AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION OF LAND PROPOSED FOR DEVELOPMENT AT LARKSPUR DRIVE, EASTBOURNE, EAST SUSSEX.

N. G. R. TQ 61850 02900

Project Number 09 / 07

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Figure 16: Trench location plan showing confirmed presence of blue – grey marine clay, possible palaeochannel(s) and modern cut

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ABSTRACT.

An archaeological field evaluation of land proposed for development at Larkspur Drive, Eastbourne was undertaken by C. G. Archaeology.

The site is located on the edge of the Willingdon Levels, home to some of arguably the most important prehistoric remains in the country.

However, the excavation of eleven 10.0.m. – long and 1.50m. – wide trenches and one 5.0.m. – long and 1.50m. – wide trench failed to expose a single feature or artefact of archaeological note.

A deposit of freshwater peat, sandwiched between an upper layer of alluvial clay and an underlying blue – grey marine clay was exposed across the western 'half' of the site. Nevertheless, it is believed that the proposed nursing home development is highly unlikely to impact upon any cuts, structures or finds of archaeological significance.

1.0. INTRODUCTION.

1.1. A S P Town Planning and Development Consultancy and their clients G & J Seddon Limited are currently preparing a planning application for the construction of a nursing home and associated amenities on land located at Larkspur Drive, Eastbourne, East Sussex (N. G. R. TQ 61850 02900) (Figure 1).

1.2. The land proposed for development is sited within a defined Archaeologically Sensitive Area (ASA) that encompasses a tract of marshland known as the Willingdon Levels.

1.3. The Willingdon Levels are home to some of arguably the most important prehistoric remains in the country. These include a rare timber platform (Shinewater Platform) used for occupation during the Late Bronze Age (c.900 – 800 BC) and an associated timber causeway (Shinewater Track) both found on land that today forms part of Shinewater Park. Four other prehistoric alignments have also been discovered across the Levels (see Section 5.0. for further details).

1.4. On the advice of Greg Chuter the East Sussex County Council Assistant Archaeologist, C. G. Archaeology was commissioned by G & J Seddon Limited to carry – out an archaeological desk – based assessment and subsequent field evaluation of the proposed development site prior to the submission / determination of the prospective planning application.

1.5. The archaeological desk – based assessment of the site has been completed by C. G. Archaeology and a report on the research (Greatorex 2009a) approved by Casper Johnson the East Sussex County Council Archaeologist.

1.6. This document presents the results of the subsequent archaeological field evaluation undertaken at the site. The geological, archaeological and

historical background information presented below (see sections 4.0., 5.0., 6.0., 7.0. and 8.0.) was first collated within the aforementioned desk – based assessment (Greatorex 2009a).

1.7. The archaeological methodology employed during the fieldwork was based upon a targeted Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by Christopher Greatorex of C. G. Archaeology in accordance with the East Sussex County Council document "Standards for archaeological fieldwork, recording and post-excavation work in East Sussex" (April 2008) and approved by Casper Johnson (Greatorex 2009b).

1.8. The field evaluation was undertaken by Christopher Greatorex and Mike Seager Thomas of C. G. Archaeology on the 9th , 10th and 13th July 2009.

1.9. C. G. Archaeology would like to thank Casper Johnson and Greg Chuter of East Sussex County Council for their assistance with the organisation of the project.

1.10. It is intended that the results of both the archaeological desk – based assessment and field evaluation will be included within the forthcoming planning application (see sections 1.1. and 1.4.).

2.0. SITE CHARACTER AND IMPACTS (PRIOR TO FIELD EVALUATION).

2.1. The site proposed for development occupies an essentially triangular – shaped plot of land bounded by Larkspur Drive to the east, Willingdon and West Langney Sewer to the west and a fence marking the perimeter of the 'Just Learning Nursery' to the south. The ground rises sharply in the south – east corner of the site (Figure 1) but is otherwise relatively flat.

2.2. The pumping station shown on figures 1, 2, 3 and 13 has clearly had a significant impact on the proposed development site. This pumping station is connected to the area's main sewerage system. Furthermore, the foul sewer and two foul pumping mains that enter and leave the station are set within a statutory 8m. – wide 'wayleave'. Other services linked to the station comprise two smaller foul sewers, an overflow swale and an electricity cable. A short length of gas pipe also cuts across the south – east corner of the site. Currently, the pumping station is accessed via a short road that leaves Larkspur Drive. The impacts described above are recorded on Figure 3.

3.0. DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS.

3.1. The preliminary site plan prepared by Cound Webber Architects shows that the proposed nursing home comprises a c.60m. – long and c.14m. – wide 'L – shaped' structure located just c.5m. from the Willingdon and West Langney Sewer (Figure 2). It is intended that a new driveway will lead from Larkspur Drive to the east – facing front of the building, a car park for 14 vehicles and the still *in-situ* pumping station highlighted in Section 2.2. The architects plan also depicts a 'kitchen yard', 'garden terrace', and separate 'garden area'. The steeply - banked south – east corner of the site (see Section 2.1.) is to be 'planted to Landscape Architects design'. The current access road from Larkspur Drive to the pumping station will be filled – in.

4.0. GEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND.

4.1. The 1: 50,000 British Geological Survey (Sheet 319: Lewes) indicates that the site under current consideration lies at the junction of Alluvium and Weald Clay.

4.2. Prior to the fieldwork carried – out by C. G. Archaeology no geotechnical investigations had been undertaken across the precise area of proposed development. Nevertheless, the detailed stratigraphic formation of the Willingdon Levels has been the subject of intensive palaeoenviromental and archaeological study since the early 1980s (see Section 16.0. for bibliography). A brief summation of the information gained from this work is presented in Section 5.3.

5.0. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGOUND: THE WILLINGDON LEVELS.

5.1. Much of the information presented within this section of the report has been extracted from the paper "Living on the margins? The Late Bronze Age landscape of the Willingdon Levels" (Greatorex 2003). Other published articles and developer – funded reports on archaeological / palaeoenvironmental work undertaken across the Levels are listed in the project bibliography (see Section 16.0.). Maps showing the location and Late Bronze Age setting of the discoveries described below can be found in the archaeological desk – based assessment prepared by C. G. Archaeology (Greatorex 2009a: figures 6 and 8). These plans are not reproduced here.

5.2. Introduction.

5.2.1. The proposed development site lies within a defined Archaeologically Sensitive Area (ASA) that encompasses an expanse of marshland located between Polegate and Eastbourne, known as the Willingdon Levels. The Levels are home to arguably some of the most important prehistoric archaeological remains in the country. An overlying layer of clay has protected the evidence physically, while helping to trap moisture and thus maintain a high ground-water content. The anaerobic character of the resultant waterlogged deposits has impeded bacterial and fungal decay and hence preserved a range of organic materials that would have perished in dry conditions.

5.2.2. Perhaps the most exciting discoveries made so far comprise a rare wooden platform (Shinewater Platform) used for occupation during the Late Bronze Age (c.900 – 800 BC) and an associated timber causeway (Shinewater Track). The main platform site is located just c.250m. to the west of the proposed nursing home development, on land that today forms part of Shinewater Park. Four other prehistoric alignments have also been revealed across the Levels.

5.3. The shifting coastline.

5.3.1. The Willingdon Levels occupy a former small valley which as early as 10,000 years ago was steadily silting with blue - grey clay as the sea encroached. Yet by about 2,900 BC the sea had begun to recede from the inlet except at high tide. This process was initiated by the accumulation of thick mud under salt-marsh conditions and probably aided by the formation of a raised sand and gravel bank that crossed and therefore protected the entrance of the bay. Consequent peat growth in the less salty conditions eventually created a relatively dry surface upon which the Late Bronze Age platform and causeway found to the west of the proposed nursing home development were constructed.

5.3.2. However settlement soon became untenable, for towards the end of the Bronze Age at around 800 BC the sea again entered the Levels, eventually sealing the archaeological remains beneath another thick layer of clay. This marine inundation was almost certainly induced by the depletion of the sand and gravel bank that once shielded the marsh and thus provided the drier conditions suitable for peat growth. Such erosion may well have been exacerbated by the climatic shift towards cooler and probably stormier conditions thought to have affected north-west Europe during the period c.850 – 760 BC. Even so, it should be noted that there is no evidence for a long term regional increase in the rate of relative sea – level rise at this time.

5.3.3. The Willingdon Levels remained an estuary until the development of the shingle beach today known as the Crumbles in the 12th century AD. The year 1236 AD marked a period of exceptionally poor weather that continued until1288. Yet protected by the Crumbles it proved possible to reclaim the Willingdon Levels for agricultural purposes.

5.4. The prehistoric remains.

5.4.1. In 1995 an extraordinary wooden platform occupied during the Late Bronze Age was discovered on the Willingdon Levels (N. G. R. TQ 6155 0295). This structure (Shinewater Platform) comprised a dense raft of horizontally – lain timbers placed on the uppermost surface of the buried peat and seemingly secured by hundreds of vertical worked oak posts, some almost 3m. long. Preserved within waterlogged deposits now sealed beneath a c.0.65m. - thick layer of alluvial clay, the surviving platform is thought to cover an area of about 2,000m^2.

5.4.2. Although subject to only limited archaeological investigation, it is known that the wooden platform was immediately overlain by intermittent patches of sandy gravel and possible reed or rush matting. Three intact hearths raised above the horizontal timbers on clay mounds have also been recorded. As yet, the nature of any standing buildings associated with these features and deposits remains a matter of conjecture. Nevertheless, artistic impressions of the site show a lively cluster of roundhouses, enclosures and pathways surrounded by a low fence. The use of rectangular sheds, barns, temporary pens, open shelters, windbreaks and tents should also be considered. Of course, only future excavation will determine the accuracy of such an interpretation. In any case, the remarkable quality of timber preservation suggests that a vast body of important structural information awaits collation and analysis.

5.4.3. A distinctive 0.20m. – thick layer of accumulated cultural debris incorporating large quantities of pottery, animal bone, quernstone fragments, worked and burnt flints was located above the platform surface. Such finds are clearly indicative of Late Bronze Age settlement activity dating to the period c.900 – 800 BC. Furthermore, the peat from the area of the platform has yielded a number of finely - crafted bronze artefacts, namely four axes, a chisel and a bracelet. One of the recovered axes matches a style usually found in northern Holland and north-west Germany and thus provides

evidence of inter-continental trade and / or exchange. However, the most sensational discovery is a unique bronze reed hook complete with intact field maple handle. This exceptional item possessed a short blade for efficient cutting and a crooked end designed to prevent the implement from slipping from the user's grasp. Other notable artefacts include a rare antler bridal piece, four amber beads, a shale bracelet and two lead pendants. Clearly the site has already produced a remarkable collection of material. Indeed, the exceptional range and calibre of the recovered artefacts demonstrates that the community held a position of great importance within the region and beyond.

5.4.4. The apparently pristine condition of the bronze axes and reed hook and their location below the level of the platform structure suggests that at least some of the higher status artefacts found at the site were deposited ritually rather than simply lost or discarded. About 50 human bones have also been recorded from the area of the platform. During the later prehistoric period, the ritual / ceremonial deposition of both metalwork and human remains may well have formed a coherent programme of appeasement to nature and the 'afterlife'. It would therefore appear that the Willingdon Levels were significant within the Bronze Age landscape for reasons additional to subsistence, trade and exchange.

5.4.5. It is believed that during the Late Bronze Age a channel large enough for the accommodation of small boats provided an accessible link between the main platform complex and the sea. The platform was also connected to higher dry land towards the south-west by a huge wooden causeway (Shinewater Track) itself at least partly sited alongside the edge of a second potentially navigable watercourse. Held in place by three parallel rows of vertical oak posts, this impressive 6m. – wide and at least 250m. - long timber structure would clearly have provided a safe and direct route across the boggy and increasingly flooded marsh. However, the alignment is wider than most recorded Bronze Age trackways and more substantial than would be expected for a simple walkway or drove road. As such, the possibility of the remains once possessing an additional role within the contemporary landscape should

not be discounted. Indeed, one recent theory contests that the causeway supported a number of modest rectangular buildings and may have even functioned as a bustling quay or wharf. A limited archaeological excavation of the structure undertaken in the winter of 1995 / 6 certainly gleaned a fair assemblage of pottery, animal bone and worked flint. An incomplete shale bracelet, a bronze blade tip and an extremely unusual bronze skinning knife were also recovered. It should be noted that no conclusive evidence for a trackway linking the main platform site with higher ground to the *east* has as yet been discovered.

5.4.6. Even so, two other trackways of confirmed Bronze Age origin have been recorded across an area of the Levels known locally as Dittons. Aligned in an approximate north-east to south-west direction, the first such structure (Dittons Alignment 1) comprised two parallel rows of paired, vertical oak, ash and alder posts set approximately 0.50m. apart (N. G. R. TQ 598 040). This possible raised walkway was exposed over a distance of 100m. and radiocarbon dated to the period 1440 – 1310 cal BC (BM-3060; 3100 +/- 50BP). A single meandering line of pointed oak, alder and wild cherry stakes marked the route of the second Dittons discovery (Dittons Alignment 2) (N. G. R. TQ 600 041). These pegs secured a 46m. - long and 1.40m. - wide series of horizontally lain rods and larger timbers which almost certainly constituted the track surface. The structure headed in a rough north-west to south-east direction and has been assigned a radiocarbon date of 2460 – 2205 cal BC (Beta-106608; 3870 +/- 70BP). The total length and ultimate destination of the two described alignments remains a mystery. Nevertheless, the prehistoric utilization of the local landscape many centuries before the construction of the platform and associated causeway c.2km. to the south-east is indisputable.

5.4.7. Other major discoveries made on the Levels include an enigmatic 8m. – wide and at least 30m. - long clay causeway or bank flanked by ditches at N. G. R. TQ 6141 0304. Also, a small brushwood track with a minimum length of 50m. once ran across the southern end of the marsh in an approximate east –

west direction (N. G. R. TQ 615 025). Despite an absence of detailed archaeological examination or dating, these two features are both believed to be of prehistoric origin. Clearly the main platform site formed part of a complex series of communication channels and as such must be considered as an integral and indeed dynamic element of a wider Bronze Age landscape.

5.4.8. The precise function of the platform has yet to be ascertained. However, it is thought that food was cooked and stored, cereals were processed, animals butchered and textiles manufactured. Hunting, fishing, foraging, woodland management and farming would have been undertaken, while the identification of artefacts originating from other parts of Britain and even the continent demonstrates that trade and exchange was also an important activity. Yet there was nothing anyone living or working on the site could do in the face of dramatically rising sea levels. Indeed, at about 800 BC this former thriving community was abandoned, almost certainly as a direct result of catastrophic flooding.

5.5. The prehistoric environment.

5.5.1. At the time of construction the large timber platform now located on Shinewater Park was situated towards the southern edge of a fen just 2km. from the shore. This prime site provided a brackish to freshwater environment adjacent an expanse of salt marsh and mudflats. Then the bog was dissected by a number of brackish channels that fed into the estuary covering the lower part of the Willingdon Levels. Indeed, one potentially navigable watercourse almost certainly ran alongside the easternmost edge of the platform itself. During the Late Bronze Age the fen supported grasses, reeds, sedges, scattered alder, willow and oak. However, the area was essentially open, so that anyone standing on the nearby hills could have had a clear view of the timber structures below.

5.5.2. An archaeological site can only really be understood if a picture is built - up of the surrounding contemporary landscape and its natural resources.

Fortunately, the Willingdon Levels has a vast potential for detailed environmental analysis. Surviving prehistoric plant remains include seeds and leaves as well as structural wood. Many of the plants so far identified are typical of low – lying marshland. The discovery of water-crowfoot is indicative of moderately flowing streams, while water-starwort and duckweed are suggestive of still pools or ponds. However, the co-existence of various grasses and other plants such as bramble, buttercup, stinging nettle, speedwell, forget-me-not and plantain also confirms the presence on the Levels of drier, open areas.

5.5.3. Archaeological work undertaken at the Shinewater Platform has recovered the bones of cows, sheep, goats and pigs. A high proportion of these bones were deliberately chopped and split to enable the removal of the nutritious marrow. Some other examples had been gnawed by dogs.

5.5.4. Studies show that the Bronze Age population would have had a spectacular variety of wild foods to choose from, including deer, water fowl and fish. Preserved pollen grains also indicate the harvesting of crops on the nearby downland slopes and the possible grazing of the Levels by domesticated animals. Given that timber was clearly a significant resource, the management of the local woodland must have been another important activity at the time. Indeed, laboratory analysis has demonstrated that a group of hazel rods found at the platform all possessed an enlarged first year's growth consistent with having come from a previously cut coppice stool.

5.6. Foreign connections.

5.6.1. European prehistory is characterised by contact and trade. Indeed, the exchange of ideas, artefacts, materials and food was essential if ancient societies were to survive and prosper. As such, the construction of the Shinewater Platform within easy reach of the sea and thus on the edge of a great European communication system makes perfect socio-economic sense.

5.6.2. Archaeological evidence confirms that people were regularly crossing the English Channel during the Bronze Age. Sadly, the organisation of this traffic is only poorly understood. However, it does seem logical to suggest that vessels would have sailed between sites placed strategically along the coast on either side of the water. In fact the Willingdon Levels have already yielded a number of seemingly continental artefacts that draw attention to the region's advantageous setting for socio-economic interaction. One of the bronze axes recovered from the Shinewater platform is of a type otherwise grouped across northern Holland and north-west Germany; while the collated pottery assemblage includes a few forms derived from eastern France and the Low Countries. The discovery of four amber beads is of additional note as the raw material used in the production of these decorative items almost certainly originated from the Baltic. Artefactual evidence for Late Bronze Age domestic trade and exchange networks has also been identified. The shale used to make two bracelets is thought to have come from Dorset, while a distinctive pottery bowl may have been manufactured in a Thames Valley location.

5.7. A wealth of evidence.

5.7.1. The Bronze Age platform, associated causeway and smaller trackways buried on the Levels incorporate many thousands of pieces of structural wood. As ancient timber only survives in exceptional circumstances, a study of this material would provide invaluable information on contemporary resources, species selection and woodland management. It should also enhance our appreciation of prehistoric woodworking tools and techniques. Indeed, a preliminary examination of still visible toolmarks has already confirmed that bronze axes and adzes were skilfully used to shape the sharp points found on almost all recorded vertical posts. Moreover, the recognition of at least one mortised timber demonstrates a knowledge of complex joinery. The survival of structural wood offers the additional prospect of a full dendrochronological and radiocarbon dating programme. Dendrochronology (tree-ring dating) in particular could help to establish distinct phases of

building, with individual timbers perhaps even being assigned exceptionally precise dates.

5.7.2. Further analysis of the animal and plant remains preserved so remarkably on the Levels would enable the environmental history of the area to be established in spectacular detail. Key information concerning the relationship of prehistoric communities with the natural world and the impact of these societies on their surroundings is promised.

5.7.3. The numerous artefacts recovered from the platform site are all in excellent condition and must represent only a tiny fraction of those that still await excavation. Certainly, the discovery of the unique hafted reed hook suggests that other rare items either complete with intact wooden handles or even made entirely of organic materials could be found. It is also believed that Late Bronze Age debris such as cracked pots, animal bones and broken quernstones may have been amassed at the platform in fairly undisturbed rubbish heaps known as middens. The investigation of such features can often provide evidence for the economy, diet and size of a community and help to demonstrate if a settlement was occupied all year round or seasonally.

5.7.4. Although the exact nature of human activity at the platform has yet to be ascertained, the general range and quality of the recovered artefacts and the presence of imported objects denotes a prosperous population of high regional status. In fact the elevated political standing of the site and its socio-economic interaction with other contemporary centres both at home and abroad are topics fundamental to our perception of the Sussex Bronze Age.

6.0. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND: THE COUNTY HISTORICAL ENVIRONMENT RECORD.

6.1. An inspection of the East Sussex County Historical Environment Record has produced six separate entries within a c.1km. radius of the proposed development site. These are listed in numerical order and described briefly below. A map showing the location of the sites can be found in the archaeological desk – based assessment prepared by C. G. Archaeology (Greatorex 2009a: Figure 5).

6.1.1. SMR No: MES517
Grid Ref: TQ 610 026
Date: Medieval

The postulated site of Hydneye Deserted Medieval Village. It is possible that in the 13th / 14th century a small port attached to Hastings existed at Hydneye, although there appears to be very little documentary evidence to support such a theory. In the mid 19th century, the Rev. Edward Turner published a paper in which he maintained that the earliest reference to the site was a deed of 1229, with further early mentions being found in charters dating to the period 1235 – 60 (Turner 1867). Turner also refers to the local parish clerk who "has often heard his father, who died some years ago at the advanced age of 80, speak of buildings which he could remember standing on this most remarkable *eye* (island / raised ground) the last of which was a malthouse" (Turner 1867, 29). A mound interpreted as the site of a windmill is also mentioned in the article. Some tentative digging at Hydneye during the summer of 1930 revealed fragments of medieval pottery. However, the floor of a probable barn and two carved 13th century arch stones comprised the only structural evidence recovered from these excavations (Budgen 1931). No further discoveries from the area of the supposed village have ever been reported and the site is now completely built over.

6.1.2. SMR No: MES652
Grid Ref: TQ 610 028
Date: Anglo-Saxon

A paper published in 1941 refers to an Anglo–Saxon cemetery at Hydneye (Wilson, 1941). However, no evidence for such a burial ground has ever been produced.

6.1.3. SMR No: MES7032
Grid Ref: TQ 6119 0232
Date: Modern

The site of an early 20th century 'brickfield' and wind pump.

6.1.4. SMR No: MES7033
Grid Ref: TQ 613 025
Date: Modern

A 20th century metal wind pump.

6.1.5. SMR No: MES7375
Grid Ref: TQ 6155 0295
Date: Bronze Age

A Late Bronze Age timber platform discovered on the Willingdon Levels (see Section 5.0. for details).

6.1.6. SMR No: MES8523
Grid Ref: TQ 60990 02527
Date: Bronze Age (?) and medieval

The 2nd Edition Ordnance Survey of 1899 first records the presence of a 22m. - diameter circular mound now located in the garden of the parish rectory. In

2005 a small excavation revealed a 0.60m. – wide and 0.40m. – deep undated ditch, which may once have been associated with this possible Bronze Age round barrow. Medieval pottery was also recovered from the fieldwork.

6.2. In addition to the information outlined above, it should be noted that the excavation of three archaeological trial – trenches across land attached to The Mill Public House (N. G. R. TQ 619 028) failed to uncover any archaeologically significant features or artefacts. Although this site was located just c.125m. from the intended nursing home development, it lay on higher ground overlooking the main expanse of the Willingdon Levels. Archaeological investigations undertaken in association with the creation of two lakes on West Langney Levels (located c.500m. to the south-east of the proposed nursing home) also failed to uncover a single feature, structure or artefact of archaeological significance.

7.0. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND: THE AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS.

7.1. An examination of the 1947 and 2006 aerial photographs held by East Sussex County Council failed to identify any significant features of topographical, archaeological or historical significance across the area of proposed development.

8.0. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: THE CARTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE.

8.1. The following maps were consulted at the East Sussex Record Office, Lewes.

- Map showing 'several parcels of land…in the County of Sussex' by John Harmer (E. S. R. O. ref: BMW/C10/2/7) 1811 (Figure 4)
- Tithe map and apportionment for the Parish of Westham (E. S. R. O. ref: TD/E 84/1) 1840 (Figure 5)
- 6" 1st Edition Ordnance Survey (Sheet 80 NW) 1875 (Figure 6)
- 6" Ordnance Survey (Sheet 80 NW) 1899 (Figure 7)
- 25" 1st Edition Ordnance Survey (Sheet 80 / 2) 1875 (Figure 8)
- 25" Ordnance Survey (Sheet 80 / 2) 1899 (Figure 9)
- 25" Ordnance Survey (Sheet 80 / 2) 1910 (Figure 10)
- 25" Ordnance Survey (Sheet 80 / 2) 1925 (Figure 11)
- 25" Ordnance Survey (Sheet 80 / 2) 1930 (Figure 12)

8.2. Since 1930 considerable urban development has taken place both across and on the edges of the Willingdon Levels. The Willingdon and West Langney Sewer that today forms the western perimeter of the proposed nursing home site has also been somewhat realigned. It should be noted that as a result of these significant 20th century changes in topography, it has proved difficult to 'place' the precise boundaries of the intended development on the examined plans.

8.3. Nevertheless, it is clear that each map listed above locates the footprint of the nursing home within an open field that once formed an integral part of the Willingdon Levels and changed little in character between the years 1811 and 1930.

8.4. The earliest examined map (Figure 4) confirms that in 1811 the field in question comprised part of a holding called 'The Georges' and was owned by John Fuller MP. At the time of the 1840 tithe survey (Figure 5) this same undeveloped parcel of land (plot no: 46) then known as '11 Acres', was owned by Augustus Elliot Fuller and indeed had an area of 11 acres, 2 rods and 35 perches. The tithe apportionment does not document what the field was used for. However, the joint tenants were William Woodham and John Whiteman.

8.5. Both the 1811 and 1840 maps record the presence of a possible pond, small copse or building within the northernmost corner of the field under discussion. This feature of uncertain character (location untouched by the current development proposals) is not noted in the relevant tithe apportionment and as such is unlikely to have been of particular significance. It does not appear on any of the subsequent later 19th / early 20th century plans.

8.6. The examined Ordnance Survey maps confirm that no appreciable changes were made to the field that encompasses the intended nursing home between the years 1875 (figures 6 and 8) and 1930 (Figure 12). However, a small brickworks denoted by quarry pits and associated kilns was seemingly set – up some 250m. to the east of the proposed development site (in the newly – named 'Brick Field') during the first decade of the 20th century. This period also saw the establishment / expansion of 'New Farm' on land located to the south-east of what is now The Mill Public House (Figure 10).

8.7. The examination of the cartographic evidence described above failed to identify any previously unrecorded features or structures of archaeological /

historical significance likely to be impacted upon by the proposed nursing home.

9.0. THE DESK – BASED ASSESSMENT: A SUMMARY.

9.1. The desk – based assessment previously prepared by C. G. Archaeology (Greatorex 2009a) contains a detailed consideration of the development site's perceived archaeological potential (prior to field evaluation). This theoretical appraisal was based upon a review of all collated geological, archaeological and historical background information (see sections 4.0., 5.0., 6.0., 7.0. and 8.0.) and is summarised below.

Table 1: Perceived archaeological potential of proposed development site (prior to fieldwork).

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PERIOD.	ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL.	SITES / FIND-SPOTS WITHIN 1km. OF SITE.
PALAEOLITHIC	Very low	
MESOLITHIC	Low	
NEOLITHIC	Low	
BRONZE AGE	Very high	Shinewater Platform Shinewater Track Clay causeway (?) Brushwood track (?) Bronze Age barrow (?)
IRON AGE	Low - moderate	
ROMANO-BRITISH	Low - moderate	
ANGLO-SAXON	Low	Refuted site of Anglo-Saxon cemetery
MEDIEVAL	Low - moderate	Postulated site of Hydneye Deserted Medieval Village Medieval pottery

POST-MEDIEVAL / MODERN	Low	The sites of two early 20th century brickworks Two 20th century wind pumps

10.0. PROJECT OBJECTIVES.

10.1. The following primary objectives of the field evaluation were defined within the approved Written Scheme of Investigation (see Section 1.7.).

- Establish the geological formation of the proposed development site.
- Establish the presence / absence of archaeologically significant deposits, cut features and structures across the area of proposed development.
- Ensure that all archaeological deposits, cut features and structures discovered during the fieldwork are investigated, sampled and recorded to an acceptable standard.
- Determine the extent, character, condition and date of any revealed archaeologically significant deposits, cut features and structures.
- Ensure that all significant discoveries of artefactual and / or ecofactual evidence made during the fieldwork are recorded and analysed to an acceptable standard.
- Establish the palaeoenvironmental potential of located archaeologically significant deposits, cut features and structures.
- Assess the impact of modern activity on any located archaeologically significant deposits, cut features and structures.
- Assess the potential physical and / or hydrological impact of the proposed development upon any located archaeological deposits, cut features and structures.

- Provide information on which to base future decisions concerning the treatment of any archaeologically significant deposits, cut features and structures found within the proposed development site.

11.0. INVESTIGATIVE METHODOLOGY.

11.1. Background work.

11.1.1. An examination of the East Sussex County Council Historical Environment Record and historic cartographic sources held at the East Sussex Record Office, Lewes was carried - out as part of the desk – based assessment previously prepared by C. G. Archaeology (Greatorex 2009a). Aerial photographs and all relevant published papers and developer – funded reports were also consulted during this preliminary exercise (see sections 5.0., 6.0., 7.0. and 8.0.).

11.1.2. Information on the services known to run across the site was obtained from Gawn Associates the project engineers (see Section 2.2.) (Figure 3).

11.2. Fieldwork.

11.2.1. Eleven 10.0m. - long and 1.50m. – wide trenches and one 5.0m. – long and 1.50m. – wide trench were dug across the area of proposed development in the positions shown on Figure 13. These cuttings were located to avoid the steep banking found at the south-eastern corner of the site (see Section 2.1.) (Figure 1) and the pumping station, associated services and access road described in Section 2.2. (Figure 3). The majority of the trenches were aligned in an approximate north - south direction in order to best ascertain the presence or absence of any trackways running from east to west across the Willingdon Levels and / or the survival at the site of a causeway connected to the Shinewater Platform (see Section 5.0. for details). It was believed that the two east – west aligned trenches could present a better opportunity to examine the possible interface of wetland and dry – land geological deposits. The trenching as shown encompasses an area of 172.5m. and thus comprises a c.5% sample of the proposed development site.

11.2.2. The trenches were dug under constant archaeological supervision using a tracked mechanical digger fitted with a 1.50m. – wide toothless ditching bucket. In this way the deposits described in Section 12.0. were carefully removed in spits until either the undisturbed surface of archaeologically sterile marine clay or a depth below the original ground level of between c.1.50m. and 1.90m. had been reached.

11.2.3. Each deposit stripped from the trenches was scanned with a metal detector and examined manually in order to assess its archaeological / palaeoenvironmental potential. All identified contexts were documented on individual *pro-formas*.

11.2.4. On completion, the investigated cuttings proved too deep / unstable for the safe entry of staff from C. G. Archaeology. For this reason, the thickness of each excavated deposit was measured from the top of the trenches. Sketch sections and plans were also drawn from the top of the trenches as required.

11.2.5. The location of the excavated trenches was recorded on a 1: 100 scale site plan. Where exposed the uppermost surviving surface of the Willingdon Peat (see Section 12.2.3. for description) was also levelled with respect to Ordnance Datum.

11.2.6. At the end of each working day the investigated trenches were backfilled with spoil and compacted as best as possible by machine.

11.2.7. A 35mm. black – and – white film and digital photographic record of the fieldwork was maintained as appropriate.

12.0. RESULTS OF FIELDWORK.

12.1. No cut features, structures or artefacts of archaeological significance were discovered during the fieldwork. Nevertheless, the deposits exposed within each of the investigated trenches are detailed below.

12.2. Trench A.

12.2.1. A c.0.35m. – thick layer of compact but friable, mid grey – brown silty clay and compact, yellow – grey clay overburden **(1)** containing at least c.1% 20th century ceramic building material and occasional sub – angular / angular flint inclusions (c.50mm. – 150mm.) was first stripped from the trench.

12.2.2. The overburden described above **(1)** was found to directly overlie a c.0.95m. to 1.15m. - thick deposit of extremely compact, mid yellow – grey clay **(2)**. This latter formation incorporated a c.0.10m. - thick lens of equally compact, mid green – grey clay, the top of which was located approximately 0.80m. below the original ground surface. Context 2 is here interpreted as an alluvial deposit (henceforth identified as 'alluvial clay'). However, the discovery of occasional sub – angular flint inclusions (c.20mm. – 80mm.) towards the base of the layer does suggest the presence of a possible colluvial element derived from higher ground located to the immediate east and south of the site.

12.2.3. The removal of Context 2 from the trench exposed a c.0.20m. – thick deposit of rather desiccated freshwater peat **(3)** containing numerous visible *Phragmites australis* (common reed) and occasional wood / root remains (not identified to species). It should be noted that Context 3 was not subject to specialist pedological or palaeoenvironmental examination. Even so, this formation is clearly analogous with the upper peat found elsewhere across the Willingdon Levels (see Section 5.3.1.) and as such is henceforth identified as 'Willingdon Peat'.

12.2.4. The uppermost surviving horizon of a compact, light blue – grey clay containing occasional pockets of marine shell (not identified to species) **(4)** was revealed beneath Context 3 at a maximum depth below the original ground surface of c.1.70m. Although again not subject to pedological or palaeoenvironmental analysis, Context 4 is visually indistinguishable from the basal (and archaeologically sterile) marine clay known to have been deposited across the Willingdon Levels as early as 10,000 years ago (see Section 5.3.1.). Context 4 is henceforth identified simply as 'marine clay'.

12.3. Trench B.

12.3.1. Across Trench B a layer of overburden **(1)** with an average thickness of c.0.40m. was found to overlie a c.1.15m. – thick deposit of alluvial clay **(2)**. Here the top of a c.0.30m. – thick lens of green – grey clay incorporated within Context 2 was located approximately 0.60m. below the original ground surface.

12.3.2. The excavation of Context 2 revealed an immediately underlying c.0.10m. to 0.35m. – thick layer of Willingdon Peat **(3)** that became thinner towards the northern end of the trench. An uppermost surviving horizon of marine clay **(4)** was finally exposed beneath Context 3 at a maximum depth below the original ground surface of c.1.90m.

12.4. Trench C.

12.4.1. A layer of overburden **(1)** with an average thickness of c.0.70m. was first stripped from Trench C to reveal a c.0.70m. – 1.15m. - thick deposit of alluvial clay **(2)**. The top of a 0.30m. – thick lens of green – grey clay encased within Context 2 was located approximately 0.90m. below the original ground surface.

12.4.2. The subsequent removal of Context 2 exposed the immediately underlying Willingdon Peat **(3)** across the northernmost c.7.15m. of the trench and a

compact, mid yellow clay **(5)** over the remaining c.2.85m. of the cutting. Even though the physical relationship of these two latter deposits remains a matter of conjecture, no further excavation of the 1.85m. - deep trench was undertaken for 'health and safety' reasons. Nevertheless, it is believed that Context 5 is most likely to represent the uppermost extant fill of an undated palaeochannel (also see Section 12.7.3.).

12.5. Trench D.

12.5.1. Here a c.0.60m. – thick layer of overburden **(1)** was shown to overlie a deposit of alluvial clay with a thickness of at least 1.30m. (no lens of green – grey clay observed) **(2)**. The excavation of this trench was terminated at a depth below the original ground surface of c.1.90m.

12.6. Trench E.

12.6.1. A layer of overburden **(1)** with an average thickness of c.0.60m. was initially removed from Trench E. This procedure revealed an immediately underlying c.0.90m. – thick deposit of alluvial clay **(2)**. The top of a c.0.20m. – thick lens of green – grey clay incorporated within the exposed alluvium **(2)** was recorded approximately 1.0m. from the original ground surface.

12.6.2. Context 2 was itself located above a layer of Willingdon Peat with a thickness c.0.20m. **(3)**. This peat was finally stripped from the trench to reveal the uppermost extant horizon of marine clay **(4)** at an overall depth below the original ground surface of c.1.70m.

12.7. Trench F.

12.7.1. Across this trench a layer of overburden **(1)** with a thickness of between c.0.70m. and 0.75m. was found to overlie a c.0.70m. to 0.75m. – thick deposit of alluvial clay **(2)**. The top of the c.0.20m. – thick lens of green –

grey clay encased within the alluvium **(2)** was located c.1.15m. from the original ground surface.

12.7.2. Context 2 lay above a c.0.35m. – thick deposit of Willingdon Peat **(3)** which was itself excavated until the immediately underlying marine clay **(4)** had been revealed at an overall depth below the original ground surface of c.1.85m.

12.7.3. The marine clay **(4)** here exposed beneath the Willingdon Peat **(3)** had clearly been impacted upon by a cut of undetermined width, depth, profile and date **(6)** running across the northernmost c.2.0m. of the trench in a seeming south-east to north-west direction (Figure 16). Cut 6 (unexcavated) contained an uppermost surviving fill of compact, mid yellow clay **(7)** and is interpreted as a probable palaeochannel of some antiquity. It is tempting to suggest that Context 5 (see Section 12.4.2.) and Context 6 / Context 7 represent lengths of the same large 'natural' linear feature. However, readers should note that in contrast to the stratigraphic sequence recorded for Trench F, the postulated cut discovered within Trench C **(5)** certainly did not appear to be *overlain* by Willingdon Peat **(3)**.

12.8. <u>Trench G.</u>

12.8.1. A c.0.60m. – thick layer of overburden **(1)** was first stripped from the trench. This exercise uncovered an immediately underlying deposit of alluvial clay with a thickness of c.0.90m. **(2)**. The top of a c.0.20m. – thick lens of green – grey clay incorporated within the alluvium **(2)** was found at a depth below the original ground surface of c.1.10m.

12.8.2. Context 2 was itself located above a c.0.40m. – thick layer of Willingdon Peat **(3)**. An uppermost surviving horizon of marine clay **(4)** was finally exposed beneath the peat **(3)** at a depth below the original ground surface of c.1.90m.

12.9. Trench H.

12.9.1. A layer of overburden with an average thickness of c.0.70m. **(1)** was initially removed from Trench H. It quickly became apparent that the c.0.80m. – thick deposit if alluvial clay **(2)** found below Context 1 had been cut by a large feature of 20th century origin **(9)**. Indeed, only the westernmost c.2.50m. and easternmost c.2.0m. of the trench were undisturbed by this significant intrusion.

12.9.2. The removal of the extant alluvial clay **(2)** located at the western end of the trench exposed an underlying deposit of Willingdon Peat **(3)** with an average thickness of c.0.20m. This peat **(3)** was itself excavated until the surface of a compact, mid orange – yellow clay with grey clay mottles **(8)** had been revealed at a depth below the original ground surface of c.1.70m. No interpretation for Context 8 is offered here. However, it should be noted that the top of a c.0.30m. – thick lens of green – grey clay encased within Context 2 was recorded at a depth below the original ground surface of c.1.0m.

12.9.3. The undisturbed alluvial clay **(2)** found at the eastern end of Trench H was shown to directly overlie the uppermost surviving surface of marine clay **(4)** with no intermediate organic horizon being present. It can thus be concluded that prior to the destructive impact of Cut 9, the easternmost edge of the Willingdon Peat deposit **(3)** (see Section 12.9.2.) was located at some point along the trench.

12.9.4. The precise alignment, form and function of Context 9 remains a matter of conjecture. However, it did possess a maximum recorded width of c.5.50m. and having cut layers 2, 3, 4 and 8 clearly extended below the base of the excavated trench. The single observed fill comprised a mixed deposit of compact, yellow and grey clay and dark brown organic material containing occasional concrete lumps (up to 0.60m. in 'length') and miscellaneous iron scrap **(10)**.

12.10. Trench I.

12.10.1. A c.1.70m. – thick deposit of overburden **(1)** was removed from Trench I. This excavation was terminated without any other layers, or the full profile of Context 1, being revealed.

12.11. Trench J.

12.11.1. Here a c.1.50m. – thick layer of overburden **(1)** containing a significant quantity of beach pebbles, 20th century brick and breezeblock fragments was found to directly overlie the uppermost surviving surface of marine clay **(4)**. Although clearly disturbed by modern activity, it would seem reasonable to suggest that Trench J was located beyond the easternmost edge of the Willingdon Peat **(3)** deposit discovered elsewhere across the site.

12.12. Trench K.

12.12.1. A c.1.50m. – thick deposit of *extremely* compact overburden **(1)** was (with difficulty) removed from the trench. The excavation of this 5m. – long cutting was terminated without any further layers, or indeed the full profile of Context 1 being exposed.

12.13. Trench L.

12.13.1. A layer of overburden **(1)** with a thickness of c.0.70m. was stripped from Trench L until an immediately underlying deposit of alluvial clay **(2)** had been reached (no lens of green – grey clay observed). Context 2 was excavated to an overall depth below the original ground surface of c.1.50m. No other layers were exposed within the cutting.

Table 2: Trench summary.

TRENCH NUMBER.	CONTEXT NUMBER.*	DESCRIPTION.	THICKNESS.	ORDNANCE DATUM.**
A	1	Overburden	0.35m.	
	2	Alluvial clay	0.95 – 1.15m.	
	3	Willingdon Peat	0.20m.	1.05m. O.D.
	4	Marine clay	?	
B	1	Overburden	0.40m.	
	2	Alluvial clay	1.15m.	
	3	Willingdon Peat	0.10 – 0.35m.	0.98m. O.D.
	4	Marine clay	?	
C	1	Overburden	0.70m.	
	2	Alluvial clay	0.70 – 1.15m.	
	3	Willingdon Peat Unclear relationship with Context 5	?	1.03m. O.D.
	5	Possible fill of palaeochannel Unclear relationship with Context 3	?	
D	1	Overburden	0.60m.	
	2	Alluvial clay	1.30m. +	
E	1	Overburden	0.60m.	
	2	Alluvial clay	0.90m.	
	3	Willingdon Peat	0.20m.	0.70m. O.D.
	4	Marine clay	?	

F	1	Overburden	0.70 – 0.75m.	
	2	Alluvial clay	0.70 – 0.75m.	
	3	Willingdon Peat Above Context 7	0.35m.	1.13m. O.D.
	7	Fill of possible palaeochannel Below Context 3 Fill of Context 6	?	
	6	Cut of possible palaeochannel Cuts Context 4 Filled by Context 7	?	
	4	Marine clay Cut by Context 6	?	
G	1	Overburden	0.60m.	
	2	Alluvial clay	0.90m.	
	3	Willingdon Peat	0.40m.	0.96m. O.D.
	4	Marine clay	?	
H	1	Overburden	0.70m.	
	10	Fill of 20th century feature Below Context 1 Fill of Context 9	?	
	9	Cut of 20th century feature Cuts contexts 2, 3, 4 and 8 Filled by Context 10	?	
	2	Alluvial clay Cut by Context 9	0.80m.	
	3	Willingdon Peat Above Context 8 Cut by Context 9	0.20m.	1.17m. O.D.

	8	Compact orange - yellow clay Below Context 3 Cut by Context 9 Unclear relationship with Context 4	?	
	4	Marine clay Below Context 2 Cut by Context 9 Unclear relationship with Context 8	?	
I	1	Overburden	1.70m.+	
J	1	Overburden	1.50m.	
	4	Marine clay	?	
K	1	Overburden	1.50m.+	
L	1	Overburden	0.70m.	
	2	Alluvial clay	0.80m.+	

* Contexts tabulated in broad stratigraphic sequence

** Level taken from uppermost surface of Willingdon Peat in the centre of the trench

13.0. SUMMARY.

13.1. Despite the perceived archaeological potential of the proposed development site (see Table 1 for summary) the field evaluation undertaken at Larkspur Drive, Eastbourne did not uncover a single cut feature, structure or artefact of archaeological significance.

13.2. Nevertheless, a layer of rather dry freshwater peat **(3)** analogous to that located elsewhere across the Willingdon Levels was exposed over the western 'half' of the site (trenches A, B, C, E, F, G and H) (Figure 15). Within trenches A, B, E, F and G this organic horizon was sandwiched between an upper layer of alluvial clay **(2)** and an underlying blue – grey marine clay **(4)** (Figure 14).

13.3. The stratigraphic formation revealed within trenches A, B, E, F and G clearly resembled that previously observed on the Willingdon Levels. This sequence of deposits (blue - grey marine clay → freshwater peat → alluvial clay) reflects the major episodes of coastal / environmental change that are known to have occurred across the Levels during the period c.12,000 BC - 800 BC (see Section 5.3. for details).

13.4. During the Late Bronze Age the Willingdon Levels were dissected by a number of brackish channels (see Section 5.5.1.). It would appear that two (or perhaps just one) of these natural palaeochannels were exposed within Trench C **(5)** and Trench F **(6)** (see sections 12.4.2. and 12.7.3. for details) (Figure 16). Contexts 5 and 6 were not subject to excavation.

13.5. The layer of peat **(3)** documented in trenches A, B, C, E, F, G and H appears to peter – out naturally before reaching the eastern 'half' of the site. However, it should be noted that the true easternmost edge of Context 3 was not exposed as a result of the evaluation (see Section 12.9.3.). The fieldwork

also failed to provide an opportunity to examine the precise interface of the local wetland and dry – land geological deposits.

13.6. The significant modern disturbance of the eastern 'half' of the site is described in Section 2.2. of this report (Figure 3). A previously unrecorded 20th century cut **(9)** of uncertain alignment, form and function was additionally located within Trench H (see Section 12.9.) (Figure 16). The presence of a c.1.50m. + - thick layer of overburden **(1)** over Trenches I, J and K (Figure 17) is also worthy of note.

13.7. It is believed that the investigative methodology here employed by C. G. Archaeology has satisfied the Project Objectives outlined in Section 10.0. It can thus be concluded that the proposed nursing home development is highly unlikely to impact upon any cut features, structures or artefacts of archaeological significance.

13.8. Based on the limited available evidence it is tentatively suggested that the development proposals will also have only a limited hydrological impact on the archaeological / palaeoenvironmental remains already discovered on the Willingdon Levels (see Section 5.0.). The reasons for this conclusion are summarised in Section 12.0. of the desk – based assessment prepared by C. G. Archaeology (Greatorex 2009a).

14.0. ARCHIVE.

14.1. It is intended that the full written, drawn, photographic and digital records arising from this project will be collated in accordance with *'Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage'* (UKICI 1990) and deposited at the 'Towner', Eastbourne.

15.0. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.

15.1. C. G. Archaeology would like to thank Greg Chuter and Casper Johnson of East Sussex County Council, David Hogan at the Royal Holloway Institute for Environmental Research, Dominique de Moulins the English Heritage Regional Scientific Advisor, A S P Town Planning and Development Consultancy, G & J Seddon Limited, Cound Webber Architects and Gawn Associates: Consulting Civil and Structural Engineers for their assistance with the preparation of this document. Figures 2 and 13 are based upon a plan drawn – up by Cound Webber Architects.

16.0. BIBLIOGRAPHY.

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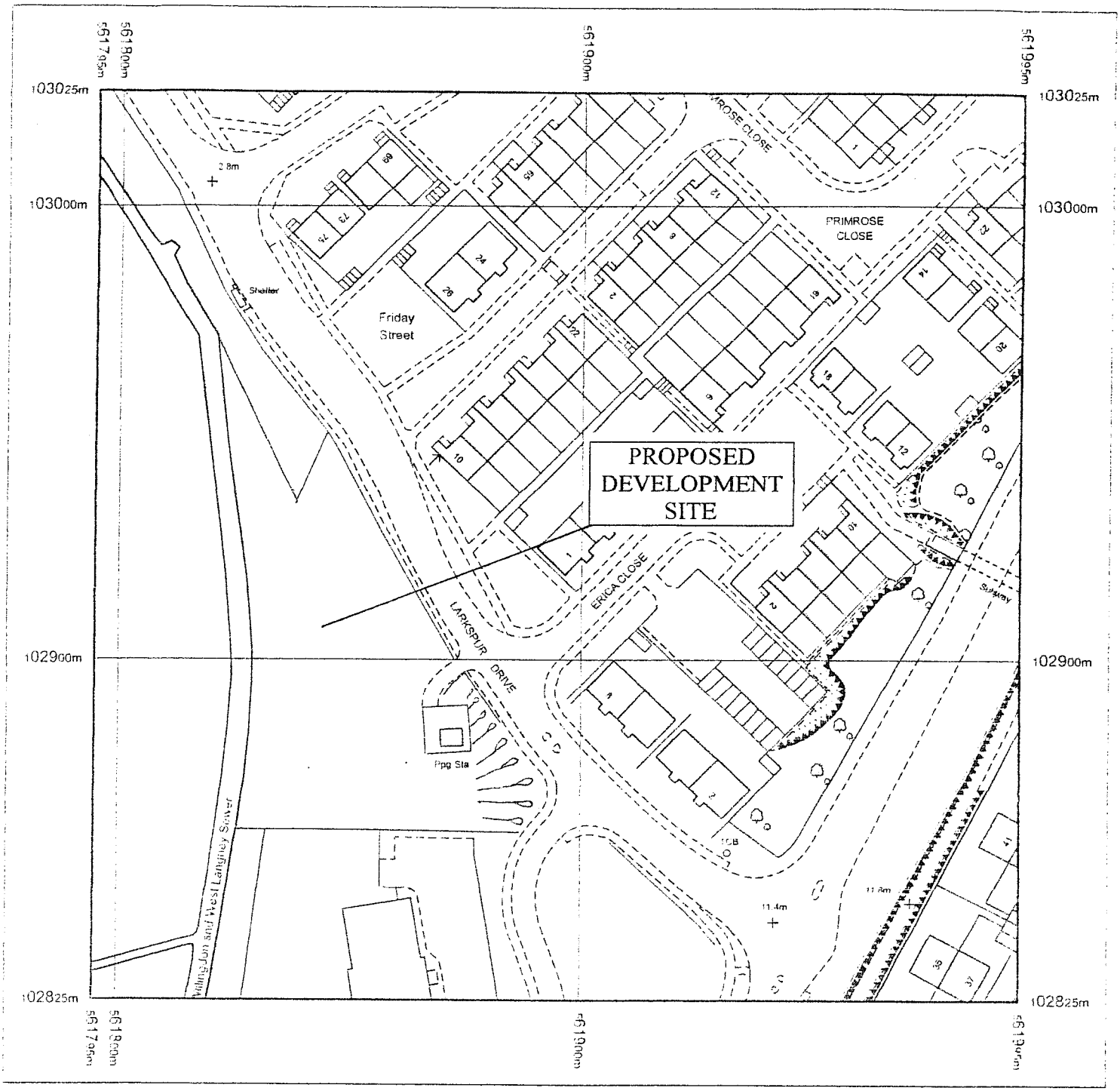
HISTORICAL ENVIRONMENT RECORD SUMMARY SHEET.

Site Code.	LDE 09					
Site identification and address.	Larkspur Drive, Eastbourne					
County, district and / or borough.	East Sussex					
O.S. grid ref.	TQ 61850 02900					
Geology.	Alluvium, freshwater peat, marine clay					
Project number.	09 / 07					
Fieldwork type.	**Eval.** X	**Excav.**	**W.Brief.**	**Survey.**	**Other.**	
Site type.	**Rural.** X	**Urban.**	**Other.**			
Date of fieldwork.	9th - 13th July 2009					
Client.	G & J Seddon Limited					
Project manager.	Christopher Greatorex					
Project supervisor	Christopher Greatorex					
Period summary.	**Palaeo.**	**Meso.**	**Neo.**	**B. Age.**	**I. Age.**	**R – B.**
	A. S.	**Med.**	**P. Med**	**Other.** No discoveries of archaeological significance		

Project Summary.

An archaeological field evaluation of land proposed for development at Larkspur Drive, Eastbourne was undertaken. The site is located on the edge of the Willingdon Levels, home to arguably some of the most important prehistoric remains in the country. However, the excavation of eleven 10.0m. – long and 1.50m. – wide trenches and one 5.0m. – long and 1.50m. – wide trench failed to expose a single feature or artefact of archaeological note. A deposit of freshwater peat, sandwiched between an upper layer of alluvial clay and an underlying blue – grey marine clay was exposed across the western 'half' of the site. Nevertheless, it is believed that the proposed nursing home development is highly unlikely to impact upon any cuts, structures or finds of archaeological significance.



Metres
0 20 40
Scale 1:1250

Figure 1: Site location plan

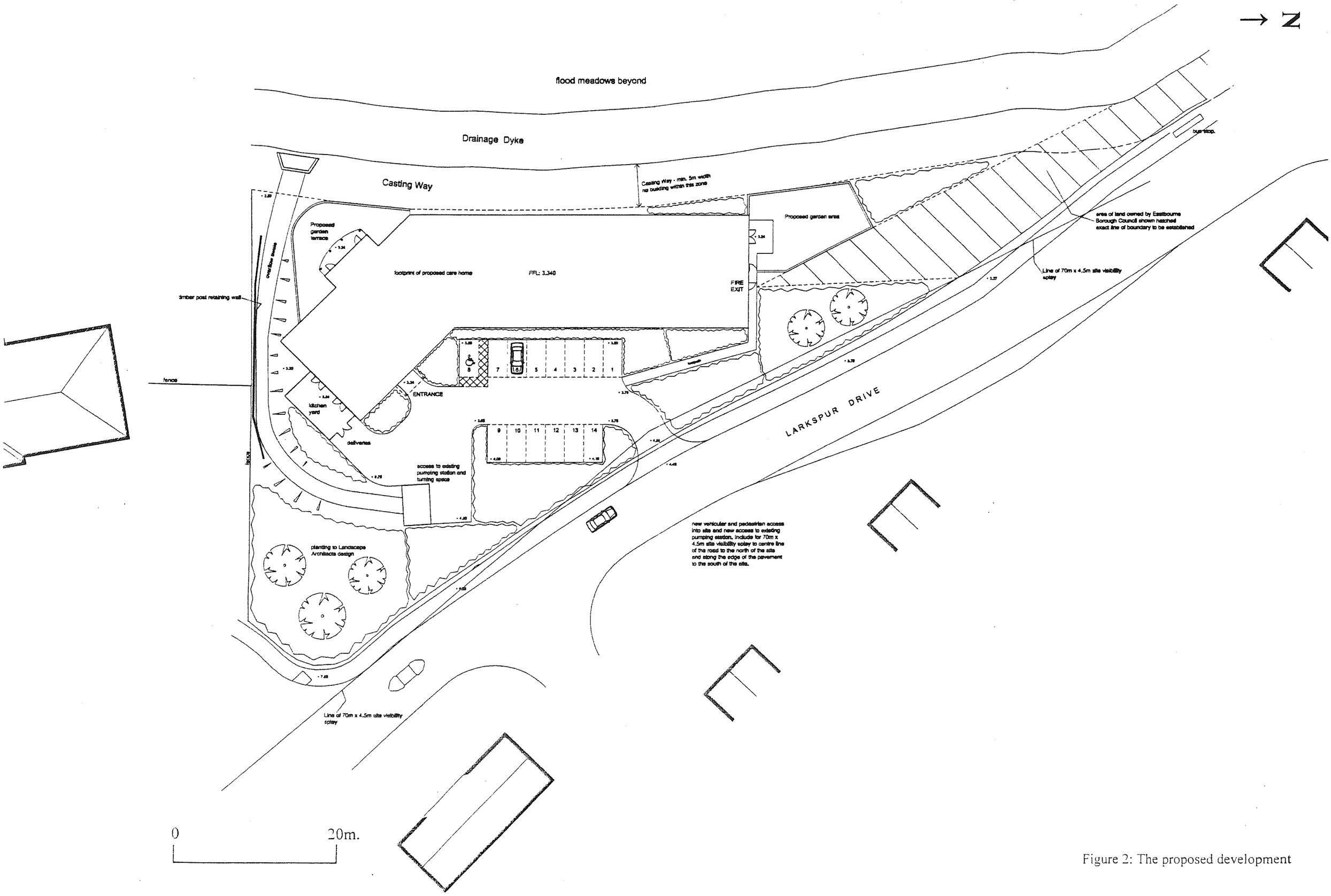


Figure 2: The proposed development

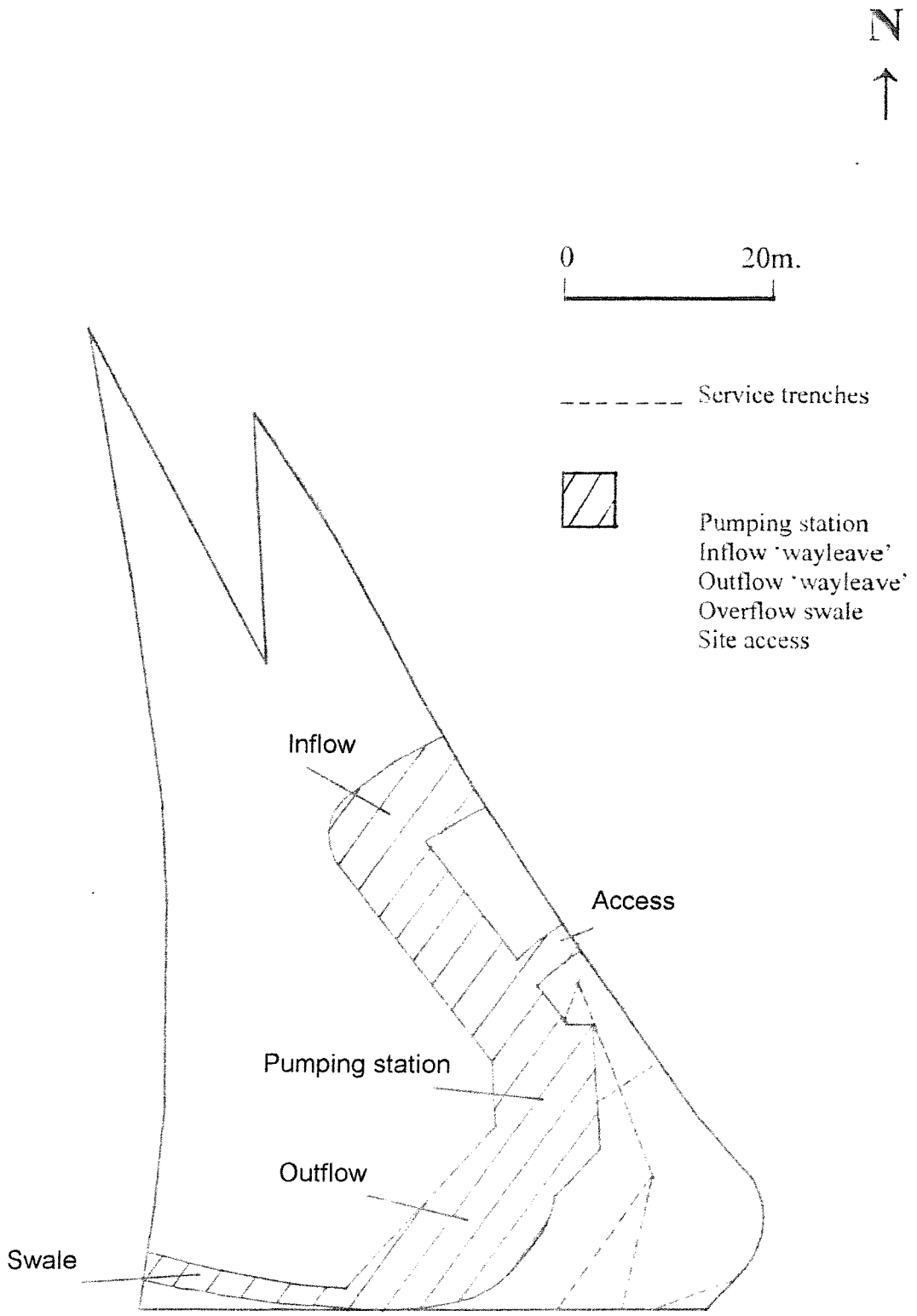


Figure 3: Site impacts (prior to field evaluation)

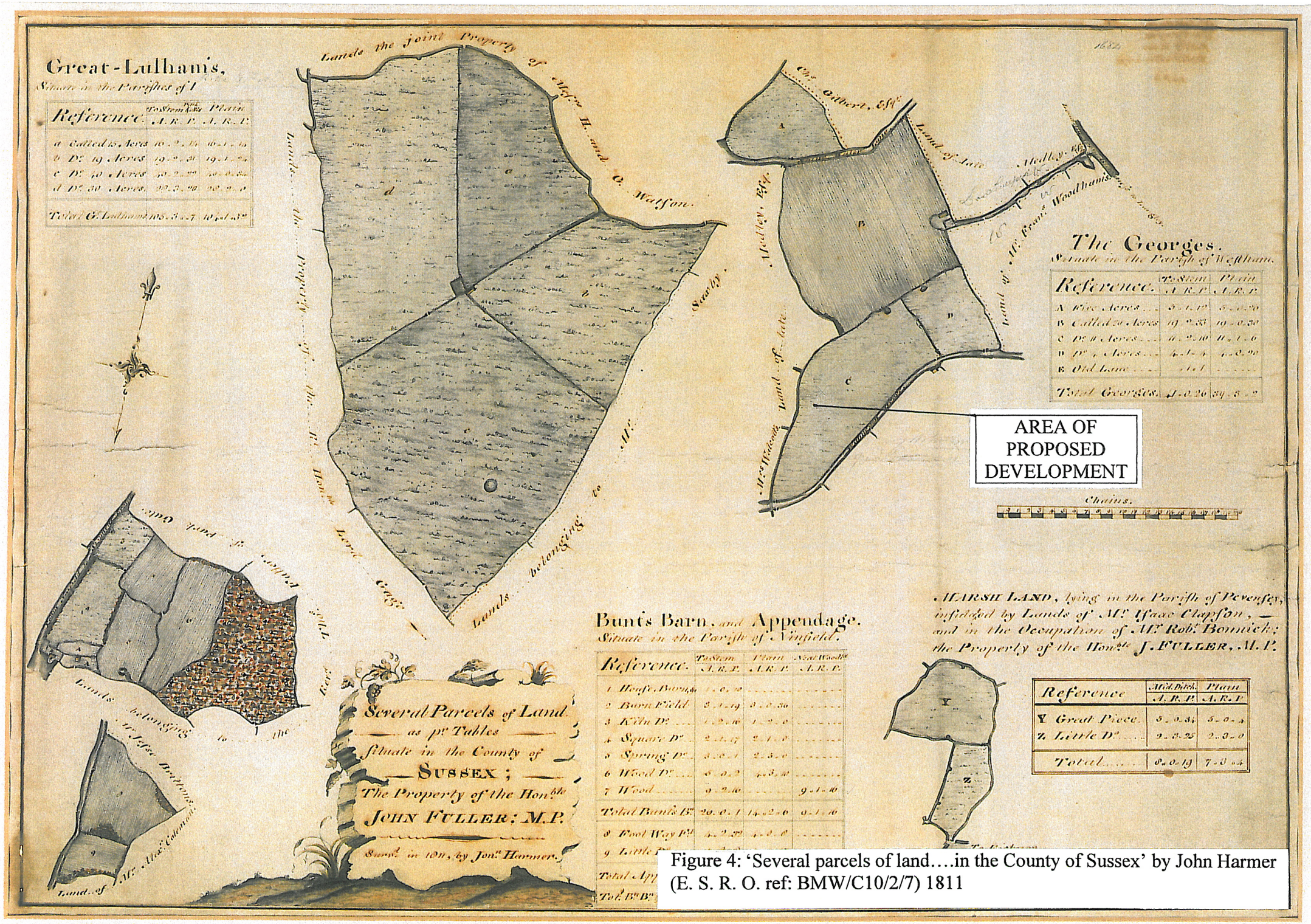


Figure 4: 'Several parcels of land….in the County of Sussex' by John Harmer (E. S. R. O. ref: BMW/C10/2/7) 1811

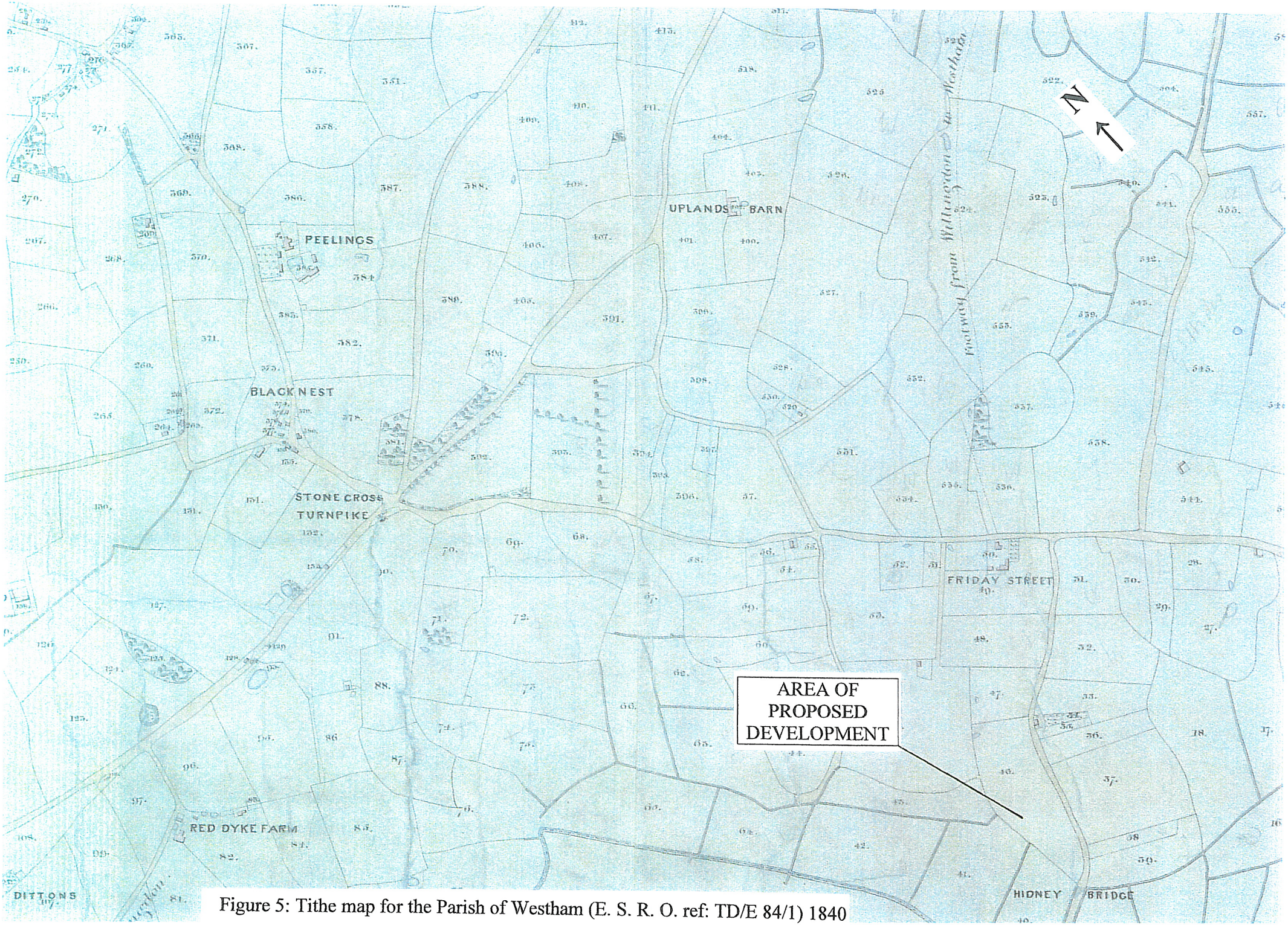


Figure 5: Tithe map for the Parish of Westham (E. S. R. O. ref: TD/E 84/1) 1840

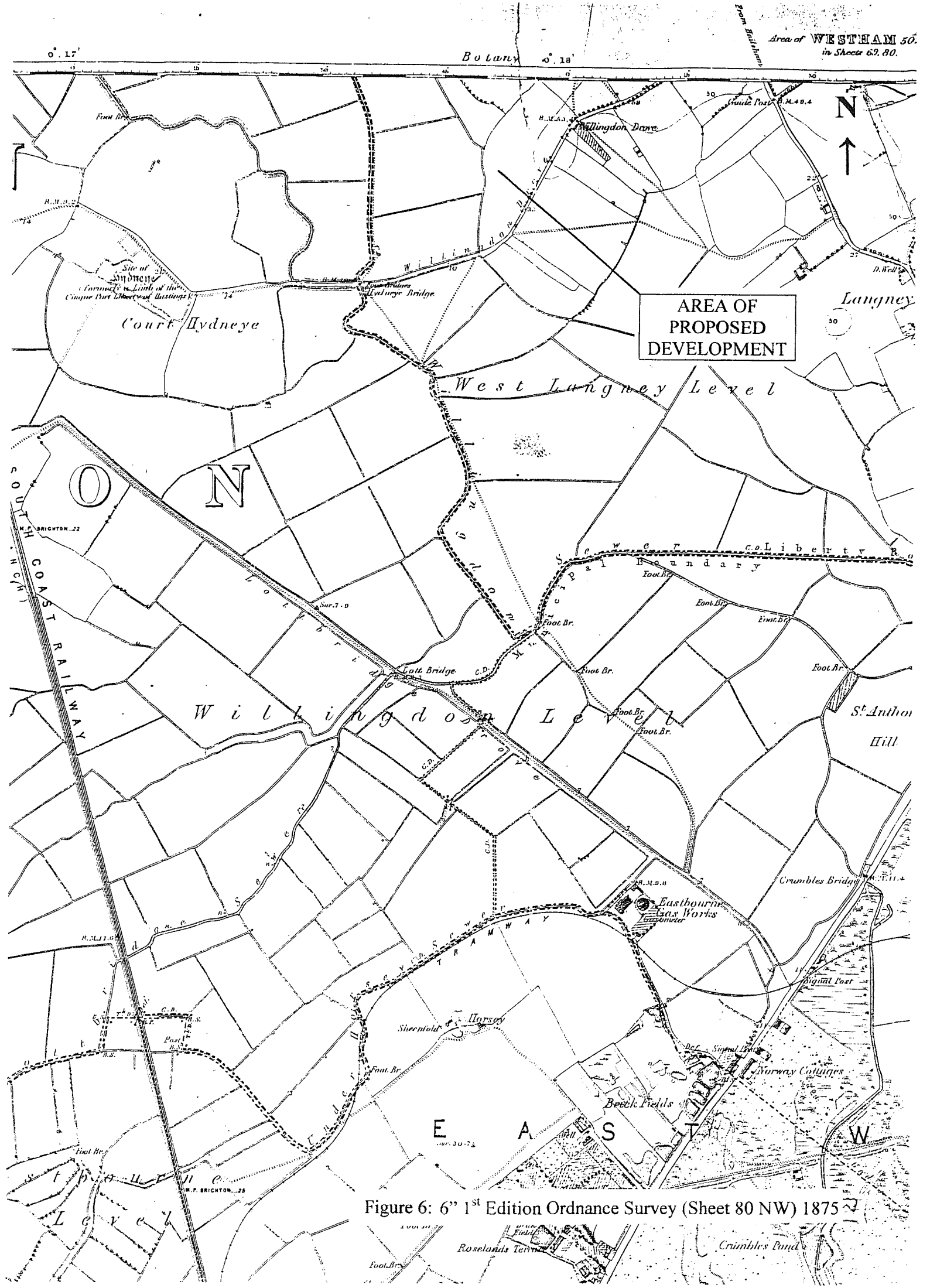


Figure 6: 6" 1st Edition Ordnance Survey (Sheet 80 NW) 1875

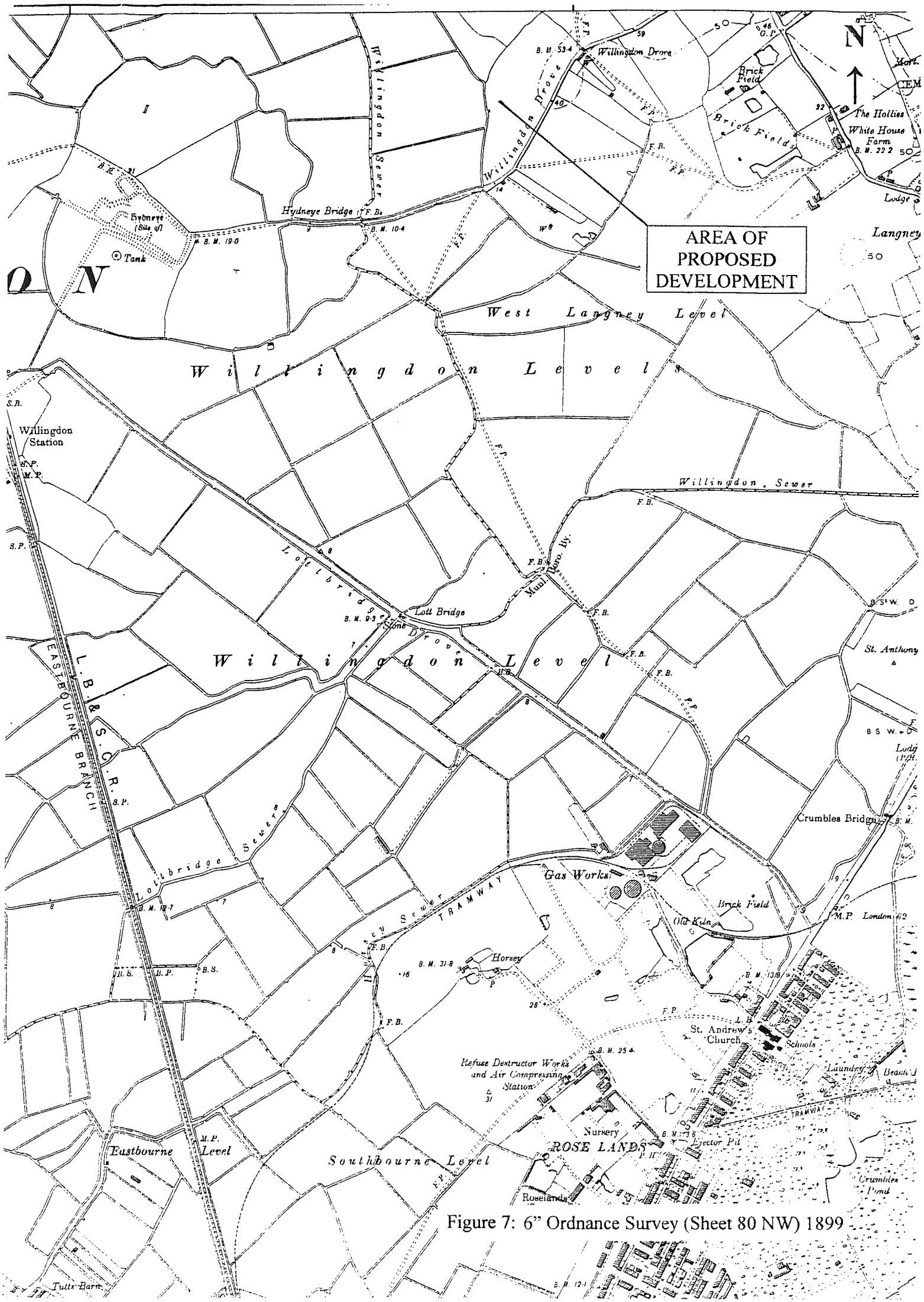


Figure 7: 6" Ordnance Survey (Sheet 80 NW) 1899

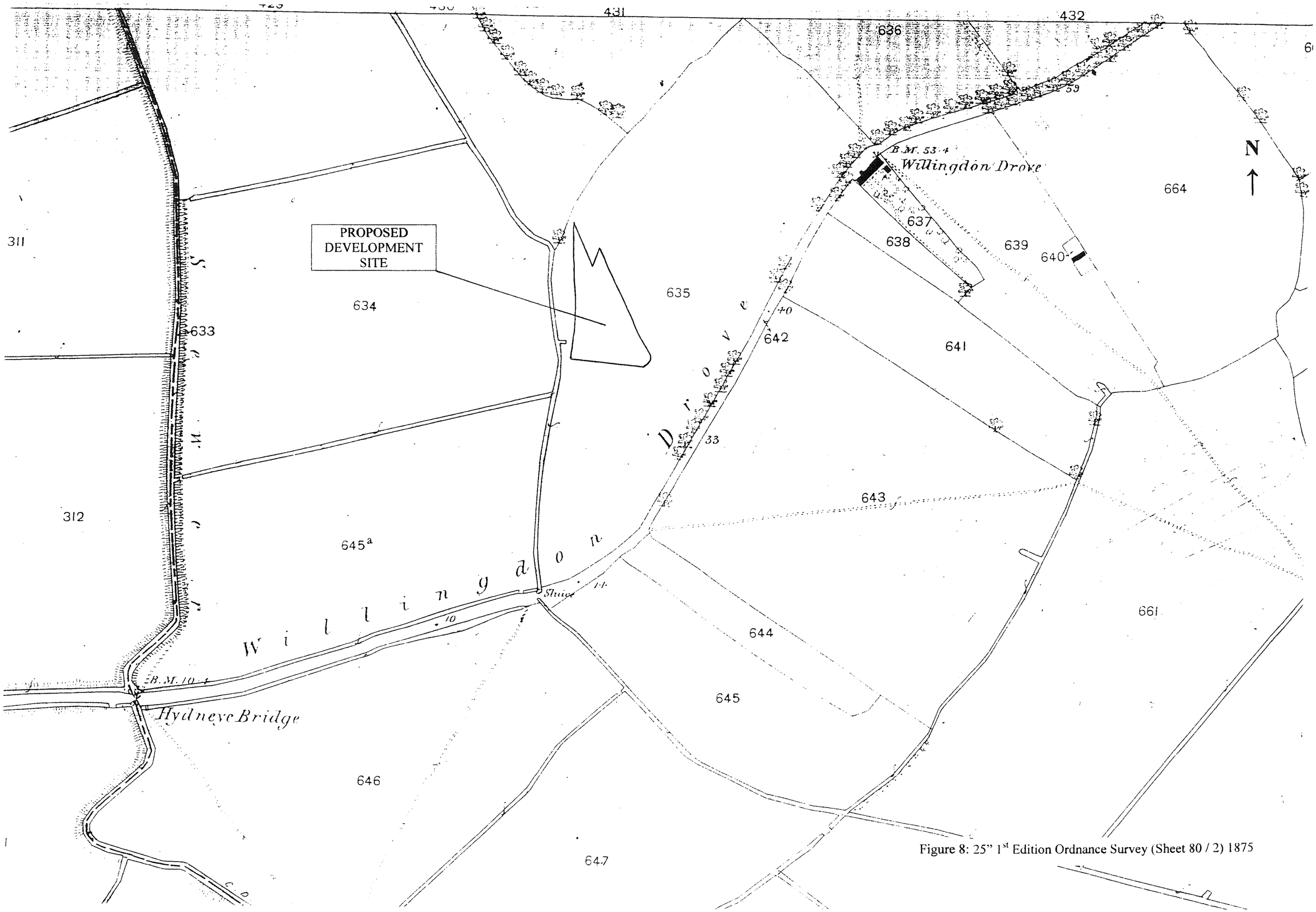


Figure 8: 25" 1st Edition Ordnance Survey (Sheet 80 / 2) 1875

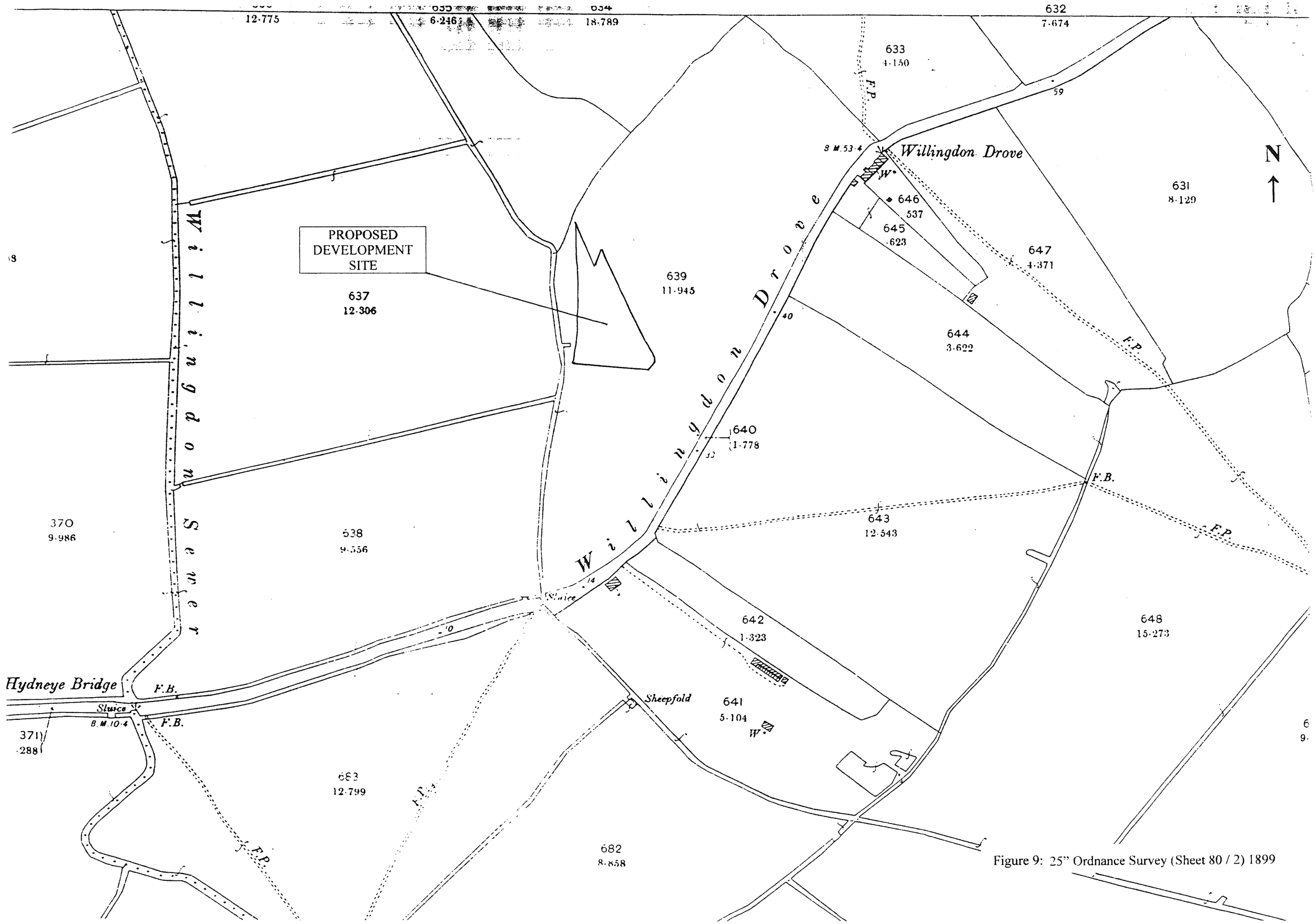


Figure 9: 25" Ordnance Survey (Sheet 80 / 2) 1899

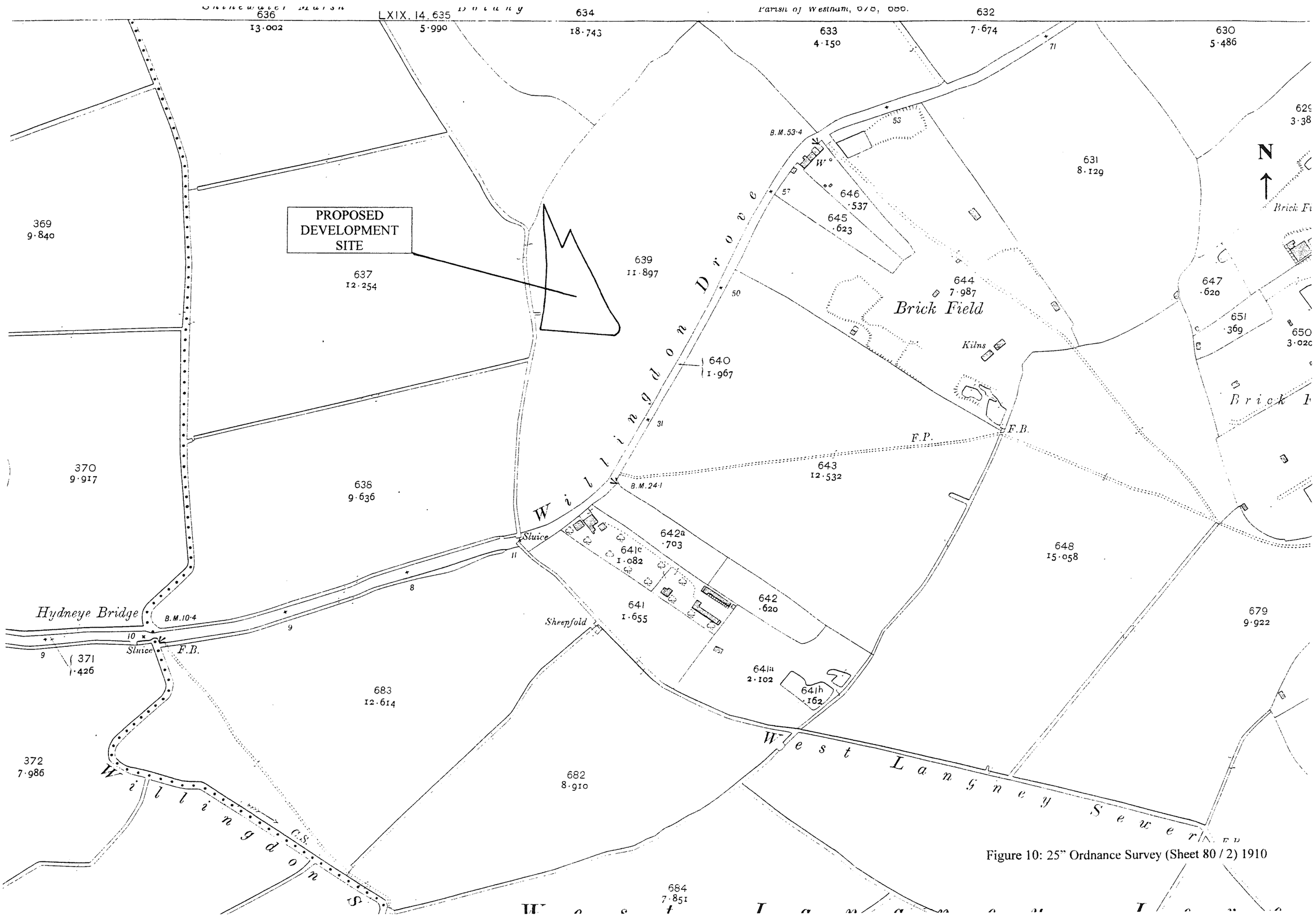


Figure 10: 25" Ordnance Survey (Sheet 80 / 2) 1910

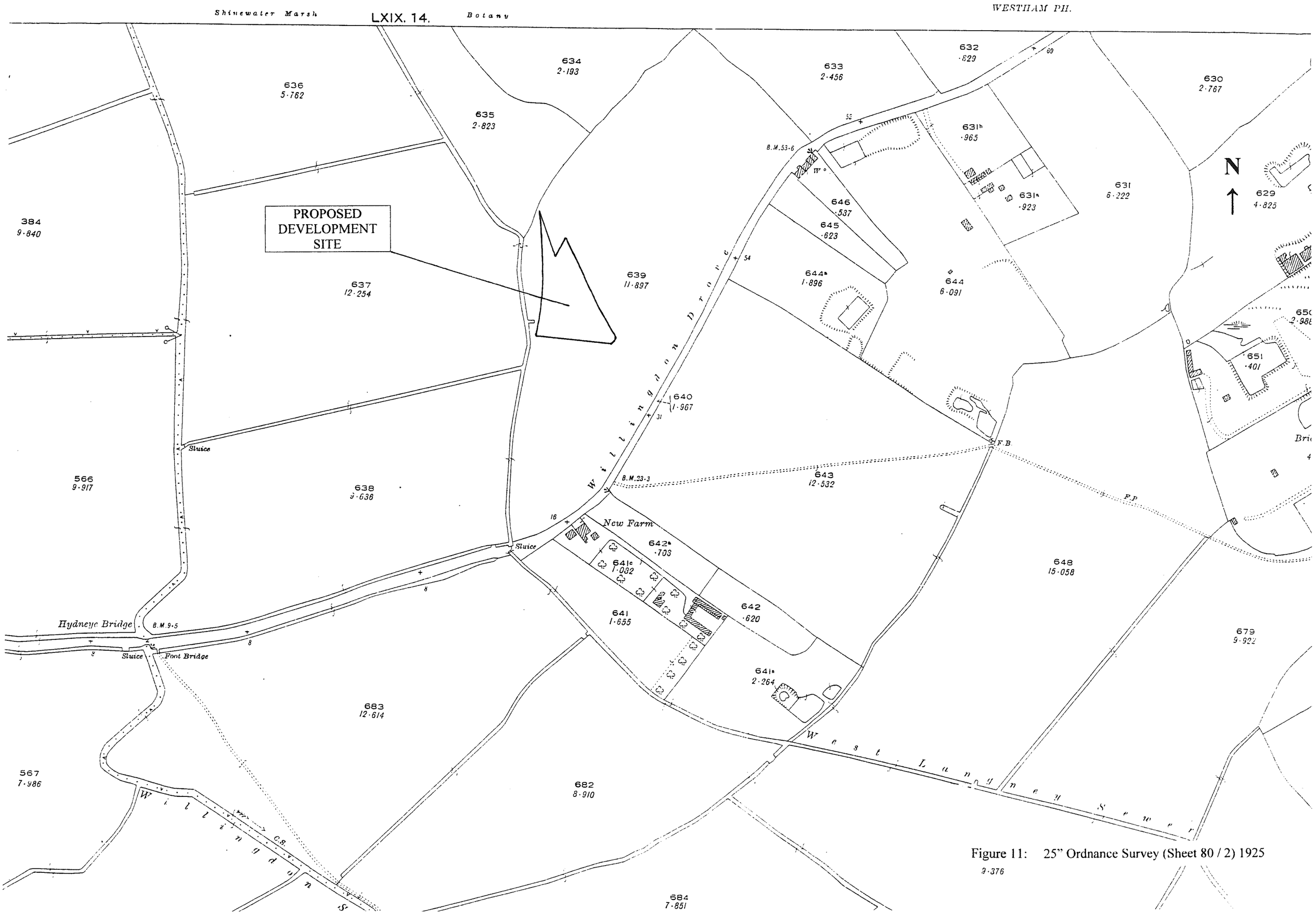


Figure 11: 25" Ordnance Survey (Sheet 80 / 2) 1925

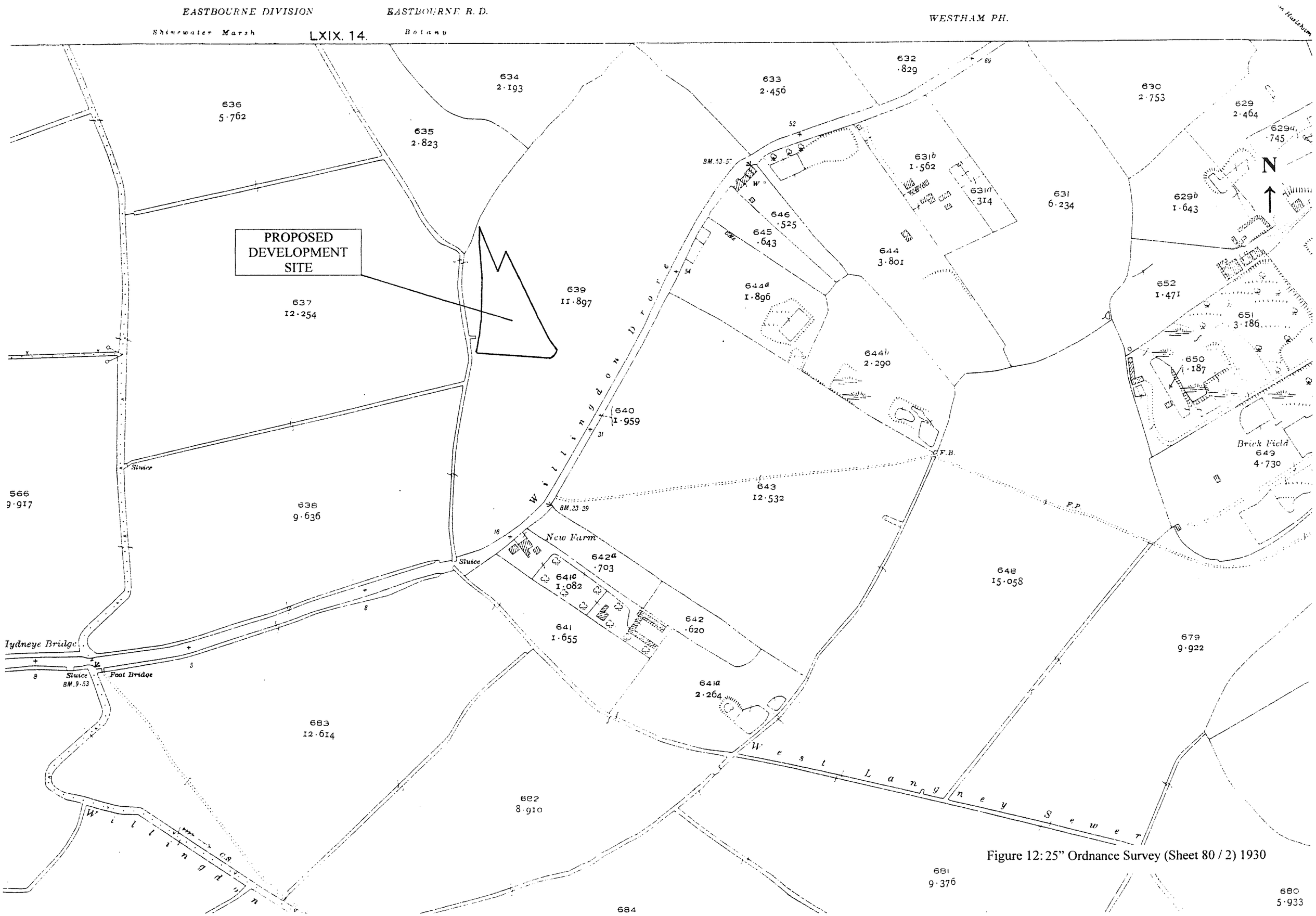


Figure 12: 25" Ordnance Survey (Sheet 80 / 2) 1930

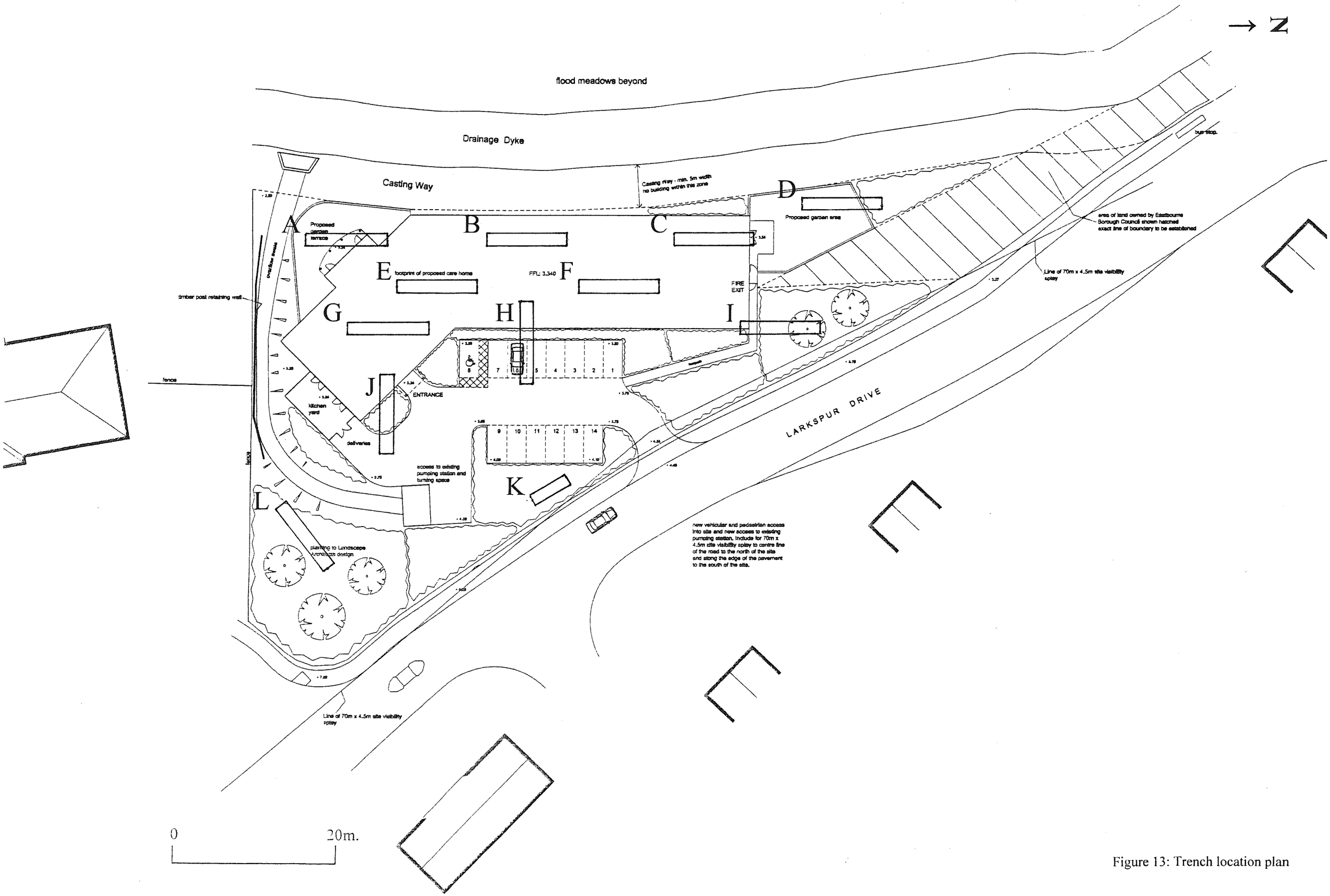


Figure 13: Trench location plan

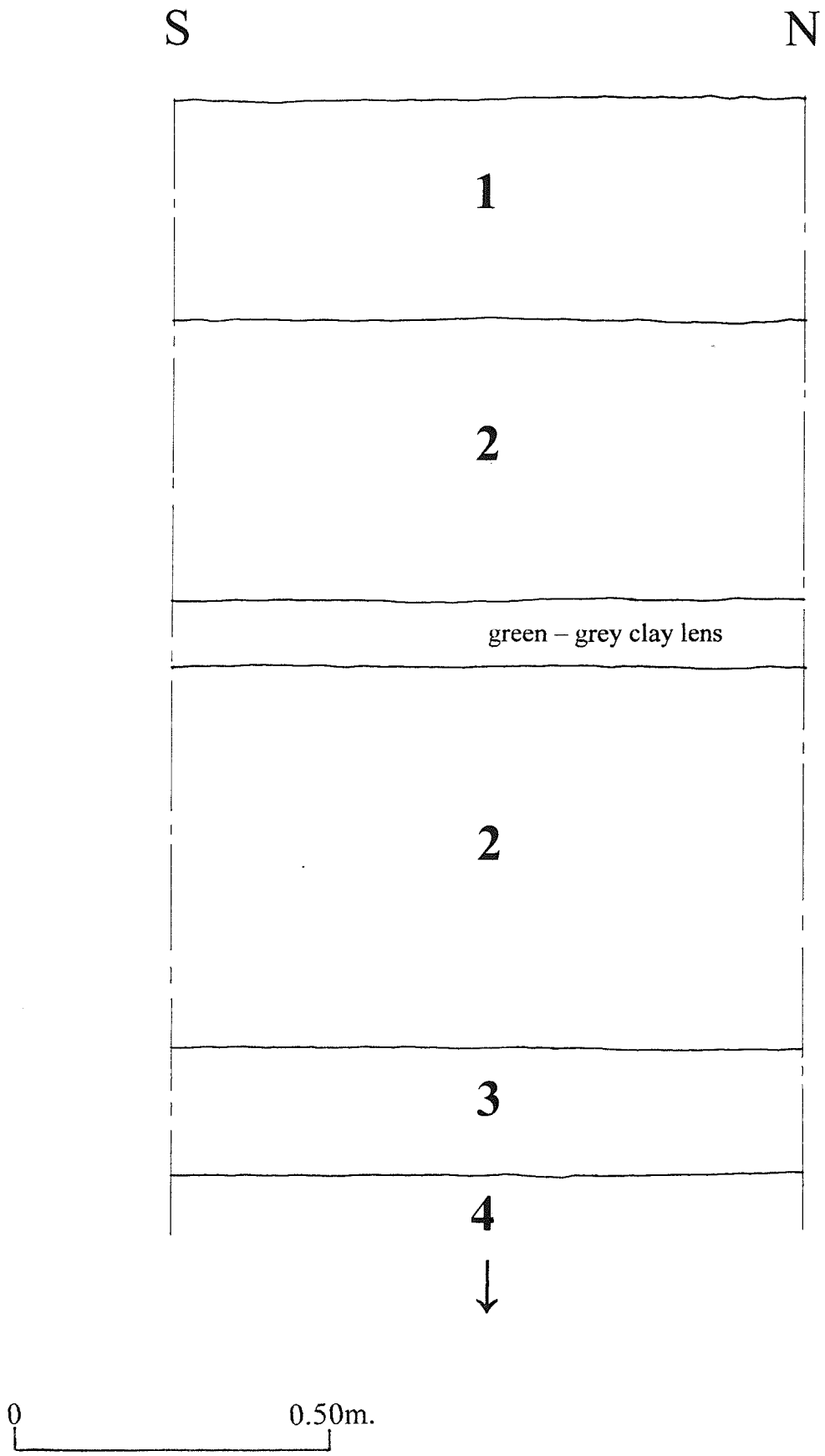


Figure 14: Sketch section of stratigraphic formation found within Trench A
(basic sequence of layers also found in trenches B, E, F and G)

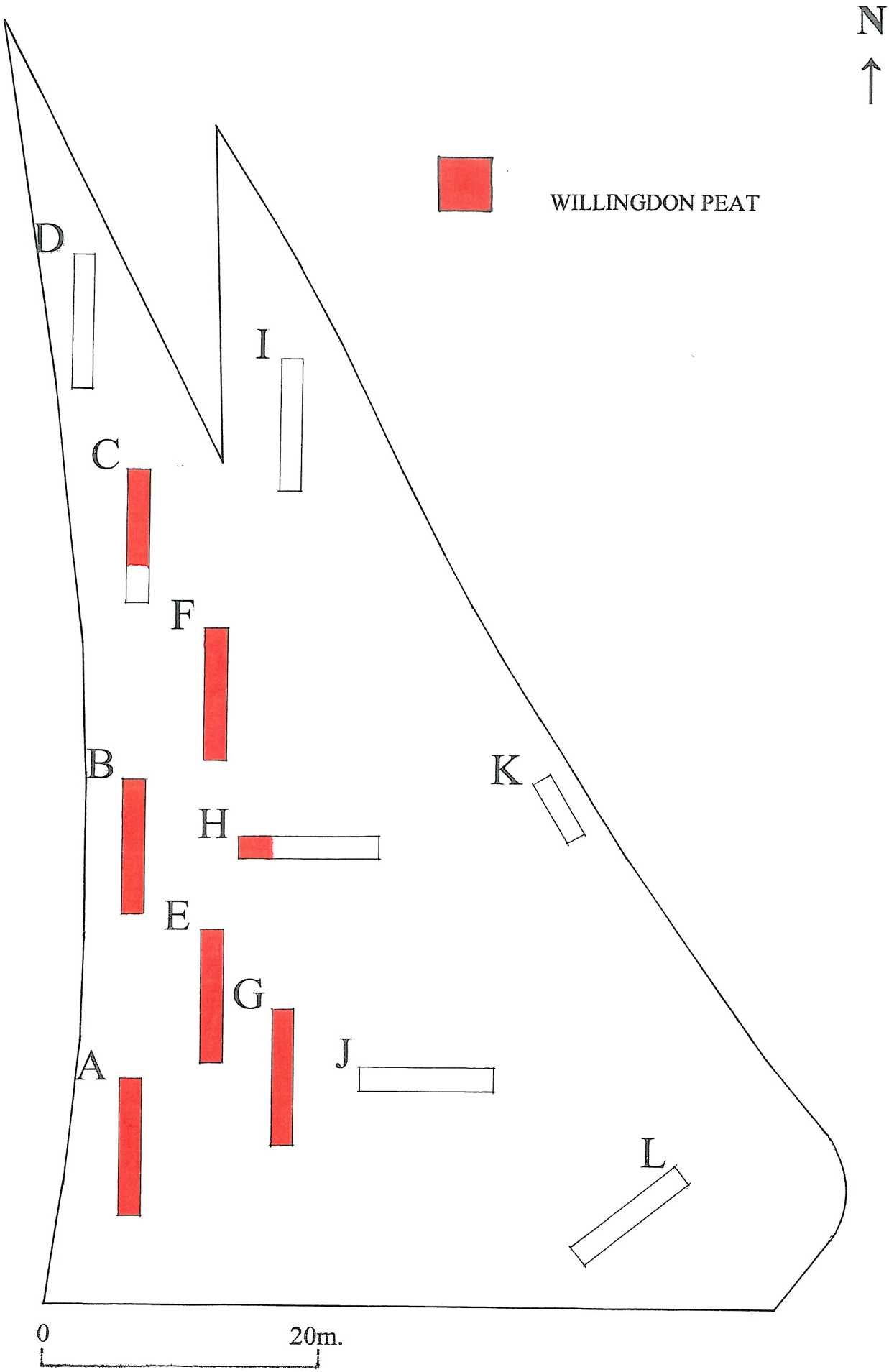


Figure 15: Trench location plan showing presence of Willingdon Peat (Context 3)

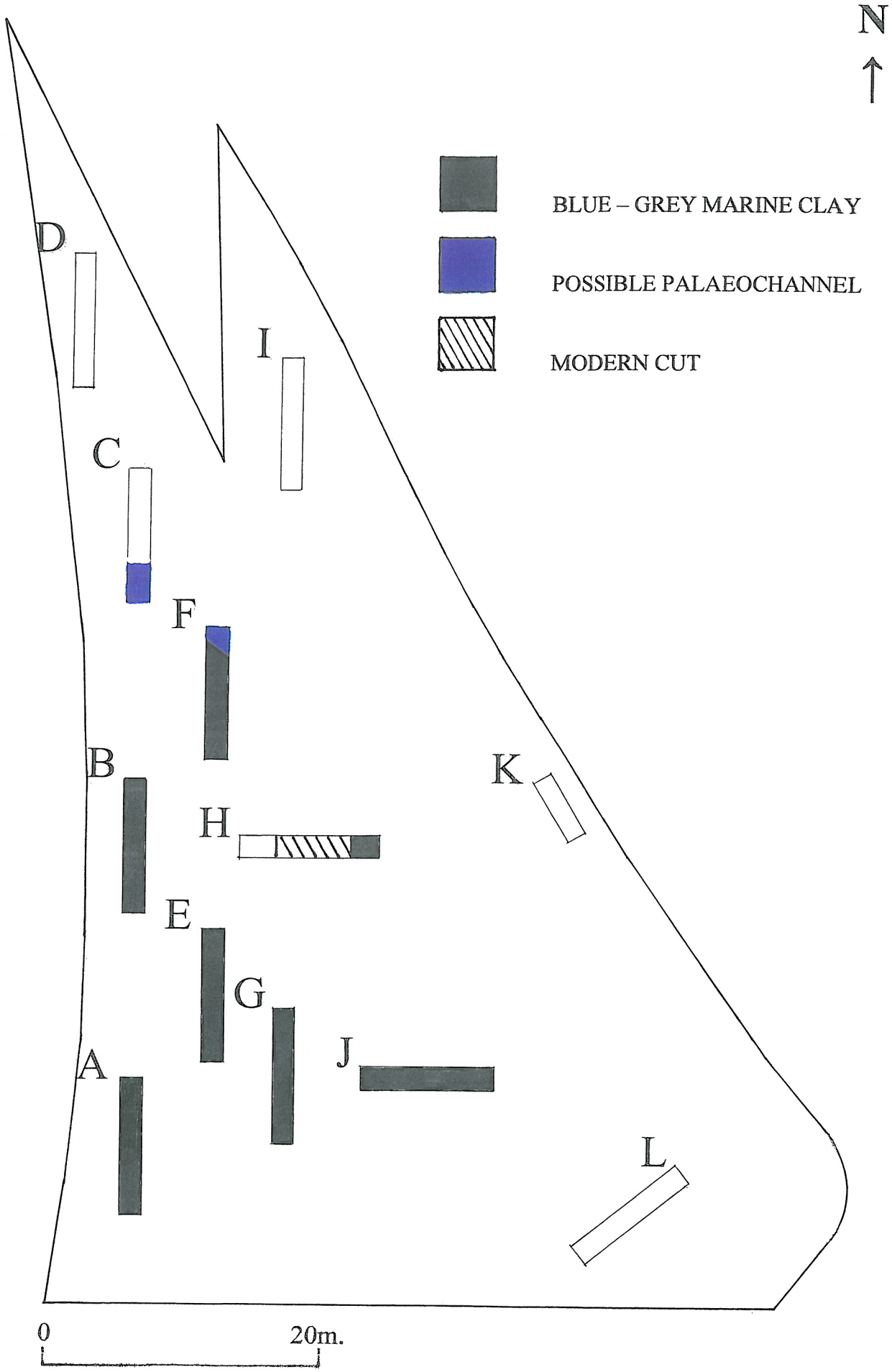


Figure 16: Trench location plan showing confirmed presence of blue – grey marine clay (Context 4) possible palaeochannel(s) (contexts 5 and 6) and modern cut (Context 9)

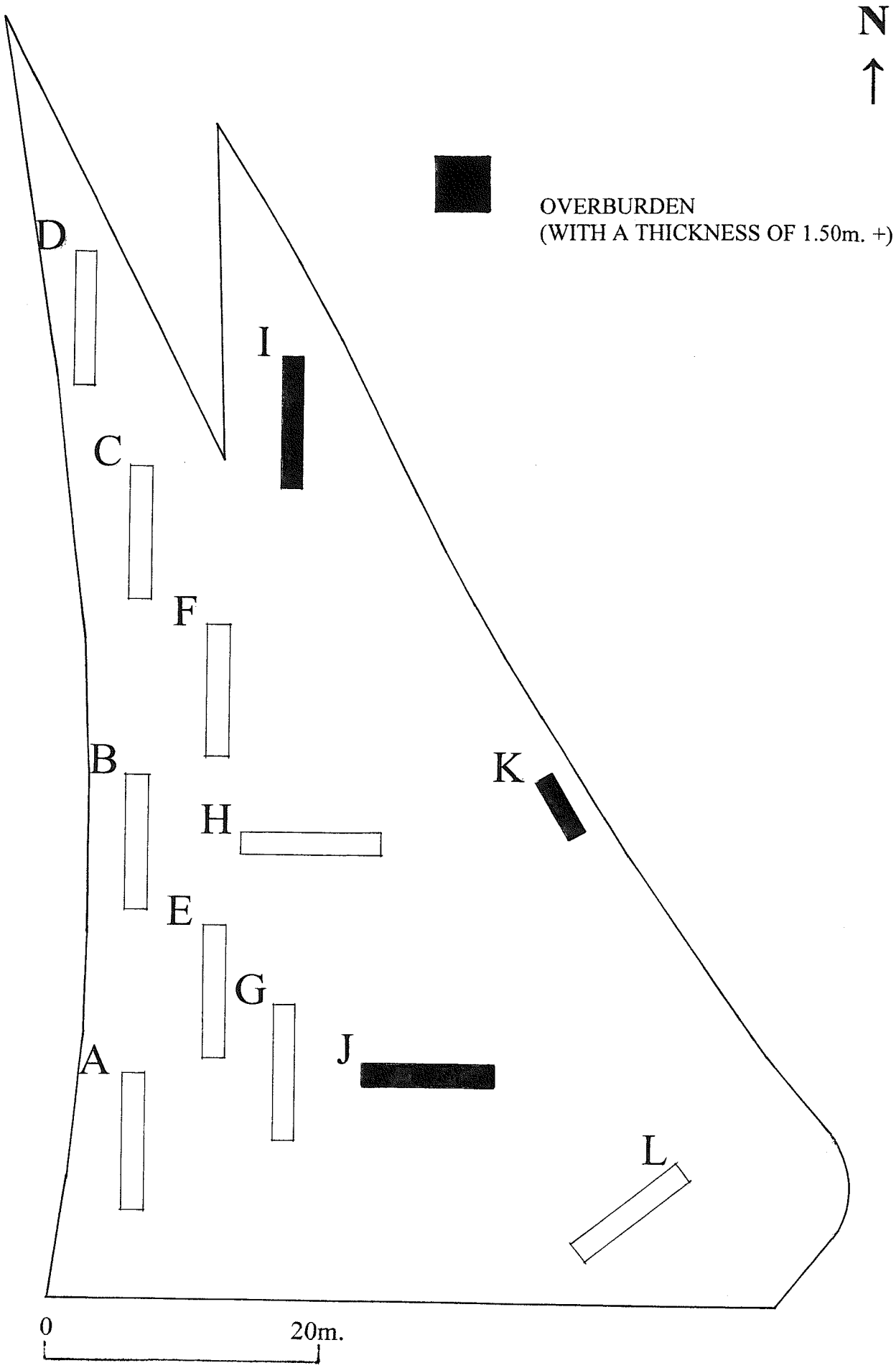


Figure 17: Trench location plan showing presence of overburden (Context 1) with a thickness of 1.50m. +