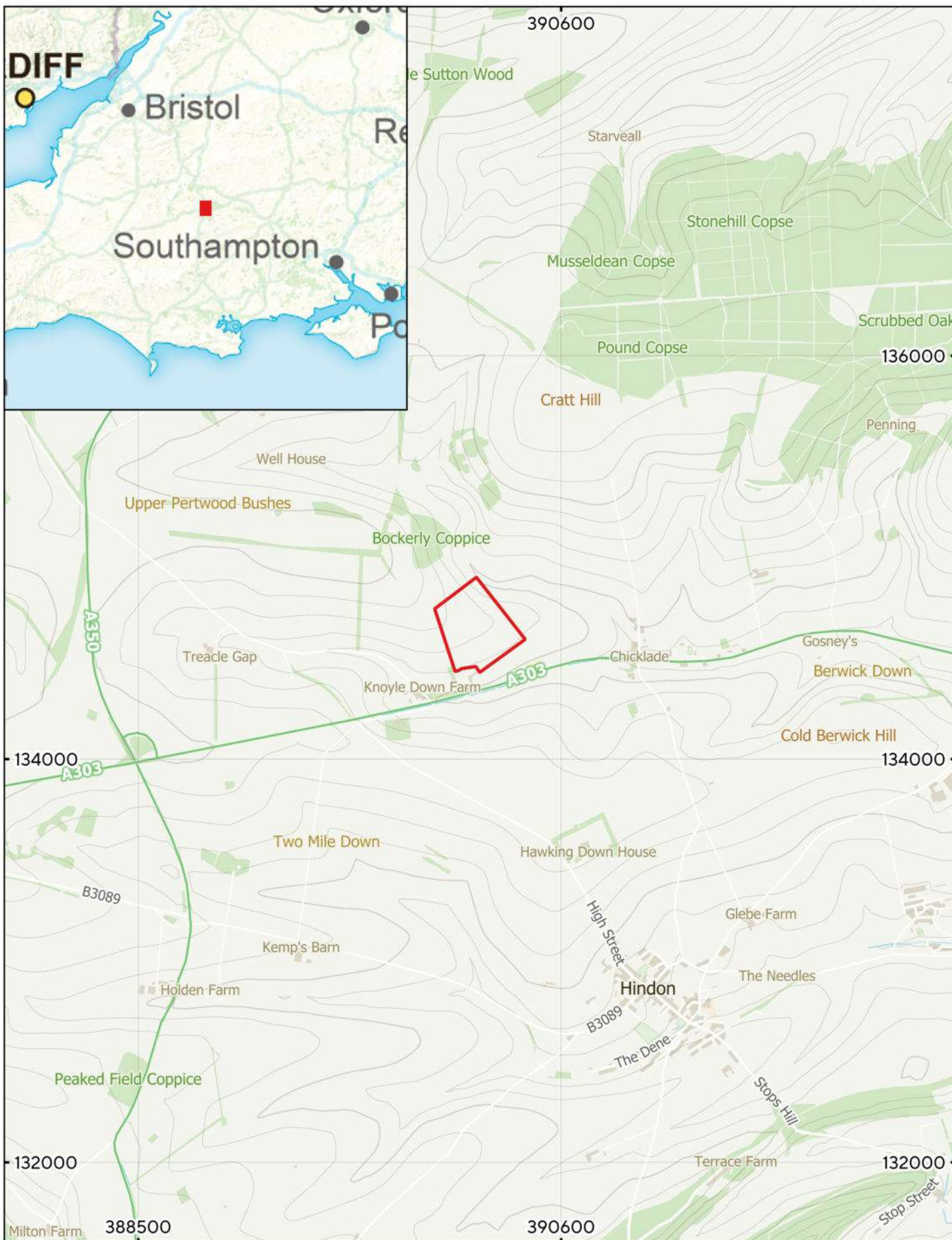
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12. Project Metadata

MS Job Code	MSST2310
Project Name	Land at Chickdale, Wiltshire
Client	BWB Consulting Ltd
Grid Reference	ST 90196 34663
Survey Techniques	Magnetometry
Survey Size (ha)	12ha
Survey Dates	26/11/2025 to 28/11/2025
Project Lead	Taiwo Fadare PhD ACIfA
Project Officer	Taiwo Fadare PhD ACIfA
HER Event No	N/A
OASIS No	N/A
S42 Licence No	N/A
Report Version	0.6

13. Document History

Version	Comments	Author	Checked By	Date
0.1	Initial draft for Project Lead to Review	DB	SP	17 December 2025
0.2	Second review	DB	SP	18 December 2025
0.3	Corrections	TF	KD	22 December 2025
0.4	Sign Off	MS	KD	23 December 2025
0.5	Archaeological background	MS	MS	08 January 2026
0.6	Client Corrections	MS	MS	15 January 2026



MSST2310 - Land at Chicklade, Wiltshire

Figure 1 - Geophysical Survey Location

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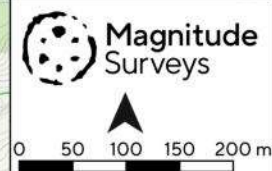
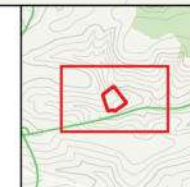
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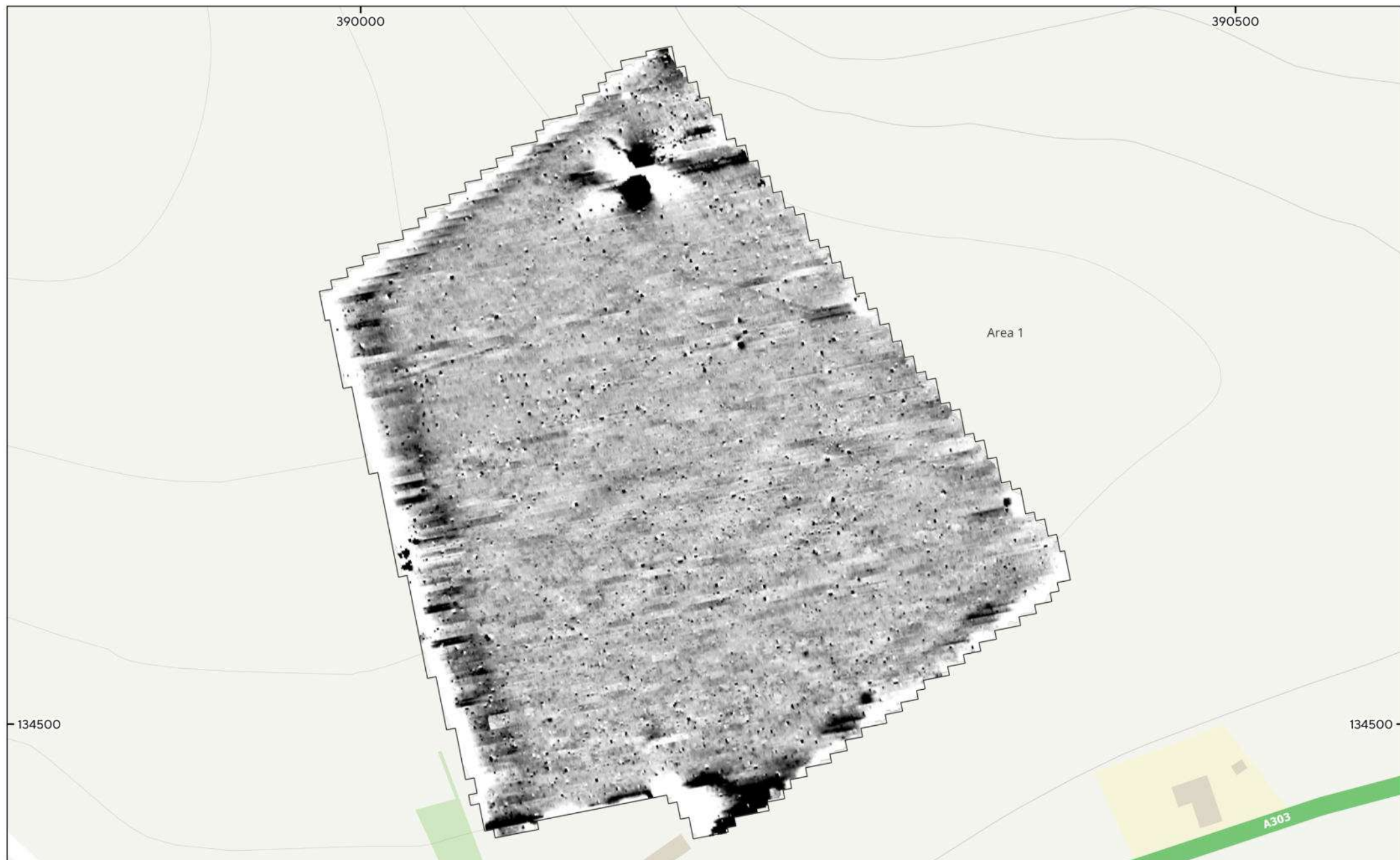




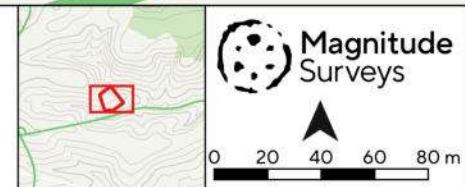
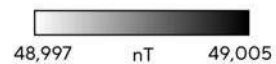
MSST2310 - Land at Chicklade, Wiltshire
Figure 2 - Geophysical Survey Area
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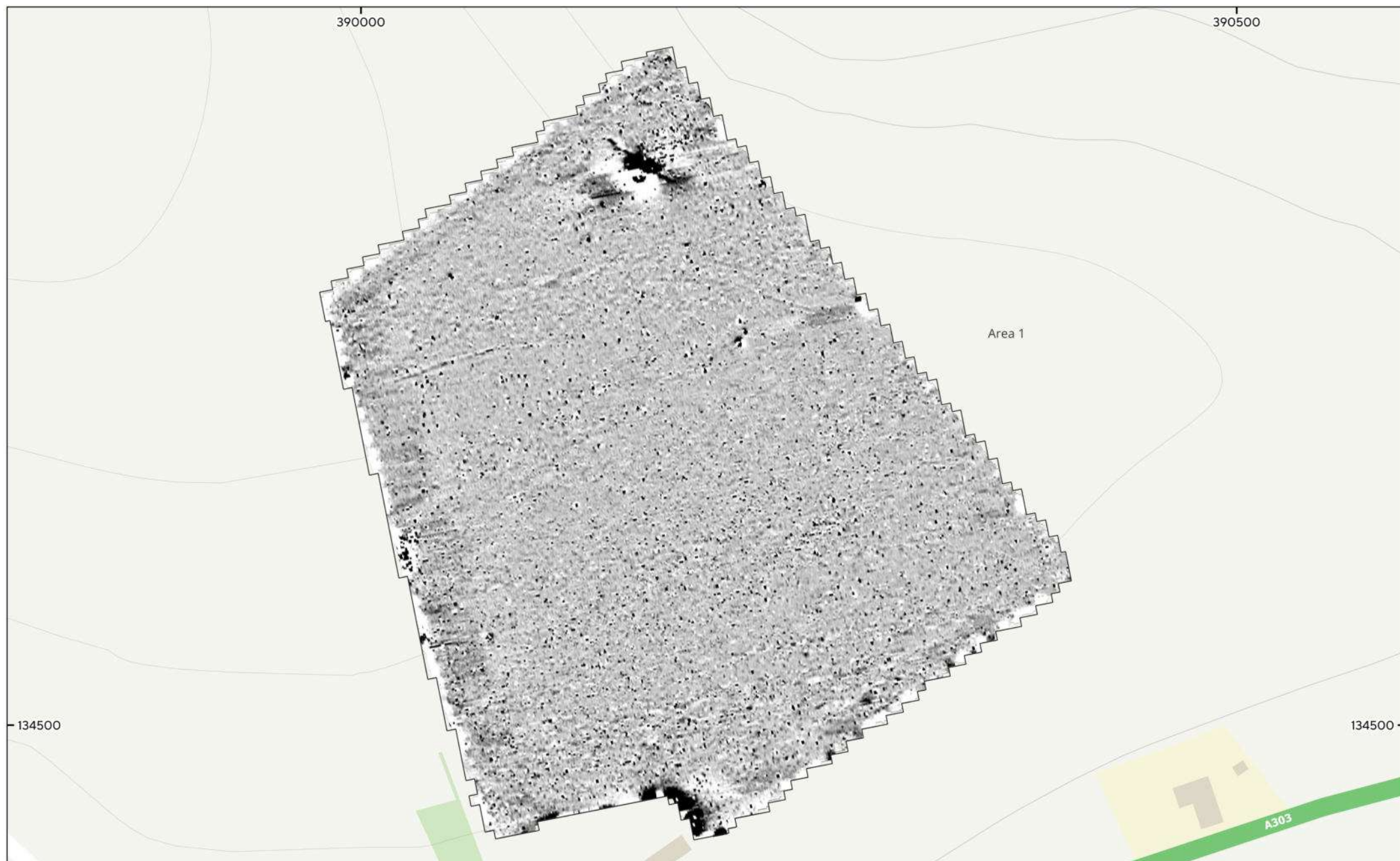
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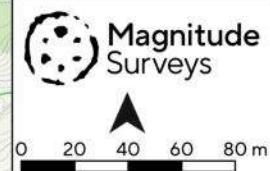
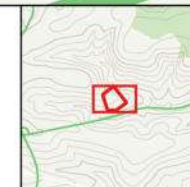
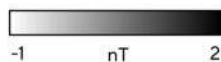


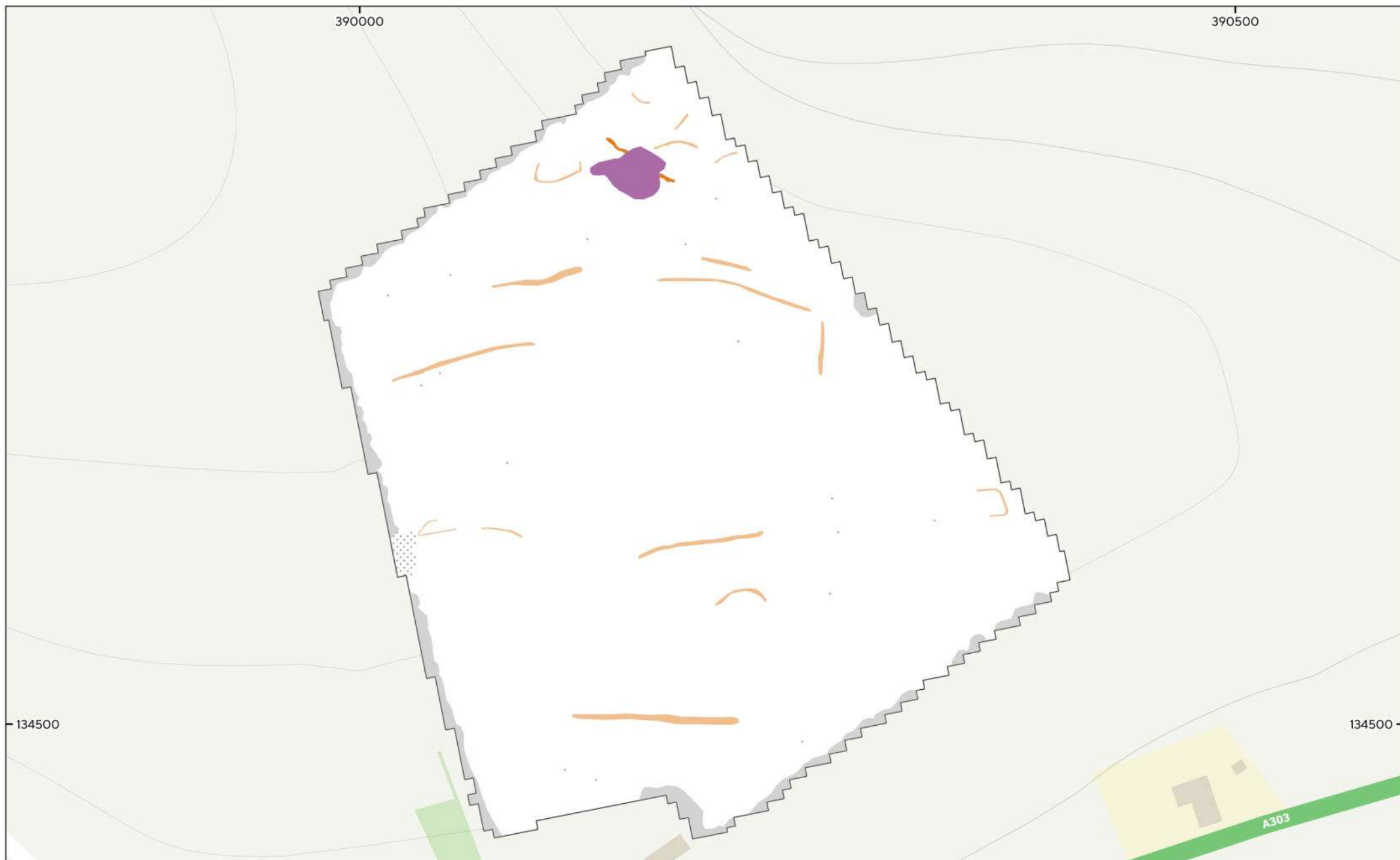
MSST2310 - Land at Chicklade, Wiltshire
Figure 3 - Magnetic Total Field (Lower Sensors)
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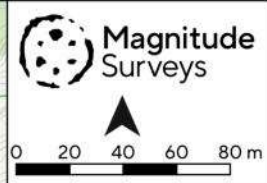
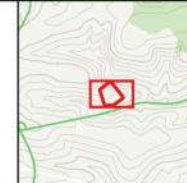
MSST2310 - Land at Chicklade, Wiltshire
Figure 4 - Magnetic Gradient
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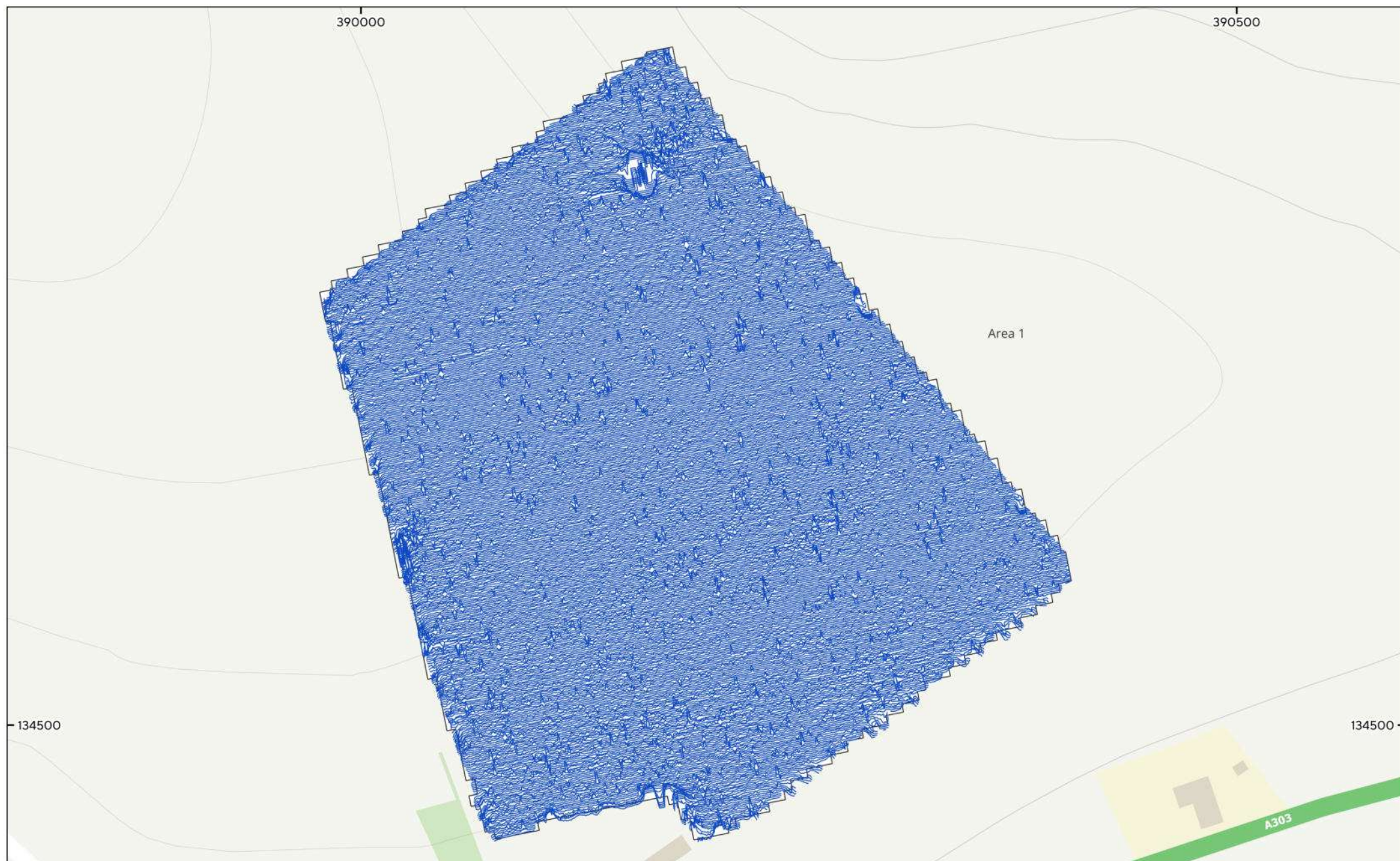




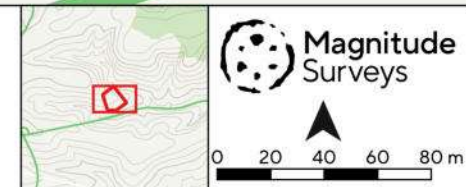
MSST2310 - Land at Chicklade, Wiltshire
Figure 5 - Magnetic Interpretation
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- Archaeology Possible (Strong)
- Archaeology Possible (Weak)
- Magnetic Disturbance
- Ferrous/Debris (Spread)
- Industrial/Modern
- Ferrous (Spike)





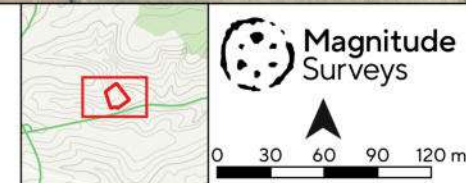
MSST2310 - Land at Chicklade, Wiltshire
Figure 6 - XY Trace Plot
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MSST2310 - Land at Chicklade, Wiltshire
 Figure 7 - Magnetic Interpretation over Historical Mapping
 and Satellite Imagery
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 ©CLS Data 2026: Ordnance Survey 6" 2nd edition
 c.1882-1913, Contains Satellite Imagery © Bing Satellite 2026

- Archaeology Possible (Strong) ■ Ferrous/Debris (Spread)
- Archaeology Possible (Weak) ■ Industrial/Modern
- Magnetic Disturbance ● Ferrous (Spike)





MSST2310 - Land at Chicklade, Wiltshire
Figure 8 - GNSS Lines
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— GNSS Lines

