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# SLR

global environmental solutions

Wm Morrison Supermarkets, Ripon

Archaeological Desk Based Assessment

SLR Ref: 410.01490.00008

July 2011



**M MORRISONS**

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## APPENDICES

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

This document is an archaeological desk based assessment. It has been undertaken by SLR Consulting Ltd on behalf of Wm Morrison Supermarkets Plc and their agents, Watson Batty Architects Ltd. The assessment relates to the site of a proposed new Morrisons food store and mixed use development to the east of the existing Supermarket at Harrogate Road to the south of Ripon, North Yorkshire, centred on NGR 431273 469722.

This assessment has been prepared as supporting documentation for the planning application in response to advice from the Historic Environment Team at North Yorkshire County Council to Harrogate Borough Council (letter from Melanie Partlett dated 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2011). This indicated that the site lies within an area of archaeological interest, and that insufficient information is known about the site to determine what the impact of the development might be on features of archaeological significance.

The requirement for the desk based assessment is in accordance with Policy HE 6 of PPS5 (Planning for the Historic Environment) which states that local planning authorities should require applicants for planning consent to provide a description of the significance of the heritage assets affected and the contribution of their setting to that significance.

In this document the known and potential archaeological resource at the site is discussed with reference to the development proposals, and presents a summary of the potential impact of the development on any remains that might be present.

## 2.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The SLR staff involved in the preparation of this assessment were:

Laurence Hayes BA MifA	Associate	Project Management, Research, Report
Andy Towle BA MA PhD MifA	Associate	Quality Assurance

The assessment was commissioned by Scott Lunn (Watson Batty Architects Ltd), Andy Cooper and Laura Ireland (Wm Morrison Supermarkets Plc). SLR gratefully acknowledges the assistance of Louisa Matthews (Historic Environment Record Officer, North Yorkshire County Council), the staff of the North Yorkshire Record Office and the National Monuments Record (Swindon) in the preparation of this report.

### 3.0 METHODOLOGY

The overall approach to the investigation has been undertaken in accordance with the IfA document *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessment* (IfA 2008).

The report presents a description of the physical setting of the site, the development proposals, a description of the historical development of the site (the Baseline) organised by period with reference to all known heritage assets, an assessment of the archaeological potential at the site and a statement of potential impact of the development on the archaeology.

SLR is a Registered Organisation (RO) with the Institute for Archaeologists; all work is undertaken in accordance with industry best-practice. SLR operates a quality management system to help ensure all projects are managed in a professional and transparent manner, which enables it to qualify for ISO 9001.

#### 3.1 Sources

To produce this desk study the following sources have been consulted:

- North Yorkshire Historic Environment Record (HER)
- North Yorkshire Record Office (NYRO)
- National Monuments Record aerial photographic archive (NMR)
- British Geological Survey mapping (BGS)
- Historic mapping and parish survey documents
- Available topographic and geotechnical survey data
- Archaeological reports and excavation archives
- Internet sources (English Heritage 'Heritage Gateway' and 'Heritage List')
- Published sources and archaeological journals
- A site walkover (undertaken on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2011)

These provide a comprehensive record of the known archaeology and historic landscape of the study area, and collate all known archaeological investigations and finds within the study area. For this site it is noted that there is a degree of bias in the information held by the HER, including a large number of metal detector finds from a single survey event which are of limited archaeological significance.

#### 3.2 Study Area

The study area comprises the site itself and a buffer of 0.5km<sup>1</sup> around the site boundary. The buffer zone allows the gathering of data from a wider area to determine the historical and archaeological context of the site.

A site visit was undertaken on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2008. This entailed an appraisal of the current land use and ground conditions, providing an indication of potential damage to below-ground remains, should any be present within the study area.

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<sup>1</sup> Data has been gathered for a 1km zone around the site, however as this includes the centre of Ripon a smaller study area has been described in this report to reduce the number of records that are not of relevance to the current development.

### **3.3 Consultations**

The development site was discussed with Melanie Partlett (North Yorkshire County Council Historic Environment Team) in the preparation of this assessment.

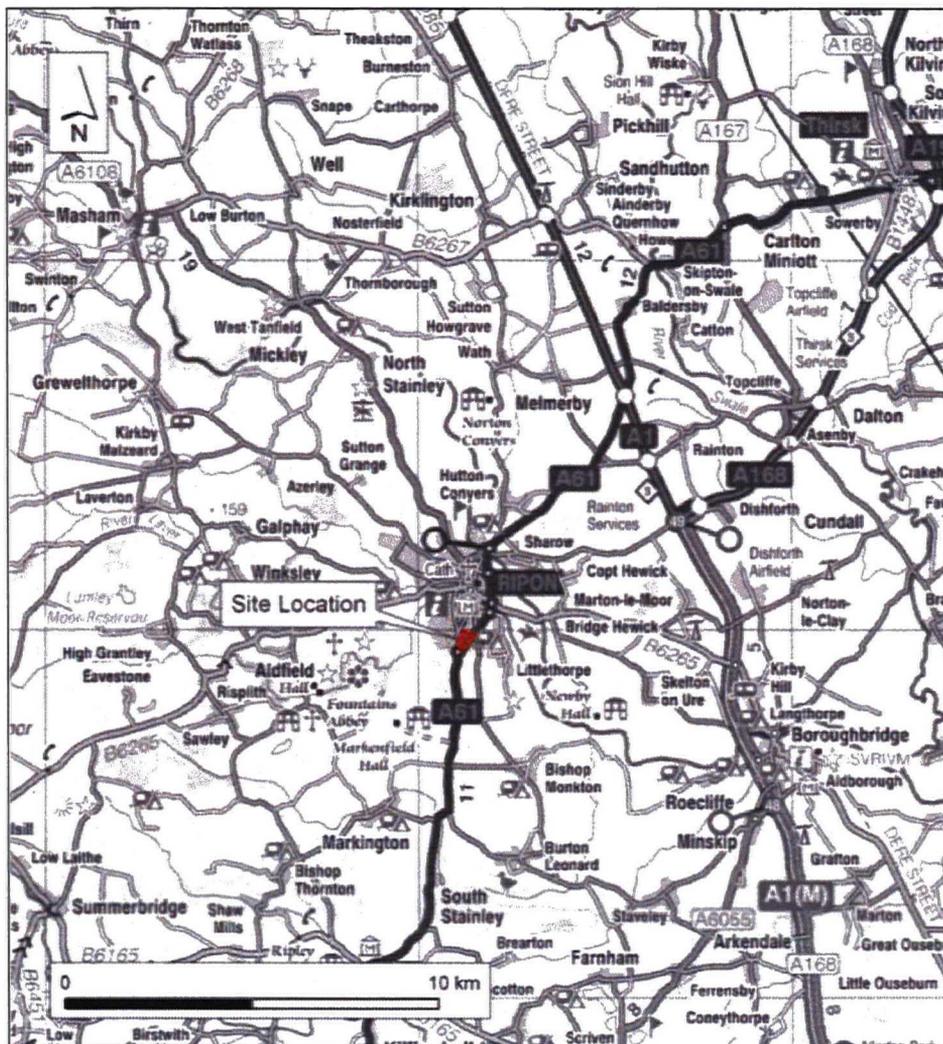
## 4.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

### 4.1 Location

The site comprises an irregular parcel of land approximately 7.5 ha in size situated to the north west of the A61 Ripon Bypass and to the east of Harrogate Road. The site centre is at NGR 431273 469722 (Figures 1 and 2), 1.1km south of the town centre.

The site spans the boundary of Ripon and Littlethorpe Parishes, in the West Riding of York. Ripon is situated on the River Skell, 1.25 km from its confluence with the River Ure to the east.

Figure 1: Site Location



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**Figure 2: Detailed location plan showing existing site layout**



#### 4.2 Geology

The north-eastern part of the application site overlies Permian Dolomitic Limestone of the Brotherton Formation (corresponding to an area known as Gallows Hill), while the south-western portion overlies Permian Calcareous Mudstone of the Edlington Formation which extends northwards beneath Ripon town centre. The boundary between the two rock types appears to coincide with a ridge of higher ground which crosses the site from southeast – northwest.

The superficial geology is similarly divided, with glacial till (diamicton- poorly sorted gravel and boulders) recorded across the south western portion of the site, and glaciofluvial alluvium (sand and gravel) to the northeast.

The British Geological Survey records a zone of modern artificial geology (made ground) flanking the curved northern boundary of the site (BGS Geotindex), and Wardell Armstrong's geotechnical report<sup>2</sup> records tipped materials within the northern part of the site. It is unclear from the sources consulted what the derivation of this made ground is, but appears likely to be associated with ground levelling for the construction of the A61 Ripon Bypass in 1993-4.

#### 4.3 Topography

The topography of the site is uneven. There is a general downward slope from the north (around 42m AOD) to the southeast boundary adjacent to the A61 (around 33-37m AOD). There is a pronounced ridge which runs southeast-northwest across the undeveloped

<sup>2</sup> Wardell Armstrong 2001, *Land at Ripon Bypass: Site Investigation*. Unpublished Report

portion of the site, and a marked sub-oval depression to a depth of 32m AOD adjacent to the site's north eastern boundary. It is noted that the topography mirrors closely the formation of the underlying bedrock strata (*ibid*). The surface depressions are recorded as postglacial subsidence hollows.

The developed portion of the site at the western limit has been constructed approximately level at c. 44m AOD, rising gradually to the Harrogate Road which forms the site's western boundary.

#### **4.4 Ground Conditions**

The site was inspected on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2011 (Figures 3-6). Across the western portion of the site is the existing Morrisons supermarket and car parking which is dominated by the supermarket building, petrol filling station, tarmac surfaces and access road. The eastern edge of the car park is marked by low walls and kerbs beyond which is a tall hedgerow. The undeveloped field beyond the supermarket boundary comprises rough grassland with areas of overgrown self-seeded shrubs and brambles in the western and northern portions of the site. The ground was dry during the site visit.

The south-eastern and north-eastern boundaries of the field are demarcated with post and rail fences and tall hedgerows, the northern boundary containing a number of mature trees. There are open access points in the northern boundary onto a narrow lane known as Greystone Lane which has pedestrian access and forms part of the Ripon Sanctuary Way. This was formerly an accessible lane to traffic connecting Quarry Moor Lane to Knaresborough Road.

The north-western boundary adjoins the grounds of Greystone Primary School and is also marked by a post and rail fence.

Within the site boundary there are no recorded major services. A single surface water drain is identified running from the eastern boundary of the site to the north.

**Figure 3: Southern corner of development area facing south**



**Figure 4: View along south east site boundary facing northeast**



**Figure 5: View across northern site boundary facing northwest**



**Figure 6: View along western site boundary facing south**



## 5.0 DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS

The development proposals are described in more detail elsewhere, but in summary they comprise a mixture of business uses. These include:

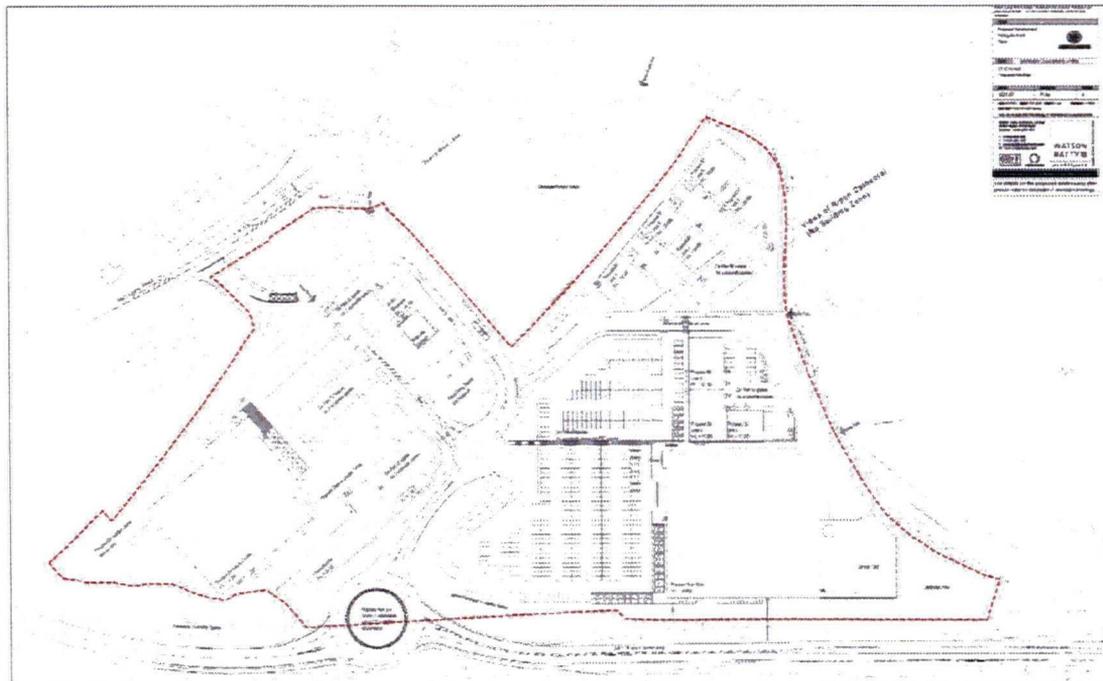
- the erection of a modern new build Wm Morrison Store adjacent to the A61
- the conversion of the existing store into a DIY and Garden Centre
- the most northerly extent of the site has been allocated for B1 commercial office use, comprising five buildings at two to three storeys with associated parking and landscaping. The buildings are set partially into the ground, reducing the impact of the units on the adjacent Greystone Primary School and residential buildings
- an element of B2 light industrial use
- The existing petrol filling station is to remain in its present location with some alterations to the entrance location and circulation areas.
- a new build 400sqm showroom / office block adjacent to the petrol filling station.
- a 60 bed hotel with gymnasium facilities

The proposals for the development consider the protection and enhancement of views into Ripon City centre, and in particular views of the Cathedral. Strategic views of the Cathedral have been identified and outlined for protection. The location of the internal central roundabout was identified as holding the most prominent views of the Cathedral and a 'no build zone' has been identified to frame views into the town centre.

Further afield strategic views from along the A61 have been identified and measures taken to ensure the proposals do not impact these views.

Groundworks for the development, including landscaping, topsoil stripping, service and footing trench excavation, has the potential to disturb any archaeological remains which might be present within the site.

**Figure 7: Overview of development proposals**



## 6.0 RESULTS

### 6.1 Summary

There are 3 known heritage assets within the site boundary. A total of 67 heritage assets have been identified within the whole study area reflecting activity in the Neolithic, Roman, medieval and post medieval periods. A number are undated. None of the heritage assets are designated; all have been recorded by the North Yorkshire Historic Environment Record (HER). For the purposes of this report each asset has been given a unique identification number between 1 and 67 which are referred to in the text. The assets are summarised in Appendix A, and their locations given in Figures 8, 10 and 17.

There are no World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Registered Parks and Gardens, Battlefields or Conservation Areas within the study area. The nearest World Heritage Site is Studley Royal Park and the Ruins of Fountains Abbey 2km to the west. The nearest Scheduled Monuments are Ailey Hill, Ripon Minster Close and St Anne's Chapel around 1.2km to the north. Studley Royal is the nearest Registered Park and Garden (Grade I) passing within 1.4km of the site to the northwest. Ripon Conservation Area is situated 0.7km to the north, and generally extends northward from the centre of the city. The most proximate Listed Buildings are Grade II registered dwellings along the Harrogate and Boroughbridge Roads.

### 6.2 Detailed Description

#### 6.2.1 Prehistoric Periods (250,000 BC – 70 AD)

There are no known heritage assets of prehistoric date within the development site.

A single prehistoric asset is recorded in the wider study area; a findspot of a Neolithic (c. 4000-2200 BC) polished axe (Site 1) found adjacent to the Ripon Bypass 230m northeast of the site boundary (Figure 8).

Situated between the Rivers Swale and Ure, the Ripon area was settled throughout prehistory and this is reflected by a number of monuments with ritual/funerary significance. They include henges less than 5km from the site at Hutton Moor, Cana and Nunwick, also associated with a large number of Bronze Age barrows (dated to between 1700 and 1400 BC).

There is a low potential for unknown prehistoric archaeological remains to be located at the site. If present, any archaeological remains associated with activity of this period are likely to comprise stray artefacts in the ploughsoil or heavily truncated features cut below the level of the ploughsoil.

Geotechnical investigations have demonstrated that there are no areas of waterlogged deposits which may be of palaeoenvironmental significance.

#### 6.2.2 Romano-British Period (70 – 410 AD)

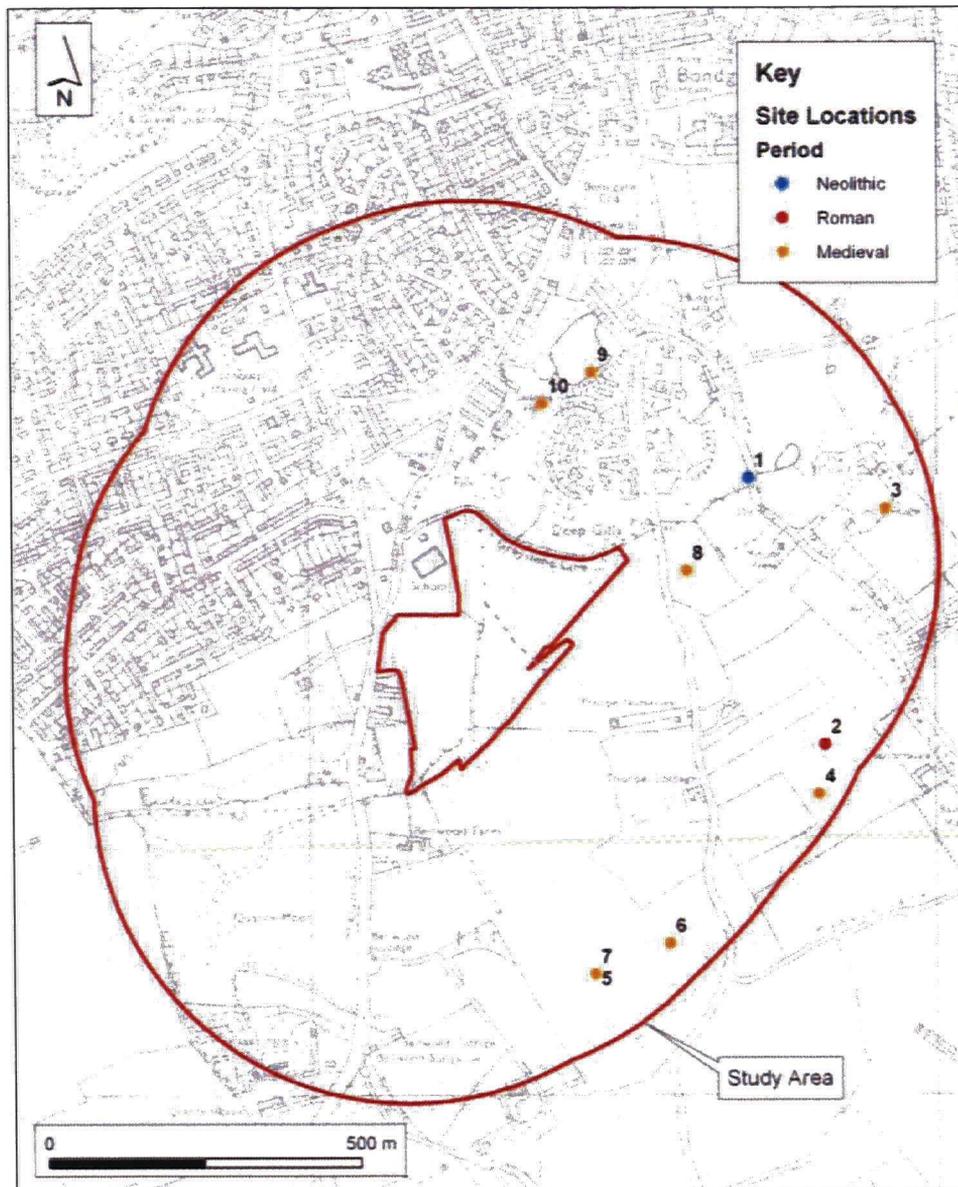
There are no known heritage assets of Romano-British date within the development site.

In the wider study area a single asset of this date is recorded- that of a metal detector find 440m southeast of the Ripon Bypass comprising 7 buckles tentatively dated to the Roman period (Site 2), and potentially spanning the period up to the 20<sup>th</sup> century (Figure 8).

Beyond the study area there are further metal detector findspots associated with Roman artefacts, but no known archaeological sites. These include a late 4<sup>th</sup> century silver coin and strap fittings dated anywhere between the Roman and modern periods.

Roman archaeological remains are known in the vicinity of Ripon, though no evidence for settlement is recorded within the town apart from a number of pottery sherds discovered in the town centre. There is a suggestion that a Roman ford lay near the north bridge on the River Ure.

**Figure 8: Location of sites referred to in text (Neolithic-medieval periods)**



Undated features possibly representing Romano-British activity (though later or earlier is possible) are known at the site and study area. Site 61 lies within the site adjacent to its northern boundary and relates to a line of four possible enclosures measuring 30m x 20m visible on aerial photographs taken in 1973 (Figure 17). The location of the features described coincides with a natural depression in the topography enclosed by rectilinear field

boundaries in the 18th century, and it is possible that this arrangement of features has been misinterpreted as a crop mark.

Sites 58 and 59 relate to possible enclosures and settlements identified as cropmarks from aerial photographic surveys between 50m and 150m east of the site's northeast boundary; again, these may be earlier or later in date assuming they are of archaeological origin. A well is noted at Site 63, 450m south of the site boundary; this feature was described in the original HER record as potentially Roman or earlier in date, but a later Ordnance Survey assessment dismissed this claim.

Overall there is a low-moderate potential for unknown Romano-British remains to be located at the site. Any archaeological remains of this period are likely to comprise stray artefacts in the ploughsoil or heavily truncated features cut below the level of the ploughsoil. If present, feature types are likely to be restricted to agricultural boundary ditches, pits or post holes.

### 6.2.3 Early Medieval (410 AD – 1066)

There are no recorded heritage assets of early medieval date within the development site or wider study area, however the site's curved northern boundary may have significance in this period.

The earliest archaeological evidence for a settlement at Ripon dates to the mid 7<sup>th</sup> century AD, related to the monastic site established there by Alchfrith in AD 657. The first documented evidence for the lands held by the See at Ripon is a grant of 30 hides of land by Alchfrith in AD 661.

St Wilfrid, Bishop of York, was given the monastery in AD 672. As part of the Liberty of St Wilfrid, King Athelstan granted the right of Sanctuary in AD 937 to the monastery. The sanctuary boundary was marked by stones (demarking the area) within which anyone could be granted sanctuary overnight. This sanctuary was located to the north of the site and may have been co-terminus with the curved boundary of the development area.

Shortly before Domesday the lands held by the church at Ripon (the Liberty) are described in some detail. The *York Gospel Book* (AD 1030) indicates that the town included 'the space of a mile on each side and Bishopton within those two hides'<sup>3</sup>. It was recorded in 1228 that the central point of the two hide grant (known as 'St Wilfrid's League') was measured from the sanctuary stone, with the boundary marked by 'Athelstan crosses' or 'bane crosses'. But it was not until the 15<sup>th</sup> century that a detailed description of the Liberty boundary was described in detail through a perambulation of the bounds.

In the present day the development site's northern boundary (delineated by Greystone Lane) forms part of the Sanctuary Way which was reinstated by the Rotary Club of Ripon. A replica sanctuary marker stone is situated near the original location of the sanctuary boundary 45m northeast of the current site's northeast corner. The sanctuary boundary at this point coincides with the Ripon Parish and Township boundary which follows the same alignment, and this alignment is likely to have been influenced by the local topography, fringing the lower slopes to the south of what would later become Gallows Hill. The name 'Deep Gills' which is indicated on 19<sup>th</sup> century mapping of the immediate area has been interpreted as a

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<sup>3</sup> Le Patourel H E J 1993, *Introduction to Part II in Yorkshire Boundaries*. Yorkshire Archaeological Society (Le Patourel, Long and Pickles Eds) pp100-101

medieval name, known as Depegile (14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> centuries), suggesting an original name 'Deep Pool Ravine' or 'Deep Ravine'<sup>4</sup>.

There is a low potential for unknown early medieval remains to be located at the site. Any archaeological remains of this period are likely to comprise stray artefacts in the ploughsoil or heavily truncated features cut below the level of the ploughsoil. If present, feature types are likely to be confined to agricultural boundary ditches, pits or post holes.

Although the site's northern boundary forms part of the modern Sanctuary Way, there is no direct evidence to suggest the original boundary followed this course. The Ripon township boundary was moved in the late 19<sup>th</sup> / early 20<sup>th</sup> century appearing for the first time on the 1909 edition Ordnance Survey map. The boundary therefore would not be considered important under the Hedgerow Regulations 1997.

#### **6.2.4 Medieval (1066 – 1500AD)**

There are no known heritage assets of medieval date within the development site.

Eight assets ascribed to the medieval period are known in the wider study area (Figure 8). Sites 3, 7 and 8 relate to ridge and furrow earthworks indicative of open field farming, while sites 5 and 6 describe a trackway and settlement at Quarry Moor identified from aerial photographs. The general distribution of these features is to the southeast of the development site towards Littlethorpe.

Around 250m to the north of the current site, sites 9 and 10 relate to two cemetery sites for convicts at Gallows Hill near to the former site of the Bishop's Fishponds and now within a modern area of housing. The presence of the gallows is significant as it reinforces the interpretation of the township boundary as being historically located adjacent to the site, and reflects the ancient custom of placing the gallows and non-consecrated burial grounds (including suicides) at the township limits.

Site 4 to the southeast of the site boundary is a findspot of a sherd of 15<sup>th</sup> century green glazed pottery.

A number of undated sites which may fall within the medieval period include site 56 (a road) and sites 60, 62 and 64 (trackways) identified as cropmarks to the south and southeast of the development site (Figure 17). They may relate to the settlement and field system at Quarry Moor.

At Domesday the site lay between the manor of Ripon and the township of *Torp* (Littlethorpe, interpreted as 'outlying farmstead' belonging to Ripon, it was one of the berewics of Ripon in Domesday Book<sup>5</sup>). The entries for these places include descriptions of the resources available to the population, including ploughlands, woodland, meadows and a fishery. The extent of the farming and settlement is known in part by the physical evidence for fields and enclosures, but it is likely that beyond those areas the land was waste or common land. The presence of 'Moor' place names in the vicinity may support the notion that the site lay within a marginal zone adjacent to the Ripon township boundary, although later mapping may indicate enclosed strip fields in the northern portion of the site (see Figure 9).

<sup>4</sup> Smith A H 1956-7 The Place-Names of the West Riding of Yorkshire Part V; the Wapentakes of Upper and Lower Claro. Cambridge University Press pp169

<sup>5</sup> Smith A H 1956-7 The Place-Names of the West Riding of Yorkshire Part V; the Wapentakes of Upper and Lower Claro. Cambridge University Press

There is a low-moderate potential for unknown medieval remains to be located at the site. Any archaeological remains of this period are likely to comprise stray artefacts in the ploughsoil or heavily truncated features cut below the level of the ploughsoil. If present, feature types are likely to be restricted to those related to medieval agriculture- principally traces of ridge and furrow ploughing, field/headland boundary ditches, pits or post holes.

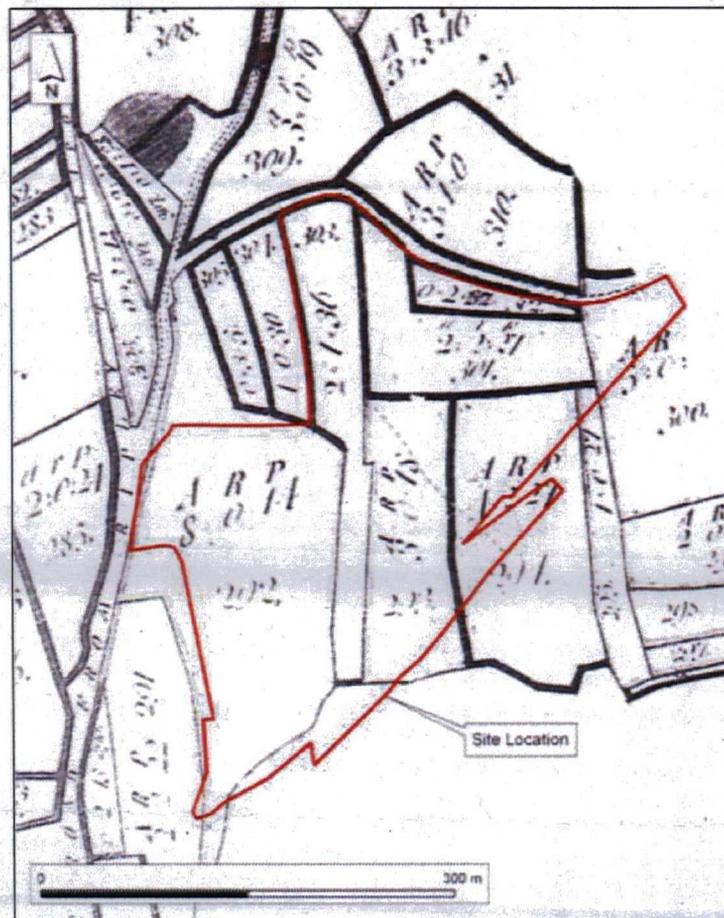
### 6.2.5 Post-Medieval (1500 – 1800)

There are no known heritage assets of post medieval date within the site boundary.

In the wider study area 17 assets can be ascribed to this period. They include 14 metal detecting findspots of isolated artefacts which are of limited archaeological significance (sites 11-20, 22-24 and 27). The remaining sites include the site of the gallows on Gallows Hill (site 21) and two trackways (sites 25 and 26).

As elsewhere in the county, the post medieval development of the rural area surrounding the site is likely to have been characterised by the gradual enclosure of open fields and improvement of land to increase agricultural productivity. By the mid 18<sup>th</sup> century the development site had been subdivided into rectilinear and strip fields as indicated in Beckwith's map dated 1744 (Figure 9). The presence of enclosed strip fields in groups perpendicular to each other may indicate the presence of former open fields in and around the site, perhaps of late medieval or early post medieval date.

Figure 9: Beckwith's map of Ripon, Littlethorpe and Bondgate, 1744 (georeferenced)



There is a low potential for unknown post medieval remains to be located at the site. Any archaeological remains of this period are likely to comprise stray artefacts in the ploughsoil or heavily truncated features such as field boundary ditches cut below the level of the ploughsoil.

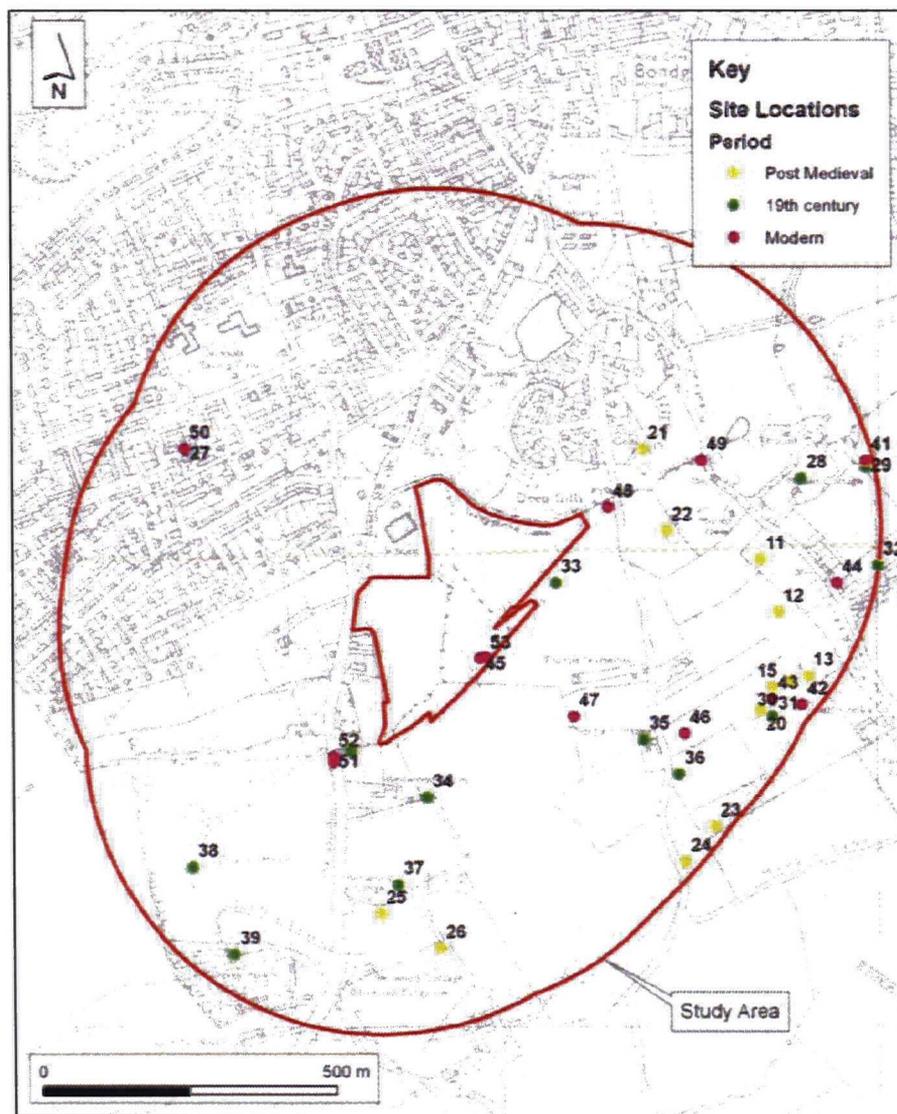
### 6.2.6 19<sup>th</sup> Century (1800-1900)

There are no known heritage assets of 19<sup>th</sup> century date within the site boundary.

Thirteen sites are known in the wider study area for this period. They include four metal detector findspots (sites 30-32 and 36) and a number of features transcribed from early Ordnance Survey Maps for the area such as gravel pits and quarries (sites 29 and 39), lime kilns (site 38), a coal depot (site 34), water pumps (sites 33, 35 and 37), a mile stone (site 40) and triangulation pillar (site 28).

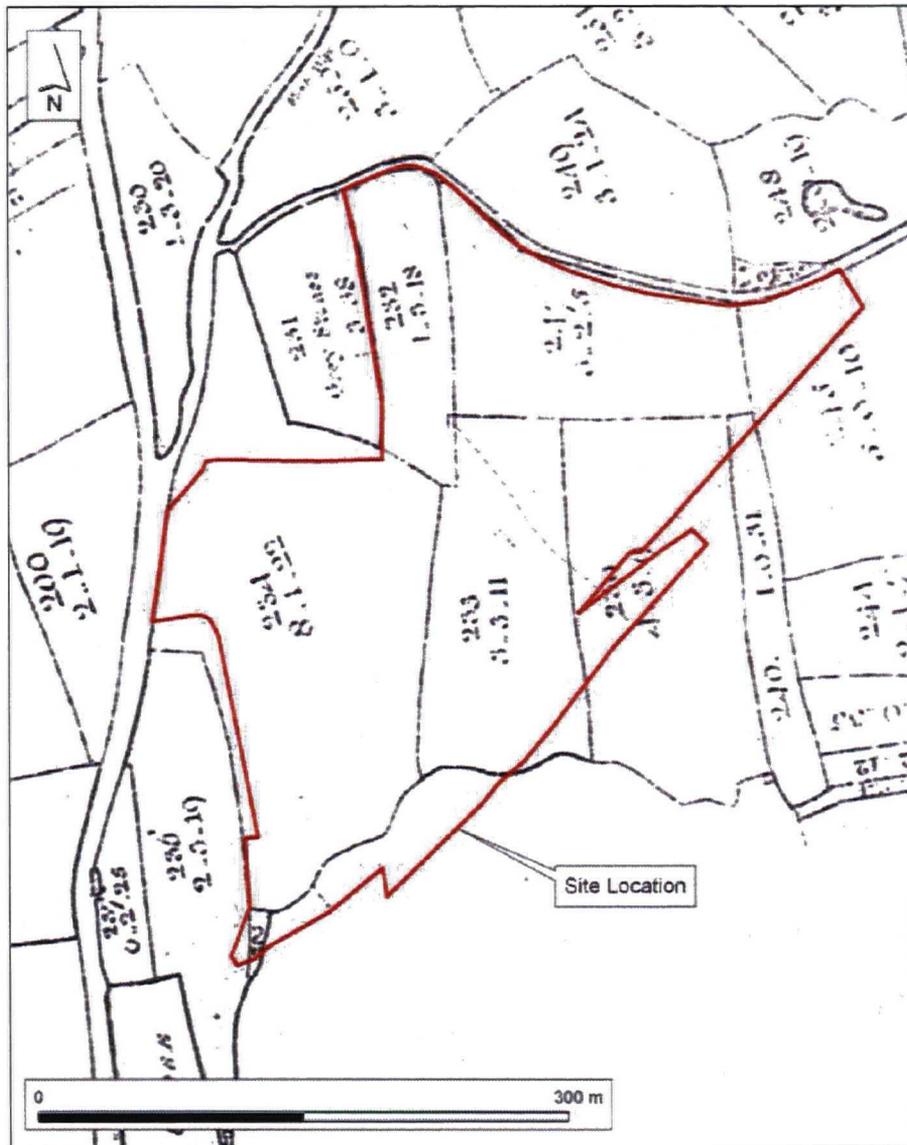
Two further undated sites are likely to date from this period; a boundary stone and a mile post situated to the east of the A61 (sites 65 and 66).

Figure 10: Location of sites referred to in text (post medieval to modern periods)



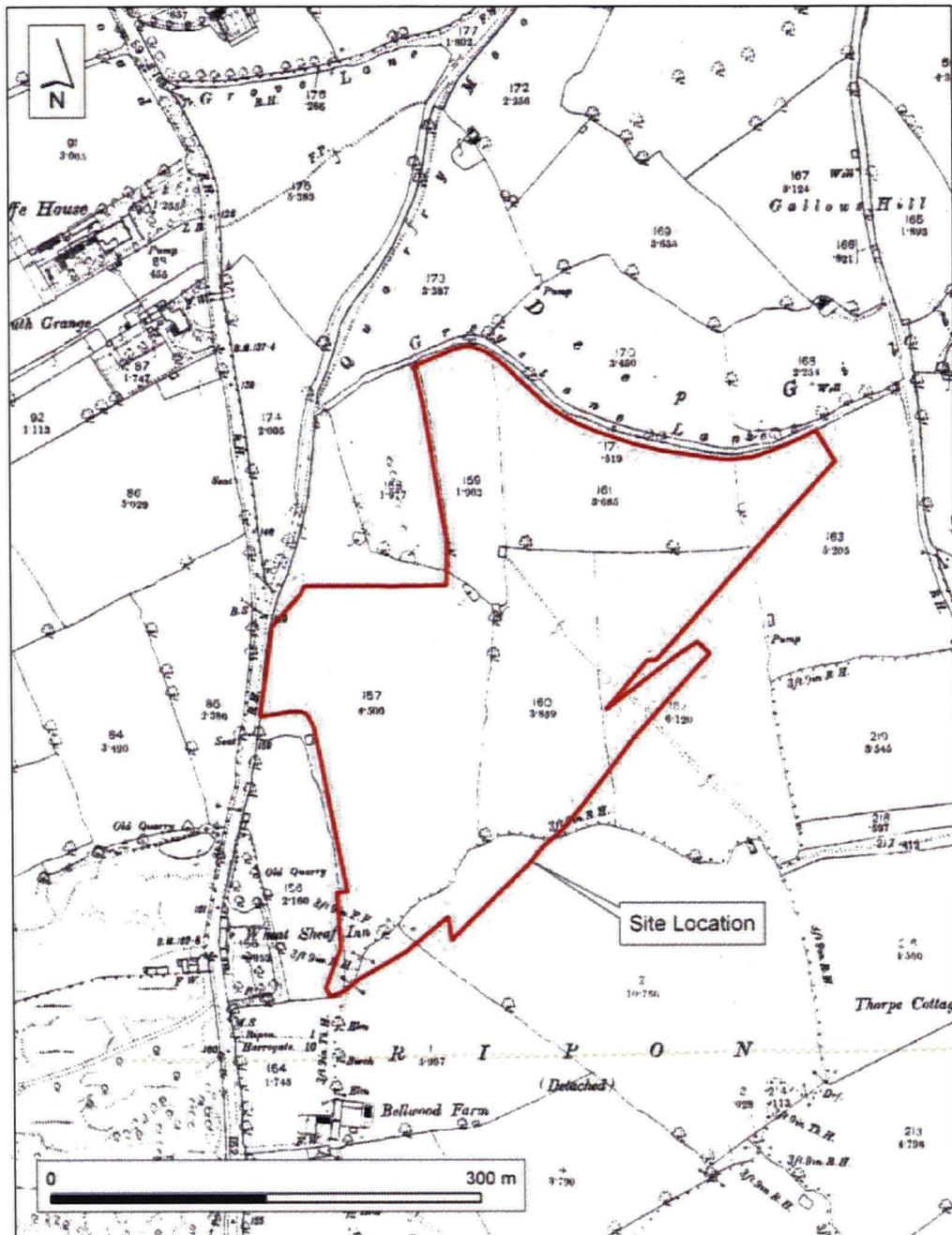
Historic mapping for the site indicates a gradual amalgamation of fields within the site boundary into larger single units. A plan produced by John Humphries in 1800 (Figure 11) indicates that most of the smaller strip fields shown on the 1744 plan had been combined into larger units. A small structure, possibly a shed for animals, is indicated at the centre of the site at a junction of two field boundaries. One of the fields is named 'Greystones' on the map, now the location of Greystones Primary School.

**Figure 11: Humphries' plan of Ripon, Bondgate and Littlethorpe, 1800 (georeferenced)**



Towards the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the first edition OS dated 1890 at a scale of 1:2,500 (Figure 12) suggests little overall change to the internal layout of fields at the site. More detail is given, indicating that the small shed or barn measured approximately 7m x 5m, and that two small ponds were located immediately to the southwest. A track is shown leading across the fields from the southeast at Knaresborough Road toward the shed. The surrounding landscape is predominantly rural in character, with extensive quarries to the west at Quarry Moor.

Figure 12: 1890 OS Map (1:2500)



There is a low potential for unknown 19<sup>th</sup> century remains to be located at the site. Any features of this date are likely to comprise stray artefacts in the ploughsoil and buried features associated with field boundaries, farm structures and ponds.

#### 6.2.7 Modern (20<sup>th</sup> century- present)

There are no known heritage assets of modern date within the site boundary.

Thirteen sites are recorded in the wider study area (sites 41-53), including metal detector findspots, boundary stones, water pumps, a glasshouse and two records of a possible World War 1 military camp which was discovered during a watching brief as part of the construction

of the Ripon Bypass in the 1990s. This site is located immediately south of the current development site and falls within an area affected by proposed highways work.

The historic OS mapping indicates that by 1909 (Figure 13) there had been no change within the site boundary, and that by 1929 (Figure 14) the only significant changes were slight realignment of the field boundaries and the removal of the shed at the centre of the site. The general area was still largely rural.

In the later 20<sup>th</sup> century post-war housing developments gradually expanded southwards from the town centre towards the site. The 1980 OS map (1:10,000; Figure 15) indicates the site on the rural fringe of the town with extensive housing estates to the north at Moorside Avenue and Gallows Hill. Most of the internal field boundaries within the site had been removed and straightened resulting in two large fields, the western of which later became the existing Morrisons supermarket.

Oblique aerial photos of the site taken from the southeast in 1976 show the site under arable cultivation (Photographs PVA7762 072-074). No cropmark features are visible within the site boundary, but removed field boundaries are apparent as cropmarks extending southwards from the site boundary.

A significant development occurred in 1993-94 with the building of the Ripon Bypass. This event formed the site's present southern boundary and divided the field system within the site boundary from the wider agricultural landscape with which it was associated. The site's present form included the creation of the existing supermarket to the west, and the removal of all internal field boundaries to the east leading to the development of the open field that exists today.

Figure 13: 1909 OS Map (1:2,500)

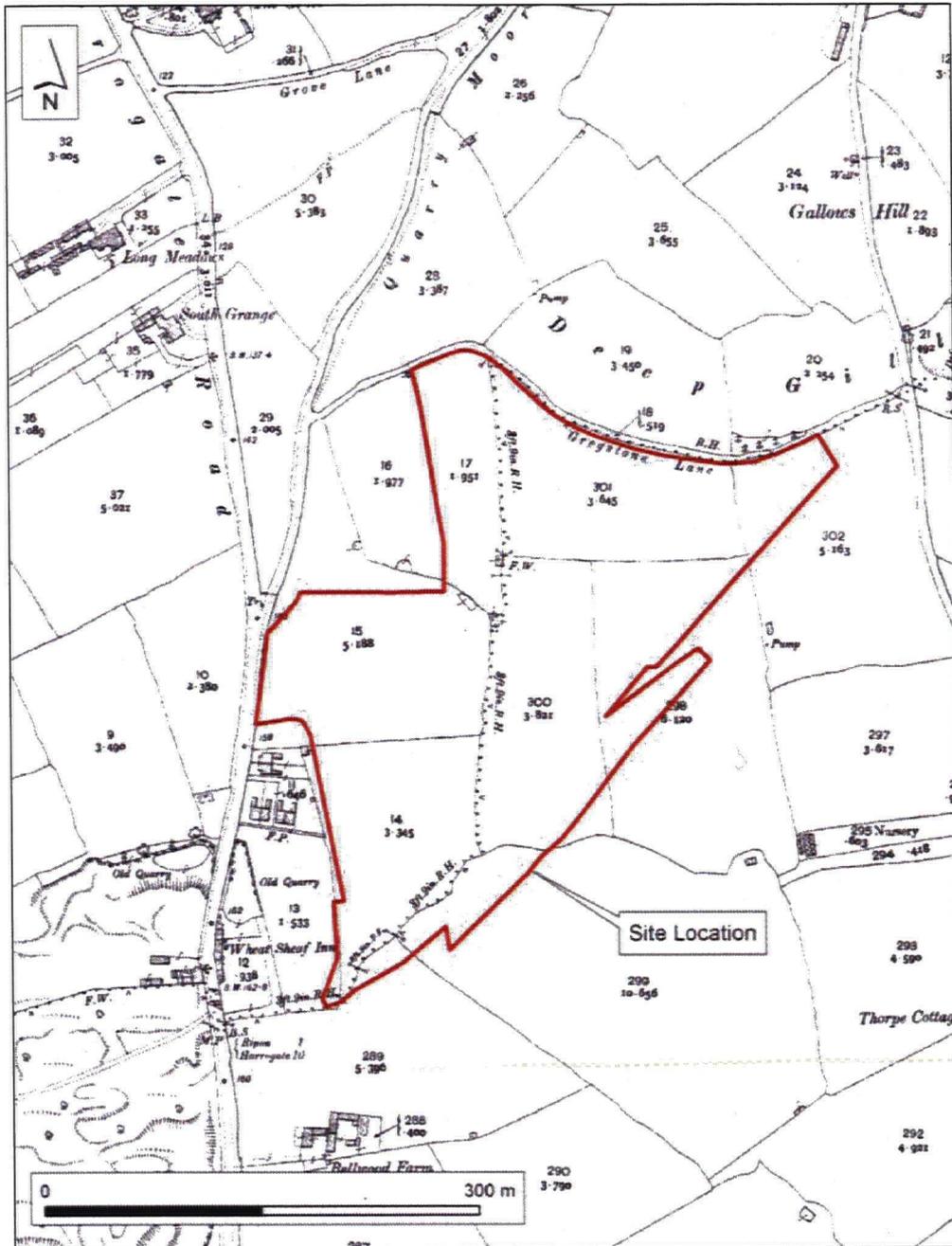


Figure 14: 1929 OS Map (1:2,500)

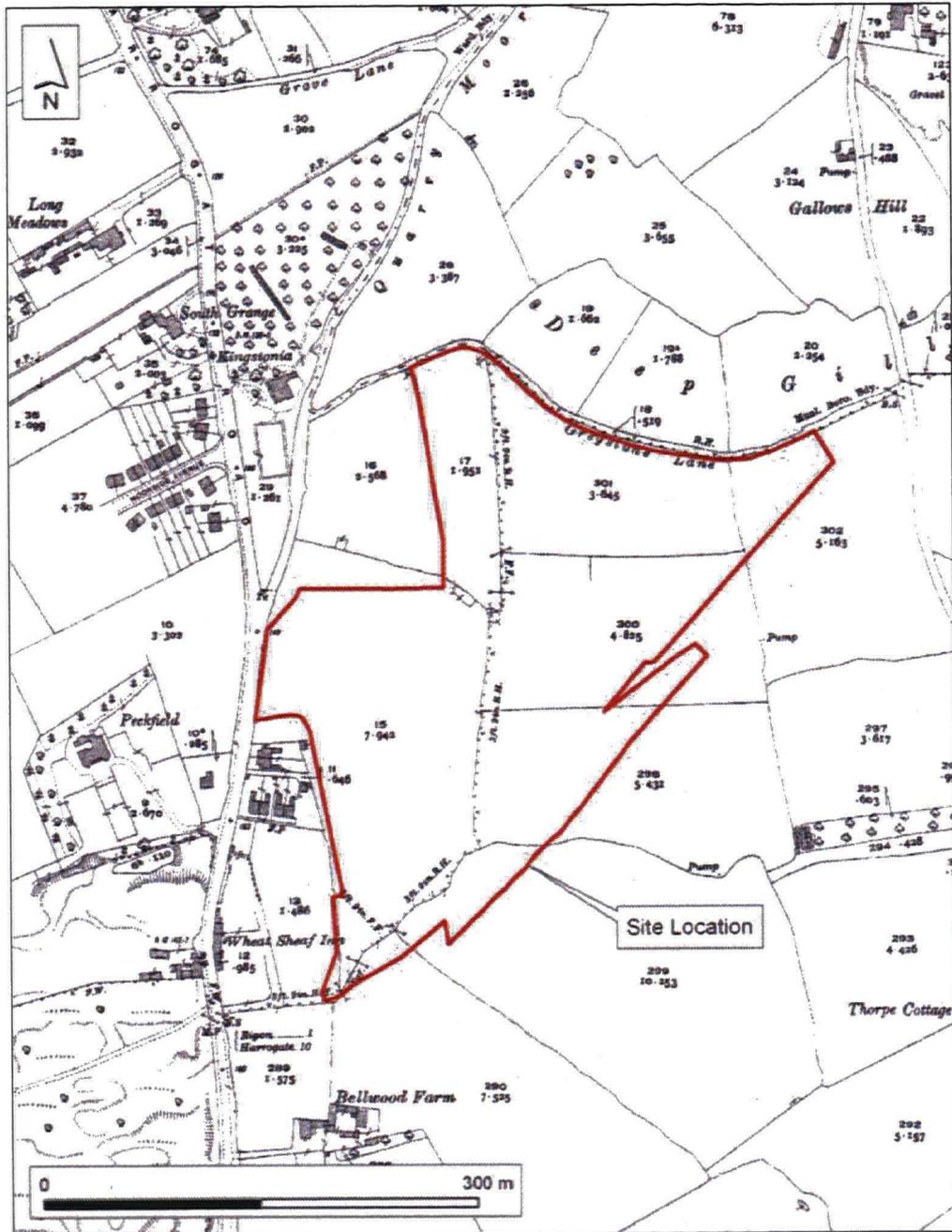
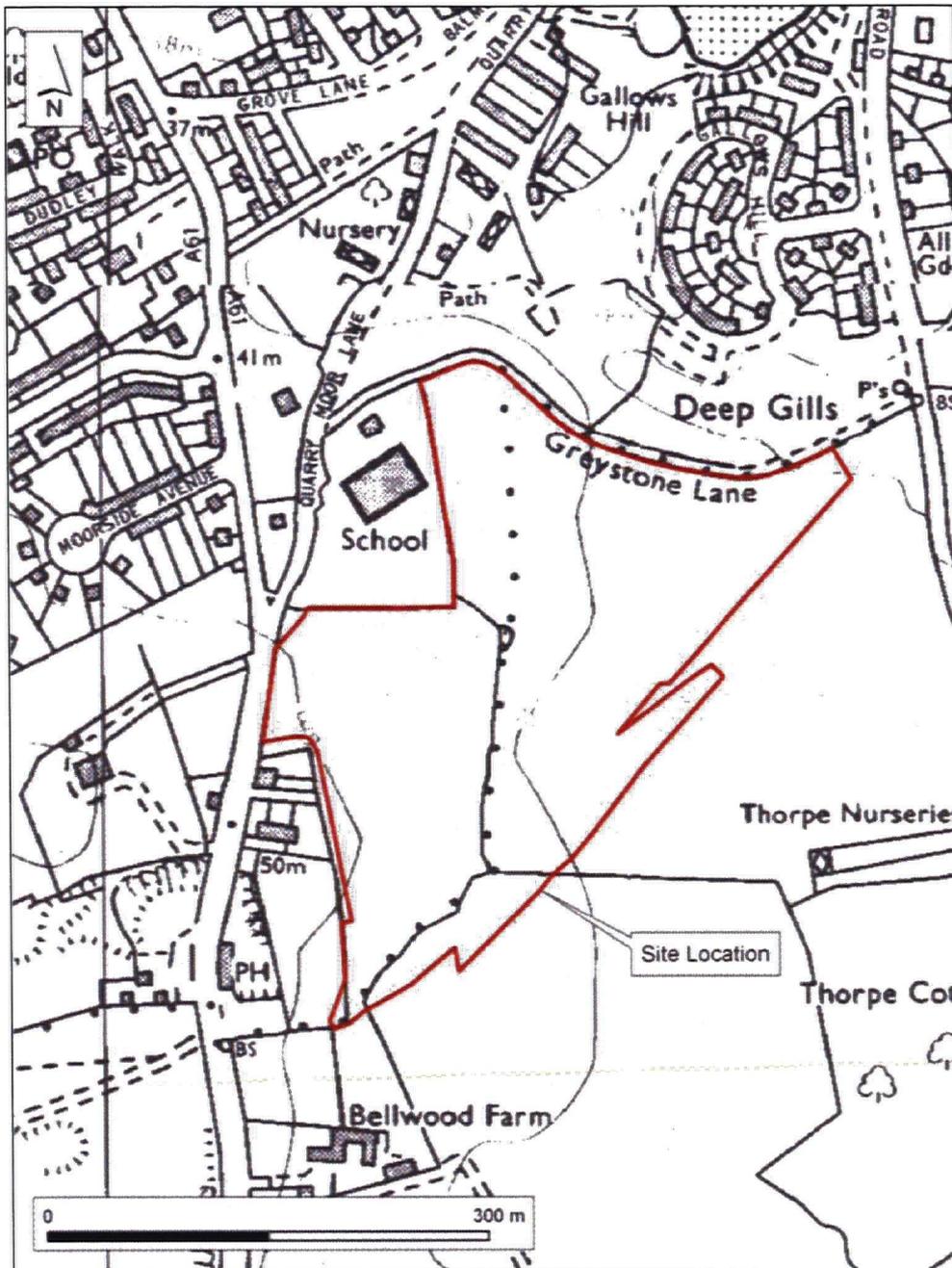


Figure 15: 1980 OS Map (1:10,000)



**Figure 16: Aerial view of site location, 1976 (img PVA 7762 073)**



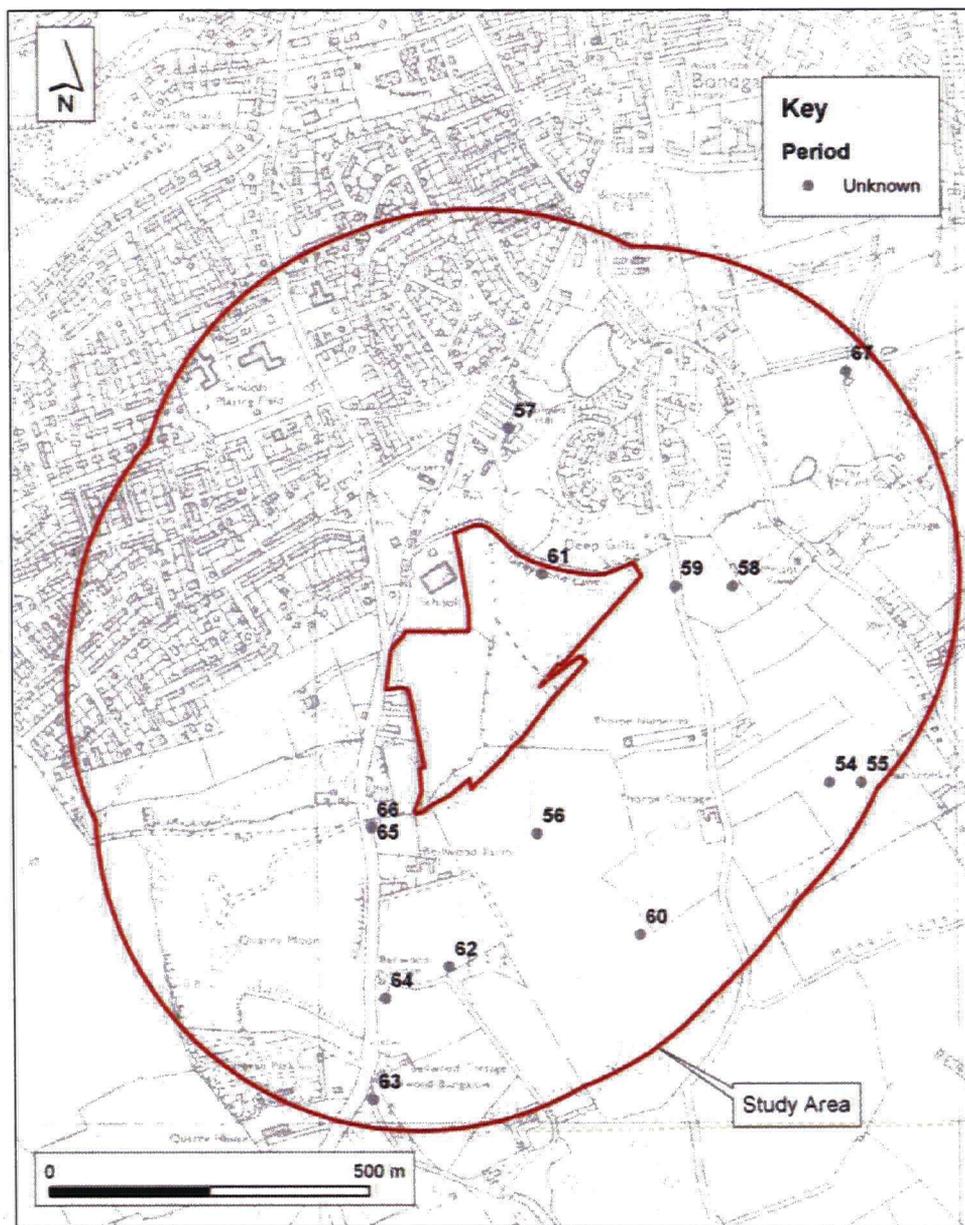
### **6.2.8 Unknown Date**

There are a number of recorded features within the study area which are undated and cannot be ascribed a possible period (Figure 17). They include site **54** (an unidentified cropmark), site **55** (an unidentified metal detector find) site **57** (stone objects findspot) and site **67** (a watching brief on drainage works).

### **6.2.9 Historic Landscape Characterisation**

The historic landscape characterisation project for North Yorkshire has recorded two types of land classification within the current site boundary. The western portion (which includes the existing supermarket) forms part of a much larger land unit identified as modern development to the south of Ripon. The undeveloped portion of the site is described as '*an area of modern planned enclosure which has mainly resulted from boundary loss in the modern period and consists of medium sized semi irregular fields defined by regular external and straight internal hedges*'. This classification does not observe the presence of the township boundary which has guided the evolution of the field patterns in this location.

Figure 17: Location of sites referred to in text (unknown date)



### 6.2.10 Previous Investigations

There have been no previous archaeological investigations at the site.

A geotechnical investigation was carried out by Wardell Armstrong in 2001 which comprised the excavation of 21 test pits, 6 percussive boreholes, 8 rotary boreholes, downhole and surface transect geophysics. It is noted that the geophysics methodology employed (producing reconstructed section profiles through the bedrock) is not suitable for archaeological interpretation.

The test pit logs have been assessed and the key features summarised in Table 1 below. Overall there is a very uniform covering of approximately 0.3m of topsoil overlying clay subsoil, the subsoil varying in depth between 0.3m and 2.8m. Variations in the subsoil were

noted in test pits 19 and 20, in which gravel was encountered. These test pits fall towards the northeast corner of the development site.

Made ground was noted in test pits 21 and 22 at the far northeast corner of the site. The descriptions suggest this material is modern and not of archaeological origin. The considerable depth (up to 2m in test pit 22) suggests the original topography of the site dipped considerably towards the northy east. Test pit 3 also encountered a limited quantity of apparently modern brick and steel in the subsoil.

**Table 1: Summary of Geotechnical Test Pit Logs**

Test Pit	Depth of Topsoil	Depth of Subsoil	Subsoil Characteristics	Notes
1	0.2	0.6	Clay	-
2	0.2	0.4	Clay	-
3	0.4	1.3	Clay	Contains brick, steel pipe, wire
4	0.35	0.95	Clay	-
5	0.3	1.8	Clay	-
6	0.3	0.7	Clayey Sand	-
7	0.3	0.6	Clay	-
8	0.3	1.1	Clay	-
9	0.2	1.0	Clay	-
10	0.3	1.0	Clay	-
11	0.2	0.55	Clay	-
12	0.3	2.8	Clay	-
13	0.3	1.1	Clay	-
14	0.3	0.8	Clay	-
15	0.2	0.4	Clay	-
16	0.3	0.6	Clay	-
17	0.3	0.7	Clay	-
18	0.3	1.1	Clay	-
19	0.4	0.3	Gravel	-
20	0.4	1.0	Sand and Gravel	-
21	0.2	0.4	Made ground over gravel	Made ground contains post medieval refuse (ceramics, bottle glass, metal)
22	0.4	2.0	Made ground over clay	Made ground contains glass, ceramic, metal

Beyond the site boundary there have been a number of archaeological interventions, including the discovery of cemetery sites at Gallows Hill to the north, and a watching brief during the construction of the Ripon Bypass during which a World War One encampment was recorded to the south of the current development area.

#### **6.2.11 Aerial Photographs**

The National Monuments Record has been consulted and vertical aerial photographs obtained for the site dating between 1945 and 1993. Copies of these are reproduced below (site centred) and described in Table 2. In summary the early photographs indicate the site under arable cultivation with photos taken in 1945 providing poor visibility of cropmarks. Shots taken in 1972, 77, 90 and 93 give a greater indication of below-ground conditions, with

shot MAL/77010.46 (Figure 21) clearly showing the pattern of former field boundaries in the early season crop.

None of the photographs suggest the presence of archaeological remains in the area identified in the Historic Environment Record. It should be noted however that visibility of cropmarks is subject to considerable seasonal variation and heavily dependent on the nature of the landuse at the time the photograph was taken.

**Table 2: NMR Aerial Photographs Consulted**

Sortie number	Frame number	Date	Focal length (in inches)	Film details (in inches)	East	North	Figure
RAF/106G/UK/475	4068	06 JUL 1945	20	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	431200	469700	18
RAF/106G/UK/627	4111	10 AUG 1945	20	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	431500	469600	19
OS/72337	578	21 AUG 1972	12	Black and White 9 x 9	431300	469500	20
MAL/77010	46	18 MAY 1977	6	Black and White 9 x 9	431600	469700	21
OS/90020	13	17 MAR 1990	6	Black and White 9 x 9	431200	431500	22
OS/93244	18	27 JUN 1993	12	Black and White 9 x 9	431500	470000	23

**Figure 18: RAF/106G/UK/475 (July 1945)**



**Figure 19: RAF/106G/UK/627 (August 1945)**



**Figure 20: OS/72337 (August 1972)**



**Figure 21: MAL/77010 (May 1977)**



**Figure 22: OS/90020 (March 1990)**



**Figure 23: OS/93244 (June 1993)**



## 7.0 DISCUSSION OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

The results of the desk study indicate that the site is unlikely to contain significant archaeological remains associated with settlement of any period. Cropmarks recorded within the site boundary appear likely to be associated with removed field boundaries dated to the post medieval period and topographical features rather than archaeological features; the uneven topography of the site is attributable to natural geological processes and is unlikely to have represented a suitable location for settlement.

Prehistoric remains in the locality are confined to stray artefacts. Geotechnical investigation has shown that there are no surviving palaeoenvironmental deposits within the site which would represent a significant resource for assessment.

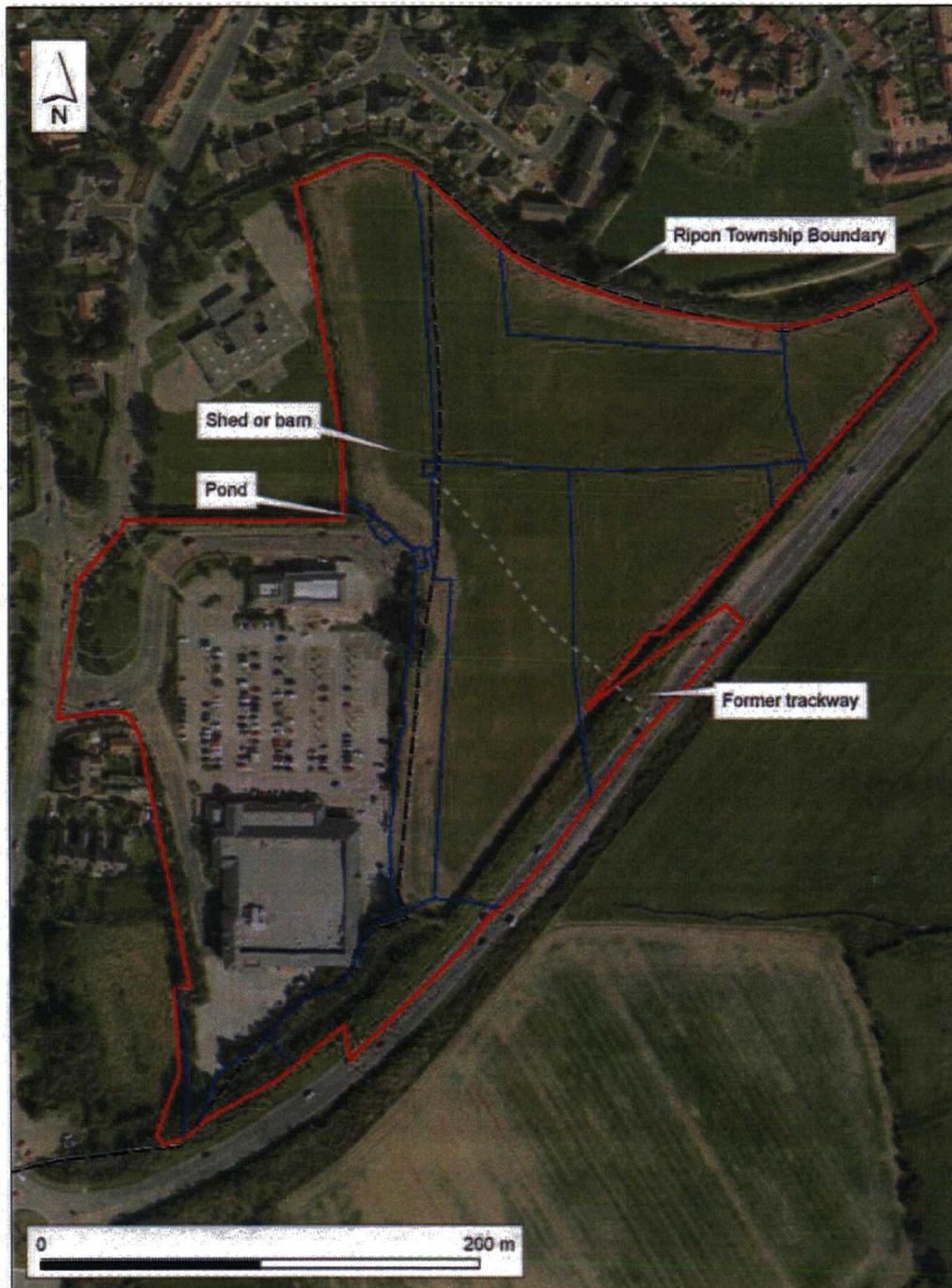
The site occupies a marginal position at the boundary between Ripon and Littlethorpe parishes, beyond the town gallows in an area dominated by agriculture and later mineral extraction. Although the northern site boundary has significance as part of the re-established Sanctuary Way, the presence or absence of this boundary in the early medieval period is not known and is unlikely to have left physical traces.

The strongest potential for buried remains to be present within the site is for former field boundaries, ponds and farm structures dating from the early and later post medieval period. The position of known boundaries and structures within the site are indicated in Figure 24. These have been digitised from georeferenced maps dating from 1744, 1800 and 1890. The boundaries also appear as parch marks on modern aerial photographs.

The significance of these remains should be considered as low. Their current setting (comprising invisible below-ground remains physically separated from adjacent farmland by the Ripon Bypass) does not contribute to their significance.

This report represents a statement of the known and potential archaeological remains at the site in relation to the proposed development, and includes an assessment of the significance of the historic environment assets. It can be submitted with the planning application for the proposed scheme to inform consideration of the planning application, in line with local and national planning policies.

Figure 24: Known agricultural features (shown in blue) within site boundary



## 8.0 CLOSURE

This report has been prepared by SLR Consulting Limited with all reasonable skill, care and diligence, and taking account of the manpower and resources devoted to it by agreement with the client. Information reported herein is based on the interpretation of data collected and has been accepted in good faith as being accurate and valid.

This report is for the exclusive use of Wm Morrison Supermarkets Plc and their agents; no warranties or guarantees are expressed or should be inferred by any third parties. This report may not be relied upon by other parties without written consent from SLR.

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**APPENDIX A**  
**Gazetteer of Heritage Assets**

### Gazetteer of Known Heritage Assets in the Study Area

Site No	Source	Source Identifier	Type	Description	Period
1	HER	MNY35737	FINDSPOT	polished stone axe-head of the Neolithic period. It is made of sandstone and is very smoothly polished.	Neolithic
2	HER	MNY35714	FINDSPOT	An assemblage of seven buckles was found by metal detecting.	Roman
3	HER	MNY35683	RIDGE AND FURROW	An area of ridge and furrow ploughing in part of a field or garden adjoining the southern corner of The Mount,	Medieval
4	HER	MNY35709	FINDSPOT	A 15th century greenglaze pottery sherd was found	Medieval
5	HER	MNY35637	TRACKWAY	trackway approximately 300m east of Quarry Moor is visible on aerial photographs of 1966 and 1973.	Medieval
6	HER	MNY35638	SETTLEMENT	Traces of a possible settlement located 300m east of Quarry Moor are visible on aerial photographs of 1966 and 1973. This is a possible toft and croft settlement with a back lane to the south	Medieval
7	HER	MNY35639	RIDGE AND FURROW	An area of ridge and furrow ploughing situated 300m east of Quarry Moor, is visible on aerial photographs of 1966 and 1973.	Medieval
8	HER	MNY35644	RIDGE AND FURROW	area of ridge and furrow ploughing located 400m north of Thorpe Cottage	Medieval
9	HER	MNY33692	CEMETERY	Bodies of convicts found on river bank site of what were formerly Bishop's fishponds (Medieval)	Medieval
10	HER	MNY33693	CEMETERY	Bodies of convicts found on clearing bankside on site of former Bishop's fishpond (Medieval)	Medieval
11	HER	MNY35695	FINDSPOT	A coin of Henry the Great (dated 1660?) found by metal detecting.	Post Medieval
12	HER	MNY35699	FINDSPOT	Brass decorative label holders were found by metal detecting.	Post Medieval
13	HER	MNY35700	FINDSPOT	An eighteenth century or earlier ? metal awl was found by metal detecting.	Post Medieval
14	HER	MNY35704	FINDSPOT	A Tudor clothing fastener was found by metal detecting.	Post Medieval
15	HER	MNY35715	FINDSPOT	A strap end buckle dated 1600 was found by metal detecting as part of an assemblage.	Post Medieval
16	HER	MNY35716	FINDSPOT	A Tudor spectacle buckle was found by metal detecting as part of an assemblage.	Post Medieval
17	HER	MNY35717	FINDSPOT	A 16th century decorated sword belt buckle of was found by metal detection as part of an assemblage.	Post Medieval
18	HER	MNY35718	FINDSPOT	A rectangular buckle dated 15th to 16th centuries was found by metal detecting and was part of an assemblage.	Post Medieval

Site No	Source	Source Identifier	Type	Description	Period
19	HER	MNY35719	FINDSPOT	A shoe buckle, dated 17th to 18th century and part of an assemblage, was found by metal detecting.	Post Medieval
20	HER	MNY35726	FINDSPOT	A circular copper alloy Nuremberg Jeton made for counting (like an abacus). Late sixteenth century (1560-1620).	Post Medieval
21	HER	MNY19809	GALLOWS	Site of Gallows, Gallows Hill	Post Medieval
22	HER	MNY35689	FINDSPOT	A Georgian copper alloy flat iron stand found by metal detecting.	Post Medieval
23	HER	MNY35708	FINDSPOT	A Henry VIII penny found by metal detecting.	Post Medieval
24	HER	MNY35724	FINDSPOT	Charles 1 silver shilling was found by metal detecting	Post Medieval
25	HER	MNY35739	DROVE ROAD	outgang is first depicted on this map as a triangular-shaped feature with its opening to the A61	Post Medieval
26	HER	MNY35740	FOOTPATH	footpath is first depicted on 1856 map going east to Mankin Lane (leading to Littlethorpe)	Post Medieval
27	HER	MNY35226	FINDSPOT	Strap fitting	Post Medieval
28	HER	MNY35612	TRIANGULATION PILLAR	This triangulation pillar is first depicted on 1856 OS map some 80m south of Mount Pleasant in Ripon City.	19th century
29	HER	MNY35673	GRAVEL PIT	Gravel Pit Depicted on 1892 OS Map	19th century
30	HER	MNY35712	FINDSPOT	A book clasp of Victorian date was found by metal detecting.	19th century
31	HER	MNY35721	FINDSPOT	A ladies Victorian belt buckle was found by metal detecting as part of an assemblage.	19th century
32	HER	MNY35727	FINDSPOT	A Late Edwardian iron doorstep of a horse and rider (part).	19th century
33	HER	MNY35609	WATER PUMP	The pump is first depicted on 1856 OS	19th century
34	HER	MNY35617	COAL DEPOT; RAILWAY SYSTEM	first depicted on 1856 map as Coal Depot	19th century
35	HER	MNY35623	WATER PUMP	water pump is first depicted on two editions of the 1856 map	19th century
36	HER	MNY35696	FINDSPOT	A 19th century paraffin lamp wick adjuster (?) was found by metal detecting.	19th century
37	HER	MNY35738	WATER PUMP	water pump, located in fields 230m north-east of St.Helen's Well	19th century

Site No	Source	Source Identifier	Type	Description	Period
38	HER	MNY35524	LIME KILN	The 1856 OS map first shows a complex of four limekilns associated with the Quarry Moor limestone quarry	19th century
39	HER	MNY35523	QUARRY	Quarry Moor limestone quarry is first shown in 1856 with the probability of use until at least 1929.	19th century
40	HER	MNY35597	MILESTONE	The 1856 first shows the location of a milestone a few metres south of the boundary between Littlethorpe and Ripon City.	19th century
41	HER	MNY35762	WATER PUMP	A water pump 130m south-east of The Mount and within a field away from The Mount estate is depicted only on this map. It was presumably for agricultural use.	Modern
42	HER	MNY35691	FINDSPOT	A modern pump non-return valve flap was found by metal detecting.	Modern
43	HER	MNY35720	FINDSPOT	Ladies costume jewellery buckle, modern, was found by metal detecting as part of an assemblage.	Modern
44	HER	MNY35749	WATER PUMP	A water pump, marked as 'P', is first depicted on 1909 map.	Modern
45	HER	MNY35502	MILITARY CAMP	a possible site of a World War I military camp to the south-east of Ripon City centre	Modern
46	HER	MNY35694	FINDSPOT	A child's silver thimble was found by metal detecting.	Modern
47	HER	MNY35757	GLASSHOUSE	This feature marked 'Nurseries', but with the symbol denoting glasshouses, is first depicted on 1909 map.	Modern
48	HER	MNY35758	BOUNDARY STONE	A boundary stone is first depicted on 1909 map at the point where the Knaresborough road crosses Littlethorpe and Ripon City	Modern
49	HER	MNY35761	BOUNDARY STONE	A boundary stone situated on the west of Littlethorpe Lane on the Ripon/Littlethorpe parish boundary is first depicted on 1909 OS	Modern
50	HER	MNY35225	FINDSPOT	A copper alloy ring, 1.8cm in diameter and dated 19th to 20th century	Modern
51	HER	MNY35599	BOUNDARY STONE	A boundary stone, on the Ripon/Littlethorpe parish boundary where it crosses the Ripon - Harrogate road,	Modern
52	HER	MNY35759	BOUNDARY STONE	A boundary stone is first depicted on 1909 map where the A61 crosses the boundaries of Ripon and Littlethorpe parishes.	Modern
53	HER	MNY23627	MILITARY CAMP	Possible World War I Military Camp, near Ripon	Modern
54	HER	MNY35681	CROPMARK	An oval shaped anomaly within a possibly modern field boundary, 175m north-east of Thorpe Cottage, is visible on photographs of 1966 and 1973. It is not known what this feature may represent.	Unknown
55	HER	MNY35713	FINDSPOT	A possible strap mount of unknown date was found by metal detecting.	Unknown
56	HER	MNY19625	ROAD		Unknown

Site No	Source	Source Identifier	Type	Description	Period
57	HER	MNY35223	FINDSPOT	Uncharacterised collection of iron stained stone collected as part of a community archaeology programme	Unknown
58	HER	MNY35642	SETTLEMENT	complex of dark circular features which underlies ridge and furrow ploughing (record no. 60330327), is visible on aerial photographs of 1973.	Unknown
59	HER	MNY35643	ENCLOSURE	This C-shaped, light-coloured feature is visible on aerial photographs of 1973.	Unknown
60	HER	MNY35647	TRACKWAY	trackway aligned north-west/south-east is visible on aerial photographs of 1966 and 1973.	Unknown
61	HER	MNY35682	BUILDING, ENCLOSURE	A line of four possible enclosures, each measuring 30 x 20m, is visible on aerial photographs of 1973. The plots, which may have had dwellings, lie on the south side of a lane 100m south of the southern edge of Gallows Hill Estate and 180m east of a school. This lane has been superceded by the A61 Ripon Bypass	Unknown
62	HER	MNY35688	TRACKWAY	double-banked trackway crossing a field south of Bellwood Farm,	Unknown
63	HER	MNY35492 MNY11237	WELL	a well described as possible Romano-British or earlier period, situated approximately 165m southeast of Quarry House. Only name evidence to suggest age and is unlikely to be of any antiquity.	Unknown
64	HER	MNY35640	TRACKWAY	A track, approximately 250m in length, crossing two modern fields and situated 250m south-west of Bellwood Farm	Unknown
65	HER	MNY24998	BOUNDARY STONE	boundary stone, situated on east side of A61	Unknown
66	HER	MNY25004	MILEPOST	milepost, situated on the eastside of the A61	Unknown
67	HER	MNY33865	none	Watching Brief: Drainage	Unknown

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