

Land at Hulks Farm, Allaston Road, Lydney, Gloucestershire

Archaeological-Desk Based Assessment (NGR SO 63837 05347)



on behalf of
TGC Renewables Limited

Sarah Newns

Avon Archaeology Limited
Bristol, March 2014



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Frontispiece: Façade of Soilwell Farm, a Grade II Listed Building of 17th century date, but with probable medieval origins, as the centre of a small medieval estate.

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Frontispiece

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ABSTRACT

Avon Archaeology Limited was commissioned by Tim Maurant of TGC Renewables Ltd to undertake an archaeological desk-based assessment of their site at Hulks Farm, Allaston Road, Lydney. The site is centred on NGR SO 63803 05360, occupies a total of 7.6 hectares, and is situated on the southern fringe of the Forest of Dean, at the south-western tip of a south-west/north-east aligned ridge of land (the Allaston Ridge), overlooking the River Severn, which lies approximately 3km to the south-east. The study area is sub-square in shape and measures a maximum of 350m east-west by 330m north-south.

The site consists at present of pastureland, part of which, at least, appears to have been ploughed in recent years, and which may have been subject to more recent quarrying and earthmoving activity. It forms part of a landscape of mixed farmland and woodland, on the scarps fringing the southern edges of the Forest of Dean, and overlooking the low-lying estuarine alluvial area of the Severn Estuary to the south-west. There are no buildings or structures of any kind currently occupying the site, which is at present divided into two main enclosures. The site is bordered by recently planted Forestry Commission woodland (the Ten Acre Wood) to the west and south, by open pasture to the north, and by scrubland to the east, with a saw mill and scrapyard just beyond the north-east corner of the site.

There are no statutory designations, of any kind, affecting the area of the site itself. Lydney Conservation Area lies approximately 2km to the south, and there are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments in the vicinity of the site. Soilwell Farmhouse and associated barn (both Grade II listed) lie 200m to the north-east, and Yorkley Court and barn (also Grade II listed) are 700m to the north.

The earliest map consulted for this project, the Lydney tithe map of 1840, shows the area as agricultural land, partly under arable, and partly pasture and brake (see below). It would appear that the site has consisted of farmland since at least the late 19th century, as the Lydney tithe map of 1840 shows it largely divided into two fields, one under arable, and one of pasture and brake (see below). The tithe survey shows the study area as sandwiched between woodland to the west and common/waste land to the east, and it is thought that the area of the site would therefore have been deliberately cleared of trees and taken into agricultural production at some point prior to the late 19th century.

The study found that the area of the site has been covered by two previous large-scale surveys of the Forest of Dean area, The Forest of Dean Archaeological Survey (Hoyle 2008-2013) and The Forest of Dean Mapping Project (Small and Stoertz 2006). Although outside the area of the town, the study site also fell within the broad remit of the Gloucestershire Historic Town Survey for Lydney (Douthwaite and Devine 1998, updated 2007). Information from the above three surveys has been incorporated into the Historic Environment Record, which notes four significant areas of archaeological interest within the bounds of the study area, all of which are undated, three areas of mining/quarrying activity and one linear cropmark. The site falls within an area of intense industrial activity, most undated, and of probable post medieval date, but some possibly earlier. Significant activity of early prehistoric date is represented by two large flint assemblages, recovered in the vicinity of the study site, to the east and north-east. A possible Roman road runs within 250m of the site, but its dating remains questionable. The wider landscape, however, also contains an Iron Age promontory fort, Romano-British temple complex, a probable Roman villa and a probable Norman motte and bailey castle, all within a radius of some 3.5km of the present site.

On the basis of the documentary and other evidence reviewed in this report, the study area is therefore considered to offer a moderate potential for the survival of buried archaeologically-significant deposits, particularly those relating to the area's industrial heritage.

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NOTES

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ABBREVIATIONS

AAL	Avon Archaeology Limited
aOD	Above Ordnance Datum
NA	National Archives
NGR	National Grid Reference
NMR	National Monuments Record, Swindon
GHER	Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record
OS	Ordnance Survey
OED	Oxford English Dictionary
GRO	Gloucestershire Record Office
VCH	Victoria County History



Figure 1



Location of the Study Area



Grid lines at 1 km intervals (extract from OS 1:25 000)

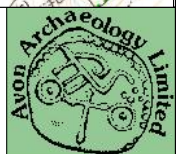
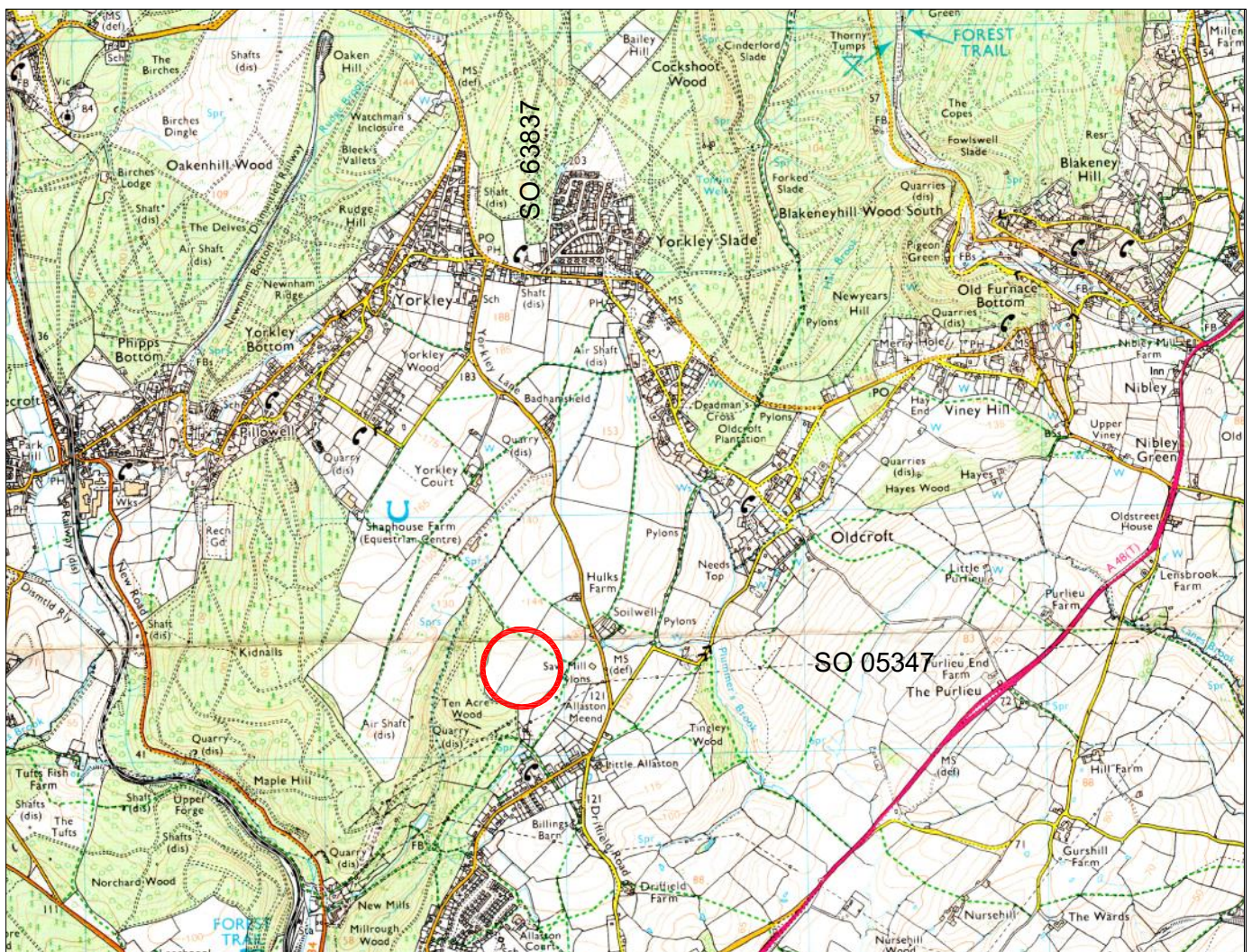
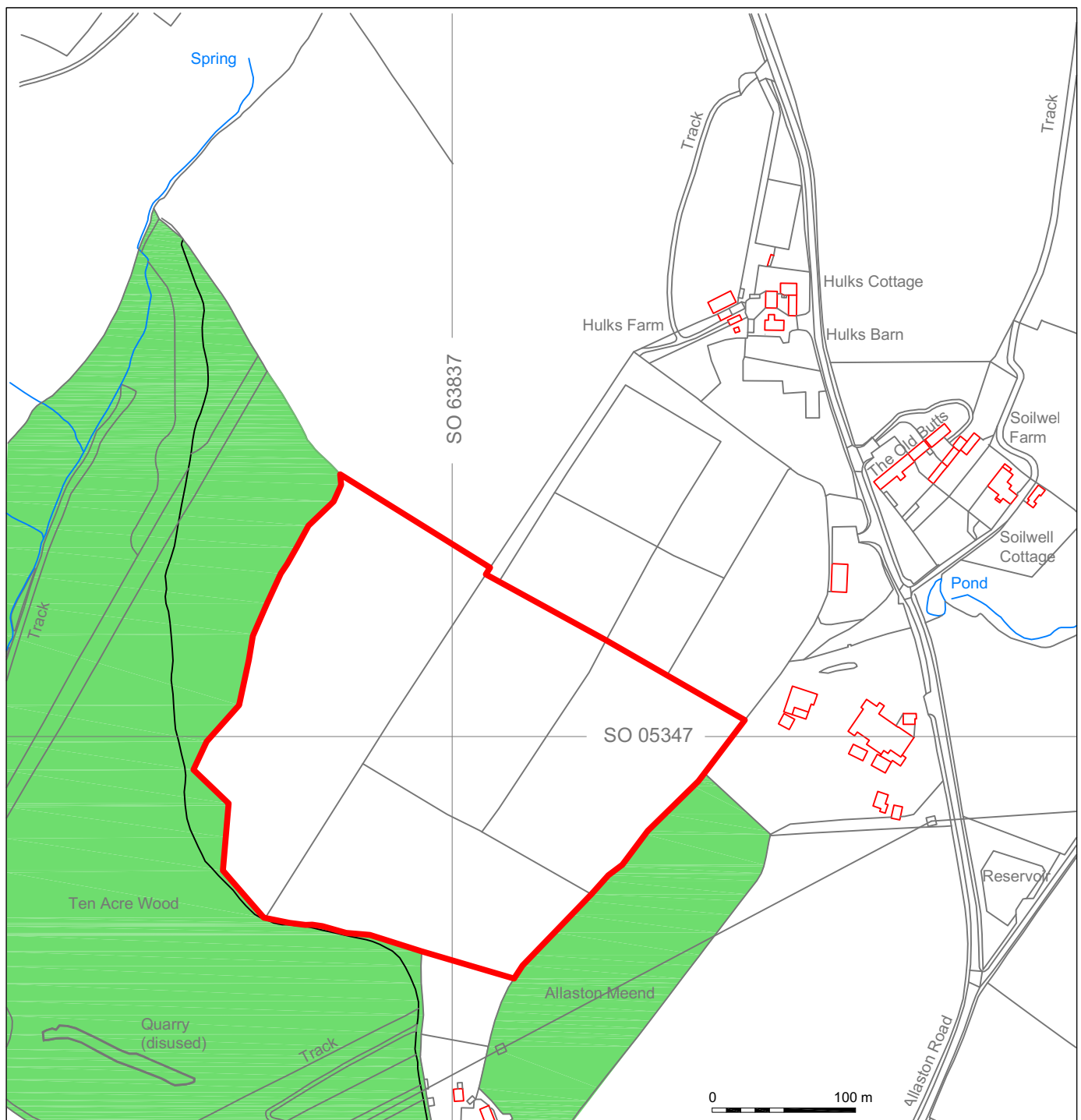


Figure 2



Site Location Plan and Boundary of the Study Area outlined in red. Scale as shown.



1 INTRODUCTION

Avon Archaeology Limited was commissioned by TGC Renewables Ltd to undertake an archaeological desk-based assessment of their proposed site at Hulks Farm, Lydney, Gloucestershire, as part of a Pre-Application Enquiry, prior to the proposed construction of an array of photovoltaic solar panels over an area of some 7.6ha. The site is centred at NGR SO 63803 05360, and is situated at the south-western end of the Allaston Ridge, approximately 3km north-west of the Severn Estuary (at its nearest point) and 2km north of the centre of Lydney. The study area is roughly sub-square in shape, with a somewhat curvilinear western boundary, and measures a maximum of 350m east-west by 330m north-south (**Figures 1 and 2**). It is bounded to the west and south by relatively recently planted Forestry Commission woodland (Ten Acre Wood), to the east by a linear length of scrubland (Allaston Meend) and to the north by open pasture land.

The site consists of undeveloped farmland, at present under pasture, but which has been subject to recent ploughing and part of which has been subject to probable modern quarrying activity. The site is at present divided into two large enclosures, and there are no buildings or structures of any kind currently occupying the site. The nearest settlement of any kind is a small saw mill/scrapyard just outside the north-eastern corner of the site, occupying the area of a former brick and tile works.

There are no statutory designations of any kind affecting the area of the site itself. It lies approximately 2km to the north of the Lydney Conservation Area, which encompasses a small area restricted to the central portion of the town. The nearest scheduled monuments, consisting of a Roman temple complex, Iron Age promontory fort and Roman villa site (the latter at Little Camp Hill) are clustered over 3km to the south-west, with a further cluster of Romano-British remains, in the form of a section of Roman road and associated bridge, over 3km to the north-east. The nearest point of the Severn Estuary, again over 3km from the site, is included within the Severn SPA, SSI and Ramsar designations. There are, however, two Grade II listed buildings at Soilwell farm, just 300m north-east of the site, and a further two listed buildings at Yorkley, some 700m to the north-west.

The Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record shows that, historically, there has been significant industrial activity within the bounds of the site, in the form of undated quarrying and possible mining remains. Just to the north-east, two important assemblages of worked flint were recovered, at Soilwell and Oldcroft, at least one of which is of early Mesolithic date. 700m to the west, a further prehistoric/Romano-British site, comprising over fifty earthwork features, was revealed by Lidar survey and subsequently archaeologically evaluated. The area immediately surrounding the site contains further extensive quarrying and mining remains, some of post medieval date, but the majority undated and possibly earlier. Lidar survey also revealed five undated building platforms at the adjacent Hulks Farm.

2 METHODOLOGY

Searches were made of the indices of the collections of the Gloucestershire Record Office, and a variety of online bibliographic resources, most notably COPAC, BIAB,

The Archaeology Data Service, and Google Scholar, were used to identify potentially useful sources of information, whether published or otherwise¹. Extensive use was made of the Lydney Historic Town Survey (Douthwaite and Devine 1998) and the more recent Forest of Dean Archaeological Survey (Hoyle 2008-2013). The relevant Victoria County History volume for the Forest of Dean area (VCH online, Gloucestershire, vol.V) was also consulted, as were reference works by C.E. Hart, amongst others, relating to the history of the Forest of Dean (see **Bibliography**). A trawl was made, on behalf of the author, of aerial photographs of the area held by the National Monuments Record, Swindon (see **Aerial Photographic Evidence**, below). In addition, information was utilised from a trawl of the Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record, conducted on behalf of AAL by Anna Morris, Assistant Archaeologist for Gloucestershire County Council, which incorporated information from the above surveys and from the National Mapping Programme, conducted by English Heritage (Douthwaite and Devine) in 2006. A visit to the site was made by the author on Saturday, 8th February, 2014, and a digital photographic record was made (**Cover, Frontispiece and Plates a to h**).

3 TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

Topographically, the site lies within the broad area of the Forest of Dean, which consists of a sandstone/limestone plateau, truncated by numerous small streams, feeding into the Rivers Wye and Severn, which form the south-eastern and western boundaries of the region. Much of the central plateau is situated at heights of over 100m aOD, with a band of low-lying ground, below 60m aOD, bordering the Severn, to the south-east (Hoyle 2008, 33). The solid geology of the Forest consists of a central plateau of Upper Carboniferous Sandstone and Coal Measures (including the area of the present site) ringed by outcrops of the underlying Lower Carboniferous Limestone, Upper Old Red Sandstone and Lower Old Red Sandstone. Over twenty coal seams, varying in thickness between a few inches and 5 feet, outcrop or lie close to the ground surface within the area of the Forest (VCH 1996). The nearest seam to the present site, the Whittington Upper Coal Measures, has been extensively worked, from surface working, shallow pits, and horizontal levels driven into the hillsides (*ibid.*). There has also been extensive quarrying of the local sandstone, both in the area of the present site and throughout the region. Mineral deposits in the area also include iron ore, present in the Carboniferous Limestone (particularly a stratum called Crease Limestone) underlying the Coal Measures, and which was also extensively mined (Hoyle 2008, 36). The British Geological Survey (site accessed February, 2014) records the solid geology of the area of the site as follows:

South Wales Upper Coal Measures Formation Mudstone, Siltstone, Sandstone, Coal, Ironstone and Ferricrete. Sedimentary Bedrock formed approximately 307 to 310 million years ago in the Carboniferous Period. Local environment previously dominated by swamps, estuaries and deltas.

The site lies at the southern end of a spur of land (the Allaston Ridge), which extends south-westwards from a high point of 203m aOD at Yorkley Slade, and is at least

¹ www.copac.ac.uk; www.biab.ac.uk; <http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/>; www.scholar.google.com



partly defined by a stream feeding down to the River Lyd to the west, and by Plummer's Brook, to the east. The site itself is set at a gentle incline, with a drop of 10m overall, from a maximum height of 140m aOD at the north-west corner, to 130m aOD at the south-east corner.

4 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Although now situated within Lydney civil parish, the site, historically, lay within the tithing of Allaston, which had been a separate estate from at least the time of Domesday (below), and was demarcated by Plummer's Brook to the east and the Newerne stream to the west (VCH 1996). The tithing contained within it a number of small farmsteads, which had all been the centres of small manors since the medieval period: Soilwell, Allaston Court, Rodley Manor and Hurst (*ibid.*). Soilwell manor, which may have encompassed the land comprising the study site, appears to have been in existence since at least the 13th century. Smith records two documentary references to "Suleie" and "Solewalle" in 1221 and 1282 respectively. Later references include "Soylewell" (1629) and "Soylwell" (1727; Smith 1964, 259). Smith suggests an origin for the place-name from Old English "sol", "mud, wallowing-place"; "wella", "well"; and "leah", "clearing" (*ibid.*), (or, more specifically, according to later authorities, "wood pasture" (pers.comm. Corcos 2014). Soilwell, as Hurst, Rodleys and Nass manors, remained as a single demesne farm, independent of the large Winters estate (below), into the 17th century and later (VCH 1996).

VCH suggests that the estate of Soilwell would originally have been formed from land assarted from the waste of the Forest (see below). It was originally held in demesne, directly from the Crown, who were in possession of the entire Forest, which constituted a valuable resource in terms of land and mineral rights etc. An early documentary reference (1284), to a grant of deer from the Forest, given to John of Sully to stock his parkland, is taken to refer to Soilwell (VCH 1996)². Soilwell is then absent from the documentary record for some three hundred years, until a reference of c.1600 records its purchase, amongst other lands at Lydney, by Thomas James, merchant and alderman of Bristol (*ibid.*). The estate remained in the James family until 1766, and VCH records its later descent through various hands, until it was purchased by Lord Bedisloe in the 1920s. The farmland remained part of his Lydney estate in 1990, Soilwell House having passed into separate ownership (*ibid.*).

The later history of Soilwell Farm, as recorded in the VCH, suggests that it was one of the larger farms of the parish, and by 1818 enclosed an area of 166 acres. Most of the farms on the higher ground in this part of the parish were, at that date, at least half given over to arable, on a three-course traditional rotation.

Hulks Farm, 300m to the north-west of the study area, first enters the documentary record in the 16th century, as "The Holkes" (1565), from Old English "hulc", meaning "shed" (Smith 1964, 260). A farmhouse is reported to have stood at The Hulks, adjacent to the Yorkley Road, in 1668, but had been demolished by the 19th century (VCH 1996). This earlier settlement centred around Hulks Farm is suggested by the

² It should also be noted that the village of Sully, between Barry and Penarth, also existed as a manor in the post-Conquest period, and that the above reference may refer to the latter Sully (pers.comm. N.Corcos, February 2014).



presence of building platforms to the north of the present buildings, listed on the HER as GSMR 33222 (see **Archaeological Evidence**, below). A pair of farm cottages was later built at The Hulks, and were being restored as a single dwelling in 1990 (*ibid.*).

The tithing of Allaston itself is not recorded by name in Domesday, and Moore (1988, 90) suggests that its history is “obscure”. At the time of Domesday, the site (and Allaston itself) lay within the Hundred of B(l)edisloe. Moore suggests that the Allaston estate should be identified with the following unnamed estate in B(l)edisloe Hundred, held by William son of Norman:

*1 hide and ½ virgate of land. Siward and Winstan held them. In lordship 2 ploughs; 17 smallholders with 5 ploughs.
The value was 15s.; now 30s.
(Moore 1982, 37,5)*

Confusion had arisen from the misidentification of Allaston with “Aluredstone”, an identification perhaps first put forward by the 18th century historian, Samuel Rudder (1779, 529). Unfortunately, the place-name volume for Gloucestershire (Smith 1964, 258) follows Rudder in identifying Allaston with “Aluredstone”, so it is not known for certain when the name first occurs in the historical record. Smith records an “Al(l)jeston” in 1559 and again (“alias Alaston”) in 1576 (*ibid.*). Further mid-16th century entries include “Alyastons Court”, listed in 1557 and “the Court of Aleston” in 1559 (*ibid.*). An intriguing entry in the Gloucester Record Office catalogue, summarising a document dated to 1368 (GRO D7610/1/3/3), records:

Lydney: land and tenements with appurtenances which were granted to John Ganare of Aylstone by Richard Hobbesone of Alverston.

Unfortunately, the original document was unavailable for consultation, as it was classed unfit for production.

The later descent of the Allaston estate through various hands during the 16th century is traced in the VCH (VCH 1996). In or before 1568, it was acquired by the Winter family, who were to become major land-holders in the Lydney area. The family sold much of the land, including the Allaston Court farm, in 1668, to Gloucester Corporation, as trustees of Sir Thomas Rich’s School, Gloucester. The successors to the Trust sold the land in 1907 to Charles Bathurst, who incorporated it within his Lydney estate. The Lydney estate sold most of its Allaston lands in the mid-20th century, most of which have been acquired for building (*ibid.*).

The earliest map consulted for the project (a copy of the tithe map, dated 1840; GRO D/D/Rt/M/416) shows that a portion of land at the northern end of Allaston tithing, directly adjacent to the study area, is known as “Alliston Meend”. Allaston Meend first enters the documentary record in 1565, as “Allestons Mende” (1565), from Middle English, “munede”, “forest waste” (Smith 1964, 260). However, a document in the Gloucester Record Office catalogue, which, also, was unfortunately unfit for production (GRO D7610/1/3/1) dates to 1315, and purportedly refers to a tenement in “Alleston Mesne”:

Bryce Martyn of Aluyton [Alvington] gave to daughter Ellen a tenement in Alureston [Alleston Mesne in Lydney] includes 20 acres of assarts [named] purchased from Robert de Wodhulle and 2 (sic) pieces of land in Northfeld and half an acre of meadow at Deuwelle.

The comments in brackets were reportedly added by the transcriber, at an unknown date, so the identification has to remain uncertain.

The term, Meend, as in Clearwell Meend and Mitcheldean Meend refers to large areas of waste-land, on the borders between the Forest and the manorial lands, which were used by the inhabitants for commoning their livestock (VCH 1996). The VCH records that Allaston Meend had been cleared of trees in the 17th century by the Winters family (above) in order to make charcoal to fuel their iron furnace (VCH 1996). The last trees on the Meend, a grove adjoining Soilwell, were reportedly felled by Charles Winter in 1677 in a dispute over rights on the common. The VCH records that, by 1668, five cottages had been built on Allaston Meend Common, and were still there twenty-five years later, despite manorial court rulings to have them demolished (*ibid.*). Tenants of the Lydney manors also had rights of common pasture on the Purlieu, Aylburton Common, Needs Top, the Tufts and Stockwell Green, which, together with several areas of meadow-land, were enclosed by Act of Parliament in 1864. Their common rights in other areas of woodland and waste had been curtailed by the manorial lords after the medieval period.

Map evidence since enclosure (below) shows that much of this common land has never been subjected to ploughing, and remains as rough scrubland into the present day (VCH 1996; see **Historic Map Evidence** and **Plate h**, below).

At the southern end of the Meend, the hamlet of Primrose Hill emerged post-Enclosure as a roadside settlement, which gradually extended between Allaston Court and Lower Meend in the later 19th century, with later infilling in the early 20th century, and the addition of a large private housing estate in the 1960s and 70s (*ibid.*).

Lydney Parish

The history of Lydney itself is traced in detail in the VCH (1996), and in the slightly more recent Historic Town Survey (Douthwaite and Devine 1998), so need not be recorded in detail in the present report. Earliest documentary references to Lydney consist of two charters, the first, supposedly of mid-9th century date, a lost copy of which is listed in summary by Sawyer (Sawyer 1968, S1702), granting an estate at Lydney (Lideneg) from Burgred, king of the Mercians, to Ethelred (Finberg 1961, no.72). Finberg records that the estate subsequently passed to Glastonbury Abbey. Abrams 1996, 165) casts doubt on this assertion, and suggests that the Lydney in question may refer to an as yet unidentified manor, closer to the Abbey. A second charter, of 972, includes land at Lydney amongst lands granted by King Edgar to Pershore Abbey (Sawyer 1968, S786). At the time of Domesday (1086), Lydney was recorded as a sizeable royal manor, formed from lands belonging to the Bishop of Hereford (3 hides), lands held by Pershore Abbey (6 hides), and from 3 hides held by two thanes:

*In lordship 3 ploughs; 8 smallholders.
A mill at 40d; woodland 1 league long and 1 1/2 wide.
In total it pays £7.
(Moore 1982, 1.55)*

At Domesday, Lydney was included within its own Hundred of Lydney. By the time of Rudder (1779), Lydney, together with Alliston (*sic*), was included in the “Forest division” in the Hundred of “Blideslow”, and much of the history of the settlement, from the medieval period onwards, is bound up with that of the Forest (see below).

Shortly after 1086, the majority of the Lydney estate passed to the earls of Warwick (VCH 1996). The estate was at that time based around the twin settlements of Lydney and Newerne, and was divided between two manors, one held in demesne by the earls of Warwick, and one held from them by the Talbot family. The earls’ manor, recorded from 1205, became known as Lydney Warwick, and passed through various hands, with the earldom of Warwick, until it was sold in 1560 to the Winter family (*ibid.*). The second manor, Lydney Shrewsbury, was held from the earls of Warwick by the Talbots, until it, too, was sold to the Winter family prior to 1562. In 1604, John Winter, the then owner of the Lydney estate, was given a grant in fee of the bulk of the royal demesne land in the Forest. Having sold off many of the farms in Purton, Nass, Awre and Allaston in the 17th century, the Winter family retained the remaining portions of the Lydney estate until 1723, when it was sold to Benjamin Bathurst (see above). The estate remained in the hands of the Bathurst family into the 20th century, and comprised over 1,214 ha (3,000 acres) of land in 1990 (*ibid.*).

The town was granted the right to hold a market from 1268 (CMH), but it is not clear how long the market survived (VCH 1996). The town was granted borough status in 1322 (*ibid.*). Its later history is bound up with its extensive non-agricultural resources, many of which originate from the area of the Forest of Dean. These include mineral deposits, timber, iron-working, and, along the Severn Estuary, saltmarsh and fisheries. In the 19th century, the town’s prosperity was heavily dependent on the coal trade, based on the Forest of Dean, and iron-working, including ore-mining and tinplate manufacture (*ibid.*).

Iron-working in the area has been recorded from the Romano-British period onwards (Casey *et al.* 1999, 81). Field-name evidence, such as “Cinder Mead” and “Cinder Piece”, and quantities of cinders dug from the slopes of Allaston tithing, record evidence for earlier iron-working in the area (VCH 1996). The VCH cites documents of 13th, 14th and 15th century date, which record the use of iron-working forges in or around Lydney itself. Prior to 1600, Sir William Winter constructed an iron-working furnace and forge on the Newerne stream (later called the River Lyd), which was dammed to create large ponds (*ibid.*). During the 17th century, the Winter family increased the scale of the industry, felling trees from their own estate and from the demesne woodlands of the Forest to create charcoal for fuel. In the later 17th century, the Winters constructed the three main forges on the Newerne stream, which were later to become the Upper, Middle and Lower Forges. Some idea of the scale of the industry may be gained by the fact that, in 1714, an agreement was made to supply 80 tons of iron per year to a Bristol ironmonger (*ibid.*). Rudder, writing in 1779, records that, below the soil, are:

inexhaustible treasures of iron ore and cinders, pit-coal, red and yellow ochre, lime stone and other fossils .Mr Bathurst has a large furnace for smelting the iron ore, and several forges for manufacturing of iron.

(Rudder 1779, 524)

Further works, including an additional forge and a narrow canal, were added in the late 18th/early 19th centuries, and the development of a tin-plating works in 1844 (VCH). This was soon to become a major employer in the Lydney area, employing four hundred men in 1864. The tin-plating works remained the major source of employment in Lydney until the mid-20th century, and did not finally close until 1957, by which time it had come under the aegis of the Steel Company of Wales (*ibid.*).

As noted above (**Geological and Topographical Background**), this area of the Forest of Dean is also rich in coal, limestone and sandstone deposits. Coal is known to have been mined here from at least 1282 (VCH 1996). Later, 17th century references to coal-mining include the record of an engine house (presumably water- or animal-powered), presumably in association with a mine, in Kidnalls Wood (approximately 1km to the west of the present site) in 1660. In the late 18th century, the rights to mine at this location were disputed by free miners, who claimed exclusive rights to coal deposits within the Forest. By the 1770s, a lease suggests that the Bathurst estate in the Lydney area was capable of providing 1,000 tons of coal per year. The coal was shipped by canal down to Lydney Pill, from where it was transported further afield via the River Severn (*ibid.*).

Stone was quarried throughout the upland area of the parish, again from at least the medieval period onwards. Documentary references include a late 18th century lease, giving the lessee of the adjacent ironworks the right to quarry stone from the adjoining woods of Kidnalls (above) and Snead (VCH 1996). The census of 1881 (recorded in VCH) suggests that, at that time, there were thirty men within the parish employed in mining and quarrying, the majority of whom lived at either Allaston or Primrose Hill. Map evidence (below) shows that new pits were still being sunk in the early 20th century (Hulks Colliery and Sulla Colliery), but the industry had come to an effective end by 1960, when the railway passing through Lydney, which had served to transport coal from the Forest mines since the 19th century, was finally closed (VCH 1996).

Map evidence (below) also shows further minor industrial activity in the immediate area of the site, in the form of a short-lived brick and tile works established just beyond the north-east corner of the site in the early 20th century.

Woodland

The Forest of Dean itself had been reserved for royal hunting since before 1066 (VCH 1996). By the 13th century, it reached its largest extent, encompassing all the land between the Rivers Severn and Wye, and extending as far north as Ross-on-Wye, Gloucester and Newent. In 1327, revised bounds reduced the extent of the forest to a central portion, held in royal demesne, and a further 14 parishes, or parts

of parishes, mostly within St Briavels Hundred (*ibid.*). After 1668, in practice, the Forest comprised only that part held in royal demesne, which remained extra-parochial until the 1840s (*ibid.*). A study of the changing boundaries of the Forest from the medieval period onwards is provided in Hart 1945 (see **Bibliography**), but, without the help of detailed maps, it has proved difficult to establish the exact status of the study area at any particular period prior to the tithe of 1840. It is assumed, however, that the site would, historically, have lain on the fringes of the Forest itself, perhaps constituting land assarted from the Forest, and possibly forming a part of the small medieval estate of Soilwell (above).

The nearest woods which would have originally been included within the Forest itself are those named Kidnalls and Snead (later Maple Hill), lying just to the west of the site. These two areas of woodland were removed from the royal demesne by 1668, but remained extra-parochial (*ibid.*). The site itself lies between the above-named woodlands and Allaston Meend (see above), the area of waste, bordering the manorial lands to the east, which would have been used historically for the commoning of livestock. From the 18th century onwards, these fringes of the original Forest were being increasingly settled, often by local miners or quarrymen, who established smallholdings on formerly extra-parochial forest land.

The main history of the demesne land of the Forest, from medieval times onwards, has been dominated by the attempt to maintain the rights to the forest resources, of timber, venison, and the iron-mining and coal industries (VCH 1996). Within the Forest, the rights to quarry stone, and to mine coal and iron ore, had been traditionally reserved for the free miners, from the 13th and 14th century onwards (*ibid.*). These men worked small, portable bloomery forges within the royal demesne, but also on the outskirts of the Forest, which would have left mounds of cinders (iron-rich slag), which remain to the present day, and some of which were later re-processed by the water-powered furnaces of the 16th century onwards (*ibid.*).

Much of the woodland of the forest would have been depleted for the production of charcoal in the 16th and 17th centuries (above), when the Stuart kings allowed permanent forges to be established within the Forest, allocating an annual quota of wood for charcoal production (*ibid.*). Competition over these limited resources became an issue from the 17th century onwards, and a programme of re-planting was begun in the 1660s (the Reafforestation Act of 1668), mainly to provide timber for the ship-building industry (VCH 1996). The latter Act also removed the ironworks and illegal squatters on the fringes of the Forest. By 1787, however, a total of six hundred dwellings had been re-established, in hamlets around the edges of the demesne (*ibid.*). From the early 19th century onwards, industry within the Forest became more effectively managed, with a new planting and enclosing programme. Tramroads were constructed, to transport coal out of the Forest; steam pumps were installed to permit deeper pits to be sunk, and coke fired blast-furnaces, for the smelting of iron ore, were introduced. By the later 19th/early 20th century, the Forest was an area of intense industrial activity, comprising coal and iron mines, iron and tin-plate works, foundries, quarries, chemical works, railways and tramroads. Settlement within and on the borders of the Forest, typified by the area around the study site, was characterised by, as VCH puts it sprawling hamlets on the periphery (*ibid.*).

Later In the 20th century (1924), the Forestry Commission took control of the Forest and the surrounding areas of woodland, and since that time the focus has been changed from one of intensive industrial use, to leisure and amenities, the last deep mines having closed in the 1960s (VCH 1996).

The woodland bordering the study area (now known as “Ten Acre Wood”) is classed as “ancient replanted woodland” (Magic.defra.gov) and is currently planted with trees which Magic classifies as “young trees” (*ibid.*). Map evidence shows that, from the time of the tithe of 1840, the area was, indeed, wooded (see **Figures 5-8**), but that by the time of the earliest aerial photograph (dated 1946, **Figure 10**) the Ten Acre Wood had been largely denuded of trees. Replanting had, however, taken place by 1958-9 (see OS map, **Figure 9**), which shows a mix of coniferous and deciduous woodland, as at present.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The strict remit of this study is to consider the evidence for archaeological survival in the vicinity of the study site, based on current knowledge as expressed in the Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record. This specific aspect of this review, therefore, is underpinned by information taken from a trawl of the Gloucestershire HER, on a 500m radius of the site, kindly provided by Anna Morris, Assistant Archaeologist, Gloucestershire County Council Archaeology Service. It should be noted that the HER trawl revealed no Scheduled Ancient Monuments within the boundary of the site itself, the closest being the 14th century wayside cross (SAM 28515), situated within Lydney town, 2.6km to the south-west. Of more direct archaeological significance are two further clusters of scheduled monuments, both over 3km from the site, the first to the south-west, comprising a nationally important Romano-British temple complex, with occupation, including iron-mining activity, from the 2nd century A.D. possibly through to the 5th or 6th century, and sited within the bounds of a well-preserved Iron Age promontory fort (SAM 28869; Casey et al.1999, 81ff.). Approximately 250m to the south-east of the promontory fort lie the remains of a 12th century tower keep castle, partially excavated in 1929-30, with standing walls up to 1.5m high (SAM 28870). The second cluster, over 3km to the north-east of the study site, consists of two related monuments, associated with a *possible* Roman Road (Margary 1973, no.614), the projected course of which, at its nearest point, runs only 200m from the study site (see below). The scheduling encompasses a short stretch of this road, at NGR SO 65309 38488 (Blackpool Bridge) and a part of Blackpool Bridge itself, which incorporates Roman masonry within later stonework (Nat. Mon. nos. 10004869 and 1004868).

A brief review of the general archaeological background will be useful for setting the site itself in the context of the known archaeological resource within the Lydney area. The Forest of Dean has been subject to a major recent archaeological survey (Hoyle 2008-2013), which included documentary research, field observation and Lidar survey, and has also been included within English Heritage’s National Mapping Programme, which incorporated data from aerial photographs (Small and Stoertz 2006). The surveys were undertaken in order to redress the imbalance in the number of known archaeological sites in the Forest of Dean area, when compared with the county of Gloucestershire as a whole, particularly those from the prehistoric,

Romano-British and medieval periods (Hoyle 2008, 27). The survey was designed to establish whether the paucity of sites from these periods within the Forest was a true reflection of a lack of human activity in the area at these times, or simply reflected a lack of fieldwork due to the adverse conditions for the identification of new sites (i.e. tree cover etc.; *ibid.*). Conversely, as noted in the **Historical Background** (above), the Forest of Dean is noted for its significant number of industrial remains, particularly relating to the extractive industries, extracting coal, iron-ore and stone, most of which date from the medieval period onwards, and have long been recognised as a significant part of the archaeological record. As part of the larger survey, a related survey, specifically targeting remains of early open-cast iron-ore extraction, in the form of small hollows, locally known as scowles was also undertaken (Hoyle 2008, 29ff).

Prehistoric Period

The general area of the study site was found to be particularly rich in findspots/artefact scatters of early prehistoric date. Of only three Palaeolithic sites within the Forest of Dean Survey area, one, the find-spot of an Upper Palaeolithic core, is located only 5 miles south-west of the study area, at Woolaston (Hoyle 2008, 69ff.). More significantly, the only definite evidence for Early Mesolithic activity within the Forest of Dean Survey area is an assemblage of Early Mesolithic flints from Soilwell Manor (GSMR 27510; *op.cit.* 73). The find-spot is located only 500m north-east of the study area, and a further two flint artefact assemblages were also recovered from the immediate vicinity. The first, an assemblage comprising five retouched flakes and eleven debris flakes (GSMR 17623) was recovered only 300m east of the study site. The second (GSMR 17624), comprised twenty-four retouched flints and thirty-two debris flakes, and was located approximately 800m north-east of the study area, at NGR SO 646 580. The above finds were the result of surface artefact collection undertaken by the Dean Archaeology Group, and the Survey suggests that the distribution pattern of such Neolithic artefacts/activity may be weighted towards areas of land which are currently under arable cultivation, as these are more favourable for field-walking (Hoyle 2008, 83).

Further possible Neolithic/Bronze Age activity, six miles west of the study area, at St Briavels, has been identified in the form of human remains associated with possible late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age pottery and flints (GSMR 21510) and further possible Bronze Age pottery at Rodmore Farm, St Briavels (GSMR 4390; Hoyle 2008, 100). A further find, of a possible Bronze Age cinerary urn, recovered at Lydney in 1939 (GSMR 5139) is also of uncertain date (*ibid.*). Of the fourteen Bronze Age axes and palstaves recovered as chance finds in the Forest of Dean area, a single bronze looped palstave (GSMR 6498) was recovered from Lydney town centre, approximately 2.3km south of the study area.

Gloucestershire as a whole is rich in Iron Age activity, and the county includes between thirty-two and forty-six hillforts within its borders (Hoyle 1986, 105). Within the Forest of Dean area, the Survey records four Iron Age hillforts, three of which, including the one at Lydney (GSMR 25, above) are classed as promontory forts. The Camp Hill, Lydney example is the only one of the four to have been excavated (see Wheeler and Wheeler 1932), and has been dated to the Middle Iron Age (c.300B.C; Hoyle 1986, 105ff.). The author of the Survey notes that such sites are located

around the periphery of the higher ground of the Forest, with access to watercourses, arable land and the iron ore outcrops within the Carboniferous limestone around the edges of the Forest (*op. cit.*106). Further evidence for Iron Age activity in the vicinity of the study area is suggested by the presence of sherds of Iron Age/early Roman pottery recovered during development in Lydney town centre (GSMR 5138). Although it is thought that iron ore processing and mining was undertaken during the Iron Age in the Forest of Dean area, securely dated sites have yet to be discovered (*op.cit.* 110). The numerous “scowles” and related earthworks which are ubiquitous throughout the Forest, and also occur within the woodland directly adjacent to the study site (below) are, for the most part, undated, but may date to as early as the Iron Age (Hoyle 2008, 110, and see the Scowles Survey, Hoyle 2004, **Bibliography**).

The final piece of landscape evidence contributing to the general background of the study site in the prehistoric period, is a cluster of place-names ending in “-loe”, which Hoyle’s Survey suggests, may be indicative of the location of either prehistoric funerary mounds or pagan Saxon burials (Hoyle 2008, 135ff; 180.). A significant number of such sites (e.g. Etloe, Hayloe, Bledisloe) are located in Awre parish, which lies just to north of Lydney parish, with the nearest example, Etloe, only 3.6km east of the study area.

Romano-British Period

The “Scowles Survey” (Hoyle 2004) details archaeological research which has been undertaken into the iron ore extraction industry, which is considered to be the main focus of activity in the area during the Romano-British period (Hoyle 2008, 159). There is also, however, evidence of high status domestic settlement, in the form of a small number of villas, of which two, at Lydney Park Farm (GSMR 6377) and a possible example at Blakeney (GSMR 18426) lie within a radius of 4km of the study site (*ibid.*). Approximately 3.6km south-west of the study area, excavations undertaken by Wheeler in the 1920s revealed a substantial Romano-British temple complex (GSMR 25), with ancillary buildings and evidence of iron-mining, located within the boundaries of an earlier, Iron Age promontory fort (above; Wheeler and Wheeler 1932). More recent excavation has refined the dating of these features (Casey et al. 1999, 80ff.) and suggests that the religious buildings were constructed in the second half of the third century A.D., although some small-scale settlement had taken place previously. There was no suggestion of either continuity of occupation from the Iron Age settlement, or of occupation after the Romano-British period (*ibid.*), (although see Hoyle 2008, 179 for a discussion of possible Dark Age re-fortification).

Within the town of Lydney itself, a second focus of Romano-British settlement has been suggested, to the north of the Roman road (below), which included metal-working activity, and has been dated by the presence of late Iron Age and Roman pottery of 2nd-3rd century date (GSMR 5138; Douthwaite and Devine 1998, 21). Further Romano-British finds have been recorded elsewhere in the town (GSMR 5139, 6371 and 6499), with excavations at Whitecross Manor revealing possible Romano-British buildings (GSMR 5656; *ibid.*). Further potential Romano-British settlement evidence was revealed during excavation along the route of the Lydney by-pass, on the gravel terraces to the south-east of the town (Hoyle 1991).

The site lies relatively close to the course of a known Roman road (Margary 1973, no.60a), which ran between Gloucester and Caerleon, linking the high ground of the Forest with the low lying land adjacent to the River Severn (Douthwaite and Devine 2008, 21). In the Lydney area, this road linked Etloe and Alvington, and its course is suggested to the west of the town (GSMR 6212, *ibid.* and see also Margary 1973, 323-4). Of more direct relevance to the study site itself, is a subsidiary road, the Dean Road (GSMR 5904), long considered to be of Roman origin, but whose dating has recently come under scrutiny. Hoyle (Hoyle 2008, 170-1) devotes two pages of his archaeological survey to a detailed review of the evidence for and against a Roman date for this feature, whose projected course passes only 300m to the east of the study site. He concludes that the road as it presently exists (see **Plate g**) is likely to be considerably later in date (probably post medieval) and that, although it may represent the line of an earlier route, its “Roman origin cannot be substantiated” (*ibid.*). The dating of the two scheduled ancient monuments, Blackpool Bridge and the associated length of Roman Road (SAMs 1004868 and 1004869), which lie 3.6km to the north-east of the study site, may therefore be called into question.

Significant Romano-British/prehistoric activity, consisting of an extensive system of earthworks of probable prehistoric/Romano-British date (GSMR 33224), overlain by 1st century A.D. smelting waste, was detected by Lidar and further characterised by field evaluation and carbon dating, at a distance of only 500m west of the study area. Further similar earthworks in the vicinity, also detected by Lidar (GSMR 33236 and 33233) some 700m south-west of the study area, may be associated with contemporary activity (see entry for GSMR 33224). Further, more precisely datable Romano-British activity in the vicinity is suggested by the discovery of a significant hoard of over 3,000 bronze coins, silver objects and possible linen fragments, dated to A.D. 354-9, 800m to the north-east of the study site (NGR SO 645060) adjacent to the Dean Road (Rhodes 1974, 65-74).

Early Medieval Period

Evidence for early medieval activity within the Forest of Dean in general is limited, and this is equally true of the vicinity of the study area. Apart from the possible re-occupation of the Iron Age promontory fort (above), evidence is restricted to the cluster of place-names ending in “-loe”, possibly indicative of pagan Saxon burial mounds (Hoyle 2008, 179-80; above) and to the possible early charter references, which suggest that the lands which would later form a part of the Lydney estate would have been a valuable asset, when granted to Glastonbury abbey pre-Domesday (Douthwaite and Devine 1998, 21; but see also Abrams 1996, 165 ff., who casts doubt on Glastonbury’s possession of Lydney).

Medieval Period

In the medieval period, documentary evidence would tend to suggest that the study site may have formed part of a small medieval estate centred around Soilwell, probably formed from land assarted from the Forest at an earlier date. The study site itself contains no known features dated to the medieval period, the nearest being an area of ridge and furrow, indicative of probable medieval open field arable cultivation, 400m to the south (GSMR 45858). Within Lydney itself, excavation has revealed a further area of medieval ridge and furrow in the area of the former Lydney Institute

(GSMR 14611).

As suggested in the **Historical Background**, above, the medieval archaeology of the study area would have been closely bound up with the intense industrial activity within the Forest of Dean, and it is possible that many of the features recorded within, and in the vicinity of the study area as undated may, in fact, date from the medieval period or earlier. A detailed discussion of medieval iron working and iron ore mining is provided in the Scowles and Iron Ore Extractive Industry Report (Hoyle 2004, see **Bibliography**). Similarly, both coal mining and stone quarrying are likely to have taken place in the area during the medieval period, exploiting surface outcrops on a small scale, but both are equally likely to remain undated in the archaeological record (Hoyle 2008, 207-8; 209-10).

Archaeological evidence for earlier working of iron ore in the area is suggested by the large piles of cinders, later exploited in the 18th century (Douthwaite and Devine 1998, 22, and see place-name evidence, Cinders, above). Charcoal burning platforms, such as those within Ten Acre Wood, immediately adjacent to the study site (GSMR 26025), may well be of medieval origin.

The concentration of undated mining/quarrying/iron ore processing remains immediately adjacent to the study site, and which spill over into the site itself, is thus an important archaeological resource, as these remains could date from any period from the Romano-British onwards, and could form part of a programme of further investigation into these industries, as suggested by Hoyle in both the Scowles report (Hoyle 2004) and in the main archaeological survey (Hoyle 2008, 207ff).

Although Hulks Farm does not enter the documentary record until the late 17th century (VCH 1996), Lidar has shown up to five building platforms just to the north of the farm, which may be indicative of earlier occupation. Unfortunately, by the time of the site visit, the area appeared to have been levelled to construct a paddock (see below). It is likely that Soilwell Farm (see **Frontispiece**) too, has medieval origins. The English Heritage listing refers to a date stone of 1437 (no longer *in situ*) and a cursory visual inspection at the time of the site visit suggested that, although the external fabric of the house itself is of 17th century date, it may well conceal fabric of earlier date.

In the wider area, the picture during the medieval period is one of small-scale but intensive industrial activity in the Forest, to the west, and numerous small, scattered settlements to the east of the study area. Allaston itself is known, from documentary evidence, to have medieval origins (above), and the town of Lydney is known to have had its own church, and therefore to have been a relatively major settlement, by 1071 (Douthwaite and Devine 2008, 22). Overlooking the Severn estuary, excavations in 1930 revealed the upstanding remains of a tower keep castle of probable early Norman date (GSMR 44; Hoyle 2008, 198) and further early castle sites, in association with possible early settlement, have been suggested at Awre, Alvington, Bledisloe and Naas (Hoyle 2008, 200).

Post medieval period (including undated industrial features)

As already noted above, probably the most important general element of the wider

archaeological context, which impinges, too, on the area of the study site, is the survival of extensive remains of post medieval (and probably earlier) industrial activity. A glance at Figure 41 of the Forest of Dean Archaeological Survey (Hoyle 2008), labelled Mineral Extraction Sites (reproduced here as **Figure 4**) shows that the area is peppered with industrial remains deriving from the extractive industries of stone-quarrying, coal mining, iron ore extraction, and associated industrial works. As noted above, these features are notoriously difficult to date, and, where the feature in question consists of an uninvestigated cropmark or earthwork feature, could potentially date from any period from the Romano-British onwards.

Within the study area itself, the HER records three features, numbered GSMR 33241, 26110 and 26081, all bordering the western edge of the site, and one running across the upper half, which fall within the broad category of undated industrial features. GSMR 26110 is recorded as a possible post medieval colliery site, although no colliery was recorded at this location on earlier OS maps (see **Map Evidence**, below). Mining activity in this location is thus likely to pre-date the earliest OS maps (i.e. be of pre-1878 date). Similarly, the linear cropmark, shown by the HER running diagonally south-west/north-east across the site, linking the above possible colliery with Soilwell Farm, is not shown on any of the published maps (below), so is likely to be of earlier date. Feature 26081, which, like many of the following features, was revealed by aerial photographic evidence, consists of the earthworks of a possible quarry, again undated, in the north-western quadrant of the site, accompanied by the cropmark of a possible spoil-heap. The latter feature was not visible during the site visit (see below) and may well have been removed by modern quarrying. In the south-west corner of the study area, the earthworks of further probable mining/quarrying were revealed by Lidar (GSMR 33241). These were indeed visible at the time of the site visit, and extended for some considerable distance into the woodland to the west (GSMR 26047; **Plates b, c and d**).

Immediately adjacent to the study area, the HER records further aerial photographic evidence of a probable post medieval spoil-heap, towards the centre of the northern boundary of the site (GSMR 26080), not visible at the time of the site visit, and a further large area of mounds and hollows, revealed by Lidar, which encompass a significant proportion of the field immediately to the north-west of the site (GSMR 33238).

The spread of industrial features continues into Ten Acre Wood, to the west and south of the site, most of which were located by the HER from either aerial photographic evidence or from early Ordnance Survey maps. The best preserved of these features (and most noticeable at the time of the site visit) is the area of undated quarrying activity bordering the study site (GSMR 26047). Further undated quarrying remains are noted to the south (GSMR 10912), associated with a hollow way (GSMR 26026), whose projected course would take it in a northerly direction up the eastern side of the study site (see below, for a possible continuation of this feature visible on aerial photographs, and as possible earthwork remains). A large area (500m north-south by 100m east-west) of the wood immediately west of the study site is occupied by an area of charcoal burning, with no fewer than seventeen separate recorded charcoal burning platforms (GSMR 26025), waste-heaps and associated hollow ways. Features within the Wood which are likely to be of post medieval date include a number of trial levels, noted on 1st to 3rd Edition OS maps (GSMR 20966 and

22054), which refer to horizontal passages excavated into the hillside, and a blocked adit (GSMR 38302), all probably the remains of iron ore or coal extraction. Two further spoil-heaps (GSMR 26142) are also noted. All the above features are located at a distance of less than 300m from the study area, within an area of steeply-sloping woodland to either side of the Newerne Stream .

Hulks Farm itself is of 17th century origin, although the present buildings date to no earlier than the late 19th century (GSMR 21531). The undated building platforms to the north have already been mentioned (under Medieval Period) above, but it is possible that they are later in date. Hulks Colliery and Sulla Colliery (GSMR 21531 and 10914) are recorded, to the north of the Farm, on OS maps of late 19th/early 20th century date. Associated spoil-heaps, a shaft and enclosures are noted on aerial photographs (*ibid.*). A tramway, with associated embankment, linking the two mines and extending to the north, is shown on 3rd Edition OS and, as earthworks only, on OS maps of the 1970s (GSMR 20441).

Soilwell House and Barn, which are both Grade II listed, are said to date from the 17th/18th centuries, although it is almost certain that the house itself has medieval origins (above; GSMR 12690, 12691). An internal date stone records the original house as dating to 1437, with a later rebuilding of 1661 (*ibid.*). The English Heritage listing records it as a farmhouse of importance in the parish , although it now appears somewhat dilapidated (see **Frontispiece**).

Post medieval and undated features within the wider area of the study site are, again, predominantly industrial in character, and include much the same types of activity as those closer to the study area. Within a radius of some 600m of the study area, the HER records three probable post medieval stone quarries, two identified on OS maps, and one from aerial photographic evidence (GSMR 10924, 21388 and 26143). At the south-west corner of Ten Acre Wood, the HER records two extensive areas of earthworks (GSMR 26129 and 26130), which each include surface workings, upcast and possible shafts, probably from coal-mining or possible stone quarrying. A significant number of further probable extraction pits, of unknown date, are recorded some 700m north-west of the study area (GSMR 33227), occurring in a linear band along the eastern edge of Kidnalls Wood, with a possible extension to the north-east, in the form of cropmark evidence (GSMR 4350). A further widespread area of charcoal burning platforms was indicated by aerial photography some 500m south-east of the study site (GSMR 26035). A rectilinear earthwork feature, possibly earlier in date, and associated with the possible field system noted above (GSMR 33236) was also recorded (GSMR 43383).

More discrete features, which are of known post medieval date, within the wider area, include the aforementioned Dean Road (GSMR 5904), although see Hoyle 2008 for a detailed review of the dating evidence. The only recent iron-working forge within a 600m radius of the site survives as a ruin on current OS data and is listed by the HER as a 19th century forge, visible on OS maps to the south-west of the study site (GSMR 20968), and served by a tramway (GSMR 20969). A second tramway embankment is recorded some 70m to the west (GSMR 26131). Immediately to the east of the forge, and presumably associated with it, the HER records a dam, weir and ponds (GSMR 20972) on the tributary of the Lyd, which flows through Ten Acre Wood.

Modern Period

The archaeology of the modern period within and in the general area of the study site is largely covered below, under **Map Evidence** and **Aerial Photographic Evidence**. The main feature dating to the modern period recorded on the HER is the brick and tile works, located at the north-western corner of the site (HER 10916), and dating to the early 20th century. Two associated quarries and a spoil-heap are visible on aerial photographs of the mid-20th century. The site later became a saw mill (OS 1976, see **Map Evidence**, below) and is now a saw mill and associated scrap yard.

Summary

This, then, sets the general archaeological background for the site, and also sets out what is known at present about the archaeological potential of the site itself. As may be seen, the surrounding area is rich in remains dating from the prehistoric period onwards. The majority of the archaeology in the immediate vicinity, including that present within the boundaries of the site itself, consists of earthworks and cropmarks relating to the extractive industries characteristic of the Forest of Dean, which are, for the most part, undated, but may date from any period from Romano-British onwards. Hoyle suggests, in the Forest of Dean Survey, that investigation of such features could form part of an overall strategy, particularly with the aim of identifying pre-industrial revolution sites, which have been comparatively little researched (Hoyle 2008, 207 and *passim*).

6 HISTORIC MAP EVIDENCE

Unfortunately, the tithe map for Lydney, which would normally provide the earliest source of primary map evidence, was unfit for production at the Gloucestershire Record Office, but a hand-drawn copy was made available to the author by staff at the Gloucestershire HER. The tithe, which was taken in 1840, but signed in 1843, shows the area of the study site sub-divided into land parcels along a completely different alignment from those of the present day. The site is divided along a central north-west/south-east aligned boundary, with, to the north, two separate parcels, The Eight Acres and The Two Acres. To the south lies The Ten Acres. These acreages, perhaps somewhat unusually, are likely to represent a true area of the site, as the First Edition 25 OS (1881) shows their respective areas as 10.697a for The Ten Acres, and 9.693 for the combined area of The Eight Acres and The Two Acres. The modern total area of the study site is given as 7.6 ha, or just over 18 acres (see **Figure 2**). Incidentally, it can be seen that Ten Acre Wood, which lies just to the west of the site, measures far in excess of ten acres in area, and therefore must have been named after the adjacent Ten Acre Field. The tithe gives the land-use of the various parcels as arable, for The Eight Acres and The Two Acres, and pasture and brake for The Ten Acres. The term, brake is interesting, in that it may suggest land assarted from the Forest, from Old English, brec, braec, land broken up for cultivation (Mills 1993, 379), or, conversely, may be of 16th century derivation, and refer to thicket or brushwood (OED 1964, 143). The southern parcel of the study area, The Ten Acres, includes within it the small, roughly triangular area of land, now partitioned off from the main site, in the south-eastern corner, bordered by Ten Acre

Wood to the west and Allaston Meend to the east.

Immediately to the east of the site lies a large expanse (98 acres) of “common waste”, named, on the tithe, “Alliston Meend”, bordered by enclosed farmland to the south and the north. Five tiny isolated pockets of enclosed land are shown within the Meend, one of which is located hard against the eastern boundary of the study site, and one at the south-eastern tip of The Ten Acres. Soilwell Farm and barn are shown, flanked by Upper and Lower Orchards, whereas Hulks Farm is shown as “Field and Barn” only, although with a large field to the north, named “Great Hulks”, and a slightly smaller field to the west, named “Crab Tree Hulks”. Probably the most striking feature of this portion of the tithe map is the large swathe of unenclosed common and woodland, still in existence at this date, which runs west-east from Alliston Meend, encompassing Tingleys Wood, Horage Wood, Neds Top Common, Hay Tuft Wood and the Purlieu. This copy of the tithe is not, unfortunately, authorized for reproduction, but the relative location of these features may be seen, as they are named on modern maps, such as that reproduced here as **Figure 1**. The apportionment for Lydney (GDR/Ti/117), dated 1840, lists the total acreage for the parish as 6,668 acres, of which the titheable land is apportioned into 1355 acres of arable, 2930 acres of meadow/pasture, 1386 acres of woodland and 589 acres of common/waste. The parish included within it an estate in the chapelry of Aylburton, Prior Lodge and Warren, of 267 acres, owned by the Priory of Llanthony, and therefore exempt from the payment of tithes. Finally, it should be noted that the course of the Dean Road, where it passes to the east of Soilwell Farm (above) is respected by the field boundaries shown on the tithe.

The next map in the series, an enclosure map of 1864 (GRO Q/RI/93), is only fifteen years later in date, but shows quite a change in the landscape to the east of the study area. The map is not reproduced here, as it does not show the study area itself, although we know that by this date it had already been enclosed (see notes on tithe map, above). The enclosure map does show the eastern boundary of the study area, and indicates that, at this time, land within the study area was owned by the “Trustees of Rich’s Hospital” (a school in Gloucester to whom much of the land in Allaston was sold in 1668 by the Winter family; VCH 2006). The enclosure map shows the original track across Allaston Meend (originally shown on the tithe) as “Parish Road” (now “Allaston Road”), with small rectilinear land parcels bordering it to the west, and larger ones to the east, showing that part, at least, of the common land was enclosed at this date. The course of the Dean Road (labelled “Forest Road”) is shown continuing further south than shown on the tithe, to meet the Parish Road south of Soilwell.

The next map in the sequence which does depict the area of the study site is the First Edition OS 25” sheet. The site in fact is spread over two sheets, Gloucestershire 39.14 and 39.15, both surveyed in 1878, and published in 1881. A composite image, incorporating the relevant portions of both maps, is presented here as **Figure 5**. The study area itself is by this date partitioned into just two parcels, with The Two Acres subsumed into the northern parcel. Two footpaths are shown bordering the study site, one running along the northern boundary, and one following the sinuous boundary within Ten Acre Wood, to the west. Allaston Meend, post-Enclosure, is now a relatively narrow band of scrubland, still retaining within it the isolated pocket of land noted above, hard against the eastern boundary of the site, and recorded on the

Enclosure map as belonging to the Reverend Bathurst. A small pond and a couple of wells are shown within the triangular extension to the southern parcel, just to the south-east of the study area, accompanied by a building, to the south.

Within Ten Acre Wood, a functioning quarry is depicted, at the location of HER 40912, with an east-west aligned trackway running from it, slightly to the north of that depicted on modern OS maps. To the south-west of the quarry, the OS record a Trial Level, or horizontal coal-working shaft, sunk into the scarp of the hillside (recorded on the HER as 22054).

Two buildings are shown at Hulks Farm, which is labelled The Hulks, and may not necessarily be a farm at this date, with a small area of woodland and a pond to the north. Soilwell House and barn are depicted, together with two ancillary buildings, a pond and a small area of woodland between the yard area to the south and the Parish Road. The portion of the Dean Road north-east of Soilwell is labelled Roman Road, and two Old Quarries are labelled, one to the east of Soilwell (HER 10924) and one 1km to the north of the study area, at Badhamsfield. A further, presumably functioning quarry, is depicted, east of Badhamsfield. The only other industrial site noted on this map is Yorkley Colliery (shown as disused), located some 900m north-west of the study area. A scattering of buildings is shown, bordering the south-west/north-east road running into Little Allaston. This housing only very gradually increased over the following century, and the road was not continuously bordered by houses until the 1970s (below).

Figure 6 presents the First Edition of the OS 6 map (Gloucestershire sheet 39 SE), published 1884, only a short while after the 25 sheets. Both editions were, in fact, based on the same initial survey data, and the 6 map is reproduced here uniquely because of the clarity of the image.

Figure 7 presents a composite extract from the Second Edition of the OS 25 sheets 39.14 and 39.15, revised in 1901, and published two years later. There has apparently been very little change since the original survey within the study area itself. Further coal-working has been undertaken to the north-east, in the form of a Trial Level with accompanying air shaft just to the west of Soilwell Farm, which was presumably unsuccessful. A short-lived colliery has, however, been established at The Hulks (still not recorded as a farm), complete with air shaft and coal slope (probably an inclined plane, for transporting coal trucks). This is recorded on the HER as GSMR 10915. The quarry, depicted within Ten Acre Wood, appears very much enlarged.

The Third Edition OS was revised in 1920, some nineteen years after the Second Edition. **Figure 8** shows a composite extract, (same sheet numbers), again with little discernible change within the study area. In the south-east corner of the site, the scrubland of Allaston Meend has encroached into the southern land parcel, and is demarcated from the main parcel by a dashed boundary. This small triangular area does, however, form a separate new parcel, numbered 13a, and its acreage is given as 1.432. At the north-eastern end of Allaston Meend, just outside the north-eastern corner of the site, a brick and tile works has been established (GSMR 10916), with associated kilns and a large quarry hollow. Although not shown on **Figure 8**, an important area of post medieval industrial activity is located just to the north and

north-east of The Hulks. It seems as though, in the intervening twenty years, the coal supply at The Hulks had been exhausted, and that a nearby seam was being exploited at Sulla Colliery (GSMR 10914), only 360m to the north-east. A tramway (GSMR 20441) is shown linking Sulla Colliery with the nearby road (now labelled Yorkley Lane). A drift mine (GSMR 20442) is shown just to the north of Sulla Colliery. Although it is not completely clear from the OS map, it appears that the earthworks labelled 10914 on the HER map and referring to Sulla Colliery, in fact form a part of Hulks Colliery. Sulla Colliery, according to the 1922 OS, should in fact, be located some 300m to the north-east. By the time of this Third Edition map, the large quarry within Ten Acre Wood is no longer functioning.

The most recent map reproduced in the present report as **Figure 7** is an extract from OS 25 maps of 1958-9, accessed on-line via Old-maps . The study area remains substantially unaltered, with the exception of the south-eastern corner, which now appears to have been re-incorporated within the southern land parcel and cleared of scrub. Importantly for present purposes, a linear earthwork is shown within the study area, just south of the central north-west/south-east boundary. This earthwork was not observed during the site visit, and may well have lain within the area subject to possible modern quarrying activity (see **Aerial Photographic Evidence**, below). The HER records this feature as GSMR 26110 and suggests that it may represent the remains of former post medieval mining activity. A linear cropmark is also noted by the HER, leading from this feature across the upper portion of the study area in a north-easterly direction.

The former brick and tile works at the north-eastern corner of the study area has, by the 1950s, become disused, as has Sulla Colliery. The buildings of the brick works are no longer standing, and the quarry hollow has by this time become a large pond, with two subsidiary ponds to the south-east.

Completely new features which appear by this date are two sets of high voltage power cables, a pair of which run from south-west to north-east, just south of the south-east corner of the site, and a further power line, aligned south-south-west north-north-east, running 120m west of the study area, through Ten Acre Wood.

Further historic maps available online, dating from the 1970s to the 1990s, show little change within the study area itself (Old-maps). By the 1970s, the road to the south of the site (Allaston Road) is now fringed by development. The most recent online map accessed, somewhat unhelpfully dated 1978-1995, shows what is probably the most significant change to the boundaries of the study area, in that the northern boundary of the site, running between Allaston Meend and Ten Acre Wood, whose course was followed by a footpath, is no longer present. It should be noted, however, that on more recent maps, such as that provided as a base-map for the Gloucestershire HER (OS 2013) this northern boundary, and the accompanying footpath, have been reinstated. The 1978-95 map shows the site, instead, divided south-west/north-east (a division existing to the present day), but with the western parcel extending right up to the Yorkley Road. This may indicate the boundaries to a possible quarry, observed on aerial photographs of 1979, which occupied the north-western portion of the site, and land to the north (see **Aerial Photographic Evidence**, below). The eastern portion of the site is shown extending as far north as Soilwell, and this too may be associated with earth-moving activity, which was

observed on aerial photographs of 1981 (below). The site of the brick works has, by this date, been replaced by a saw mill.

The most recent map accessed, that provided as a base-map by the Gloucestershire HER and dated 2013 (**Figure 3**), shows the site boundaries as at present, with a central south-west/north-east division between the land parcels. The triangular parcel at the south-east corner no longer forms a part of the adjacent larger field. The footpath is again shown, running along the northern boundary, and a couple of buildings are shown within the area of the saw mill, as at the present day.

7 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

For the purposes of this review, a trawl of all the available aerial photographic material held at the National Monuments Record, Swindon, was carried out on behalf of AAL by staff at the NMR, and the results of the entire trawl are given in **Appendix 1**.

Figure 10, dating to 1946, represents an example from an early run of RAF vertical images of the site in the collections of the NMR. The site itself, at this date, appears to be divided into four separate land parcels, a northern half and a south-western quadrant apparently under arable, and a south-eastern quadrant and small triangle of land in the centre-west of the site probably under pasture. A sparse hedge-line appears to divide the northern and southern halves of the site. A couple of linear features immediately stand out from this photograph, one running diagonally across the site from south-west to north-east (recorded as part of GSMR 26110) and one, running roughly parallel to the eastern boundary of the site, in a north-north-east/south-south-west direction. The latter is a possible continuation of the hollow way, recorded as GSMR 26026, whose course was visible at the edge of Ten Acre Wood as a linear earthwork, at the time of the site visit (below, and **Plate f**). The aerial photograph shows what appear to be earthworks just north of the south-western end of the diagonal linear (GSMR 26110, interpreted as a post medieval colliery) and further earthworks to the south (GSMR 33241, interpreted as a quarry). A darker area just north of GSMR 26110 may represent GSMR 26081, quarry earthworks, with associated cropmark spoil-heap, or may be part of GSMR 26110. The earthwork remains interpreted as a post medieval spoil-heap, just north of the site (GSMR 26080) are also clearly visible.

In the immediate vicinity of the site, perhaps the most striking feature is the lack of trees within Ten Acre Wood, which allows the viewer to see the continuation of the quarry earthworks (GSMR 33241) in a south-westerly direction within the area of the Wood (recorded as GSMR 26041, quarrying and associated spoil-heaps). Further earthworks are visible to the south, in a triangular, partially wooded area, forming part of the former quarry recorded as GSMR 40912, with associated hollow way (above), GSMR 26026. Earthworks are also shown at the locations of the Trial Levels recorded on First Edition OS maps of 1881 (above).

To the east of the site, Allaston Meend is shown at this time as a thin linear area of scrubland, much as at present, but continuing to the north, into the area of the former brick and tile works, where a large pond (former quarry hollow) is shown.

Further afield, possible earthwork features are visible to the north of Hulks Farm, probably associated with the former Hulks and Sulla Collieries (GSMR 10915 and 10914). Darker features running north from Hulks farm itself, parallel to the road, may possibly represent the building platforms visible on Lidar and recorded as GSMR 13222.

Finally, to the south-east of the site, it should be noted that the northern tip of the village of Little Allaston exists at this time as merely a scattering of individual houses, adjacent to the road. The former industrialisation of the entire landscape is also highlighted by the very evident former charcoal-burning platforms (GSMR 26035) visible to the east of Little Allaston.

In later photographs, the linear cropmarks within the confines of the site become less clear, and the boundaries of the site itself change considerably over time. A photograph of 1951 (RAF/58/676/4008) shows most of the northern portion of the site enclosed within a large rectangular field, which extends to the north-east almost as far as Soilwell Farm. The earthworks along the western boundary and the northern boundary are just visible at this period, as are those within Ten Acre Wood (which appears to be under scrub at this time).

Probably the greatest change to the study site in recent years is suggested by a photograph of 1979 (OS 79034/27), which shows the north-western quadrant of the site apparently included within a large area of possible earth-moving activity, which extends northwards to meet the road just north of Hulks Farm. Within the site itself, a large, dark-shaded area at the western central edge suggests that the site itself may have been quarried at this time. No trace of quarrying was recorded on OS maps of 1970-1 ("Old-maps"), or on any maps up to the most recent one accessed, the 2013 HER base-map. By 1981, the aerial photographic evidence (OS 81064/34) suggests that the possible area of quarrying had been filled in, and that the eastern half of the site was subject to earth-moving activity.

Although no cartographic or other evidence has been found to corroborate the suggestion of recent quarrying activity, it should be noted that one of the most recent aerial images of the site accessed for this report (a Google Earth image, dated 2005) does show a definite parch-mark over the area of possible quarrying. Later Google Earth images, of 2006 and 2010, show changes within the internal sub-divisions of the site, which all appeared to have come under the plough in recent years. These later images do not show either the cropmarks or the earthwork features recorded on earlier photographs.

8 SITE VISIT

The **Cover**, **Frontispiece** and **Plates a to h** represent part of a photographic record made by the author during a site visit, under less than ideal weather conditions, conducted on Saturday, 8th February, 2014. The descriptive captions accompanying the text will, it is hoped, be reasonably clear. The site was under grass at the time of the visit, with internal temporary fencing and a wooden post and wire fence along the site's northern boundary and down the central south-south-west/north-north-east

boundary. Particular attention was paid to the areas along the western boundary of the site, where aerial photographic evidence and the HER indicated probable post medieval industrial activity, and to the area of the possible linear feature running across the centre of the site (part of GSMR 26110).

Along the western boundary, an area of slightly hummocky ground, bounded by a slight north-south aligned dip in the ground surface (**Cover**) may indicate the location of the probable modern quarry. The earthworks of GSMR 26080 and 26081 (post medieval quarrying) and 26110 (post medieval colliery) were not observed, which may suggest that they have been destroyed by this recent quarrying activity. Further to the south, the earthworks of former quarrying/mining activity (GSMR 33241) were, however, observed, extending largely along the south-western edge of the site (**Plates b and c**), between approximately SO 6365 0534 and SO 6367 0525. This area of industrial activity was clearly visible extending into the wood at this point, covering an extensive area, visible as spoil-heaps and quarry hollows (GSMR 26041). The presence of definite coal fragments amongst the heaps of upcast (**Plate d**) would suggest that mining as well as quarrying had taken place at this location. Within the site itself, no evidence was observed for the possible trackway suggested by the cropmark recorded on the HER, running diagonally across the site (GSMR 26110).

Just outside the south-east corner of the site, in an area of rough pasture between Allaston Meend and Ten Acre Wood, two further features were noted, an area of possible quarrying/mining activity (**Plate e**), centred on SO 6385 0514 (not recorded on the HER), and a linear feature at the eastern edge of Ten Acre Wood, probably forming a part of the hollow way (GSMR 26026) (**Plate f**); area centred on SO 6381 0518.

Further afield, the area to the north of Hulks Farm was perused for evidence of the building platforms noted on the HER (GSMR 13222), but it appears that this precise area is now occupied by a raised paddock, which would conceal any earthwork features.

A brief sortie was made to the site of the Dean Road, at approximately SO 64395 05450. Remains of a paved surface, with kerb stones, were visible (**Plate g**), as was a distinct ditch, bordering the eastern edge of the trackway, but, not surprisingly, no evidence for the date of the feature was discernible.

As far as site-intervisibility is concerned, the study area itself slopes down gradually to the south-east, and the solar array would probably only just be visible to the nearest house(s) on the fringes of Little Allaston, at the south-western corner of Allaston Meend. From Hulks Farm, at least the upper portion of the site would be plainly visible. From Soilwell Farm, the nearest listed building, the view of the study area is completely obscured by trees, and by the presence of the intervening saw mill and scrapyards. There are, however, two footpaths which border the study area, one running along the northern boundary of the site, and one just within the Ten Acre Wood, to the west, and the site would obviously be plainly visible from either of these paths.

9 NATIONAL AND LOCAL PLANNING POLICIES

Planning policies both national and local which have direct implications for the site under consideration here, cascade down in the following order of primacy:

National Planning Policy Framework, March 2012, Dept of Communities and Local Government. See especially Section 12, Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment, 30-32.

Adopted Second Review Gloucestershire Structure Plan (1991-2011), Gloucestershire County Council, adopted November 1999, Policy NHE 6:

The distinctive historic environment of the County will be conserved and enhanced. Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas, and their settings will be preserved. Historic settlements and landscape, historic parks and gardens, and sites of archaeological importance will be protected from the adverse effects of development.

See especially paragraphs 14.2.28-14.2.35.

Forest of Dean District Council Local Plan, Core Strategy Adopted Version, February 2012. See especially Paragraph 6.6, part of which is quoted below:

Within the District there are a great variety of historic features some of which have statutory protection but many of which have an important place in the history and add to the character of the area. The most obvious area to which this applies is the Forest of Dean itself where building styles, layouts and the spaces between buildings form an essential part of the character which CSP1 seeks to protect. As well as buildings, there are other features which are part of the landscape and which may in themselves appear insignificant. The setting of many buildings and other features will be protected as part of the landscape. Read together in their context they provide an essential part of the character of the area and will be protected accordingly. Those relating to the industrial history of the district are especially important in the Forest of Dean itself but also in other areas such as Newent or Pauntley. This policy establishes the principle of protecting local distinctive features (including buildings

The Lydney Local Plan (Forest of Dean District Local Plan Review, adopted November, 2005), although it deals with the surrounding villages, such as Allaston, is largely focussed on housing issues, and does not specifically refer to archaeology or the historic environment, which comes under the remit of the above Core Strategy.

10 CONCLUSIONS

The study found that the area of the site fell within the remit of at least three previous major archaeological surveys, The Forest of Dean Archaeological Survey, The Forest of Dean Mapping Project, and the Lydney Historic Town Survey. Information from these previous surveys has been incorporated onto the Gloucestershire HER, which

records a number of mainly undated industrial features both within the study area itself, and just beyond the site boundaries.

In addition, evidence for significant prehistoric activity has been recorded at nearby Soilwell Farm, in the form of flint scatters recovered by field-walking. A very extensive prehistoric/Romano-British field system, with evidence for contemporary iron-working, was located by Lidar, only some 500m to the west of the site. In the medieval period, the area of the study site may have originally lain within the boundaries of the Forest of Dean, but have been assarted from the Forest, to form a part of the small medieval manor of Soilwell.

The industrial remains within the site itself form part of a wider landscape of intensive industrial activity, dating from the Romano-British period onwards. Many of these remains (including those within the boundaries of the site itself) have yet to be dated, and, although the majority are likely to be of post medieval date, some may be considerably earlier. Aerial photographic evidence has, however, highlighted the possible existence of very recent quarrying activity, which may have destroyed any archaeology within the north-west quadrant of the site.

In conclusion, and on the basis of the documentary and other evidence reviewed here, the study area is considered to offer a moderate potential for the survival of archaeologically-significant buried deposits and structures.

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NMR, Aerial Photographs

1946 RAF/106G/UK/1355, Frame 5302

APPENDIX 1

ENGLISH HERITAGE: NATIONAL MONUMENTS RECORD

Air Photographs

Full single listing – Verticals, Standard order

Customer enquiry reference: 84500

Sortie number	Library number	Camera position	Frame number	Held	Centre point	Run	Date	Sortie quality	Scale 1:	Focal length (in inche	Film details (in inches)	Film held by
RAF/106G/UK/1355	245	V	5302	P	SO 639 060	4	02 APR 1946	A	10000	20	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NAW
RAF/106G/UK/1355	245	V	5303	P	SO 646 058	4	02 APR 1946	A	10000	20	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NAW
RAF/106G/UK/1355	245	V	5435	P	SO 640 044	6	02 APR 1946	A	10000	20	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NAW
RAF/106G/UK/1295	367	RP	3014	P	SO 638 047	1	26 MAR 1946	A	10500	20	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NMR
RAF/106G/UK/1295	367	RP	3015	P	SO 644 055	1	26 MAR 1946	A	10500	20	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NMR
RAF/58/676	1172	RS	4007	P	SO 647 054	6	12 MAY 1951	A	10000	20	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NAW
RAF/58/676	1172	RS	4008	P	SO 638 054	6	12 MAY 1951	A	10000	20	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NAW
RAF/58/676	1172	RS	4009	P	SO 630 053	6	12 MAY 1951	A	10000	20	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NAW
RAF/CPE/UK/1825	2746	RS	4012	P	SO 650 049	5	04 NOV 1946	A	9800	20	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NMR
RAF/CPE/UK/1825	2746	RS	4013	P	SO 645 044	5	04 NOV 1946	A	9800	20	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NMR
OS/69268	9382	V	95	P	SO 638 050	7	10 JUN 1969	A	8000	12	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/69268	9382	V	96	P	SO 637 057	7	10 JUN 1969	A	8000	12	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/76173	12231	V	17	P	SO 645 059	2	10 AUG 1976	A	7700	12	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR

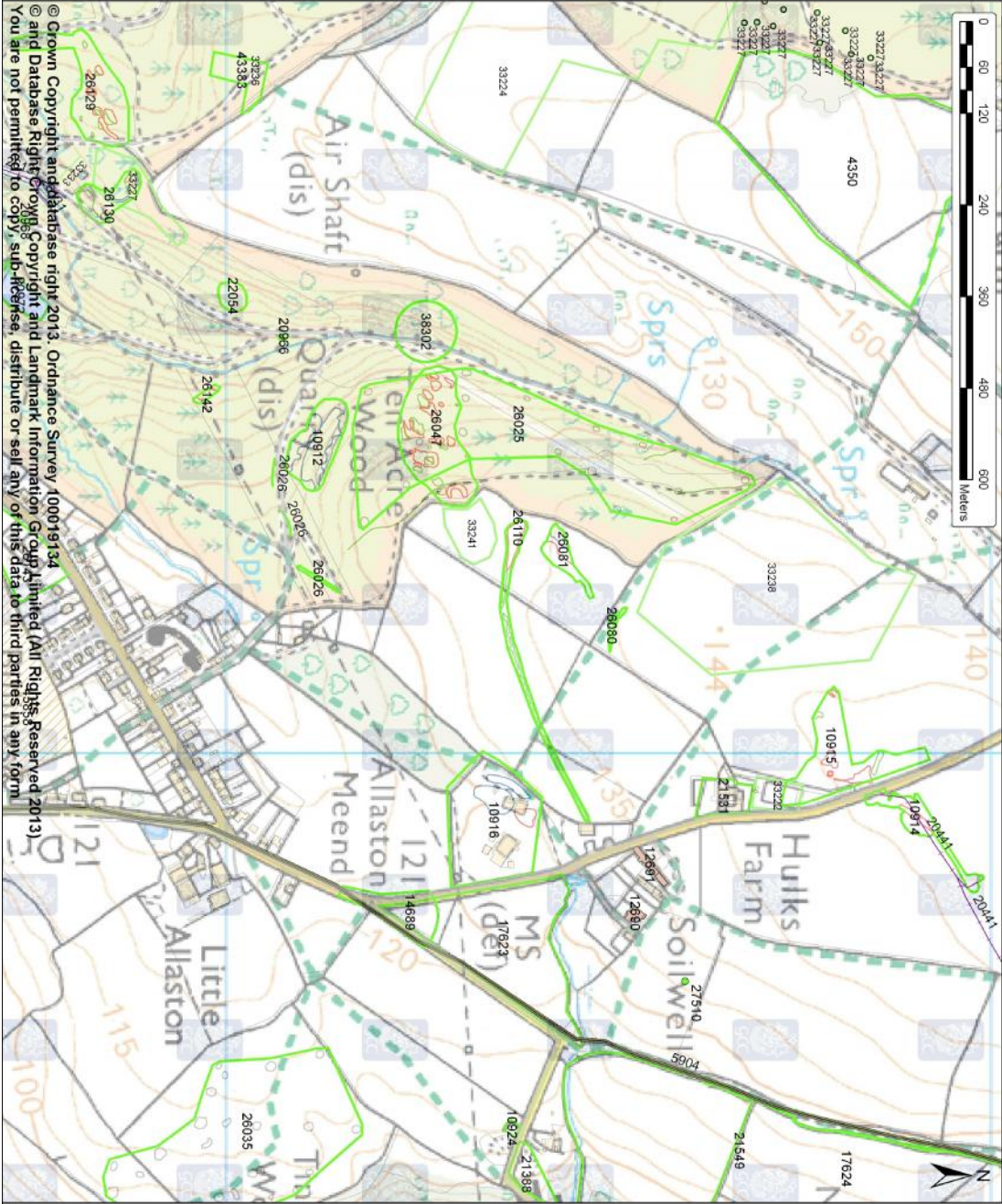
OS/76173	12231	V	18	P	SO 645 053	2	10 AUG 1976	A	7700	12	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/81064	12499	V	34	P	SO 635 050	2	01 AUG 1981	A	8200	12	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/81064	12499	V	35	P	SO 636 057	2	01 AUG 1981	A	8200	12	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/01971	15799	V	642	P	SO 630 055	3	09 FEB 2001	A	9200	6	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/01971	15799	V	689	P	SO 643 055	4	09 FEB 2001	A	9200	6	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/69058	20094	V	25	N	SO 644 037	5	03 APR 1969	A	20000	6	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/79034	20693	V	27	P	SO 648 037	4	19 MAY 1979	A	15000	6	Infra Red 9 x 9	NMR
OS/79034	20693	V	28	P	SO 636 043	4	19 MAY 1979	A	15000	6	Infra Red 9 x 9	NMR
OS/92192B	20920	V	316	N	SO 643 056	1	14 JUN 1992	A	8300	12	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/92192B	20920	V	317	N	SO 637 056	1	14 JUN 1992	A	8300	12	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/95238	22156	V	2	N	SO 638 049	1	23 SEP 1995	A	7800	12	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR

Total Sorties	12
Total Frames	24



Figure 3

Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record Base Map, showing sites within 500-600 m radius of study area. Scale as shown. Reproduced by courtesy of Gloucestershire County Council Archaeological Service.



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Historic Environment Record Legend (Not all feature types may be present)

- Scheduled Monuments (14-08-2013)
- Registered Battlefields (10-08-2012)
- Registered Parks & Gardens (11-10-2012)
- Untagged Items
- General Archaeological Records
- Roman Road
- Archaeological Events
- Listed Buildings
- Cheltenham Local List
- Canals
- Military Records
- Glo's Gardens & Landscape Trust
- Tumple
- Romano British Roads
- Railways
- Trainways
- Cirencester UAD - Berm
- Cirencester UAD - Ditch
- Cirencester UAD - Early Bank
- Cirencester UAD - Earthwork Bank
- Cirencester UAD - External Tower
- Cirencester UAD - Internal Tower
- Cirencester UAD - Rampart
- Cirencester UAD - Town Wall
- Area of Land Reclamation
- Non_Arch

Abbreviations:

UAD - Urban Archaeological Database

DRAWN BY: HER Team

SCALE: 1:5,000

DATE: 30th January 2014

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Figure 4

Map of Post-Medieval Mineral Extraction Sites within the Forest of Dean, reproduced from 'The Forest of Dean, Gloucestershire Archaeological Survey, Stage 1: Desk-based data collection. Project Number 2727 vol. 1', Figure 41, (GCC 2008), by courtesy of Jon Hoyle, Gloucestershire County Council Archaeological Service.

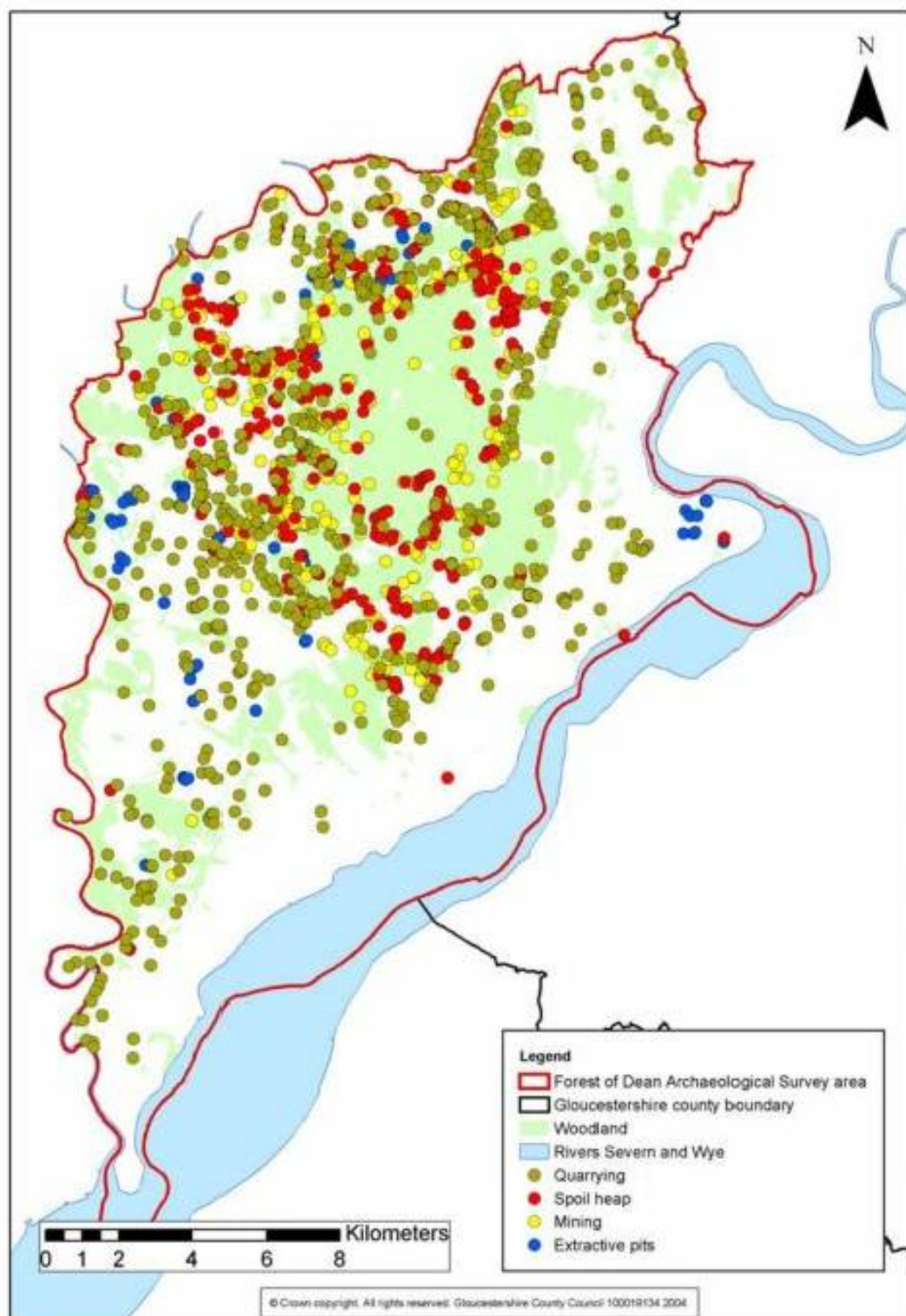


Figure 5

Composite extract from OS 25" First Edition maps, Gloucestershire Sheets 39.14 and 39.15, surveyed 1878, published 1881 (GRO). Outline of study site in red. Note quarry sites to east, north and north-east. Scale as shown.

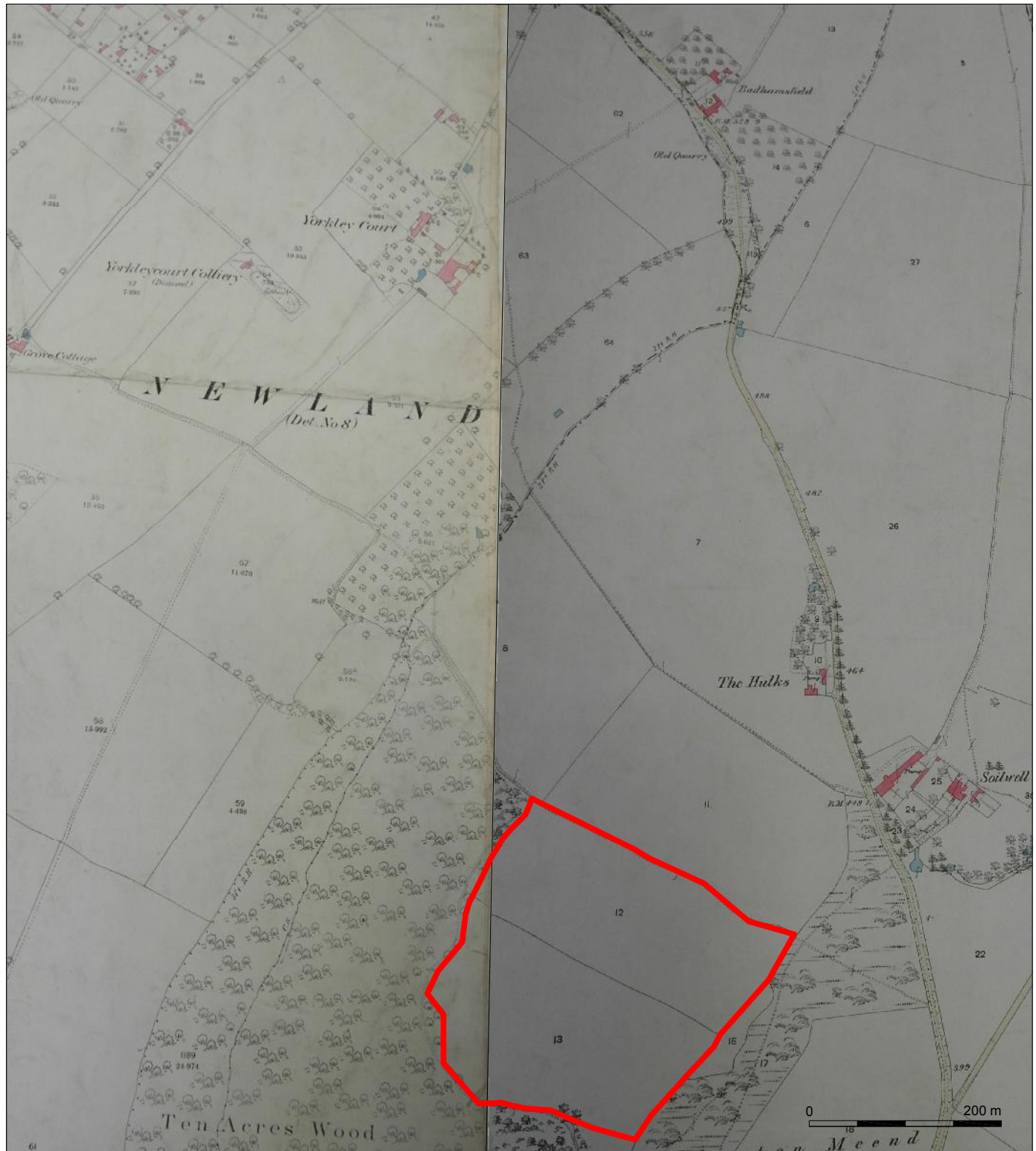


Figure 6



Extract from OS 6" First Edition map, Gloucestershire Sheet 39SE,
dated 1884 (GRO). Outline of study site in red. Scale as shown.

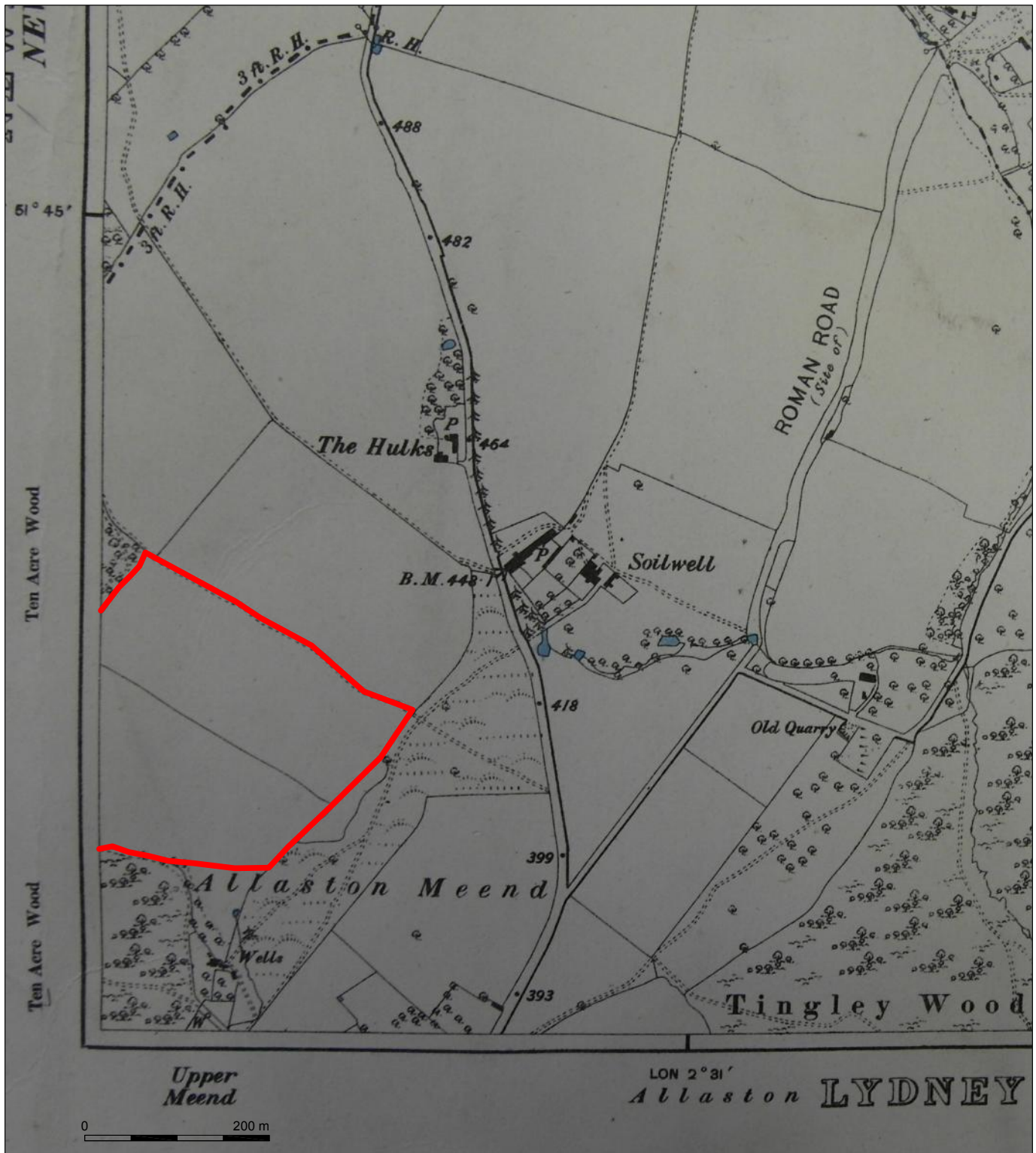


Figure 7

Composite extract from OS 25" Second Edition maps, Gloucestershire Sheets 39.14 and 39.15, surveyed 1878, revised 1901, published 1903 (GRO). Outline of study site in red. Note Hulks Colliery and 'Trial Level' to north-east of site. Scale as shown.

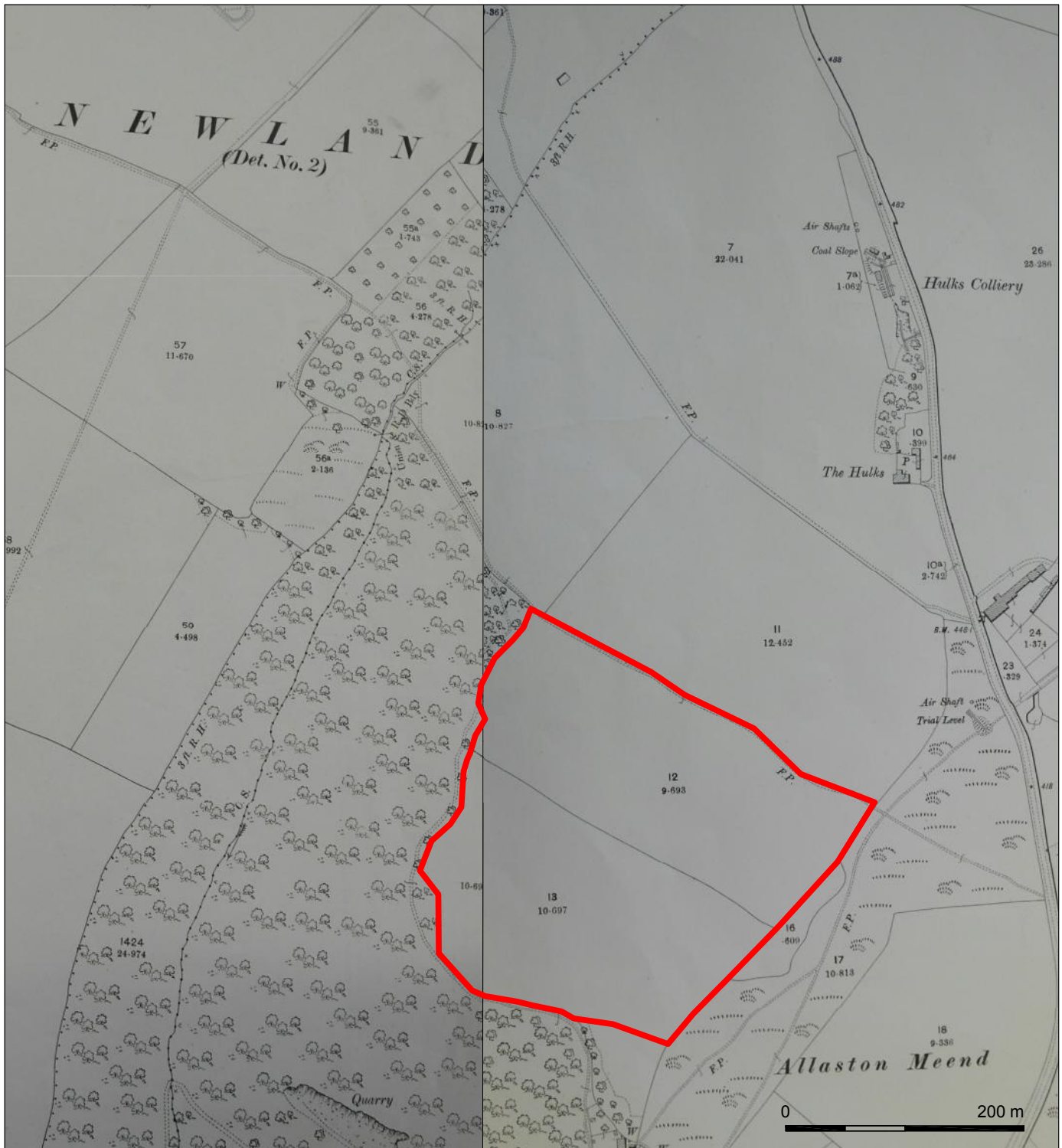
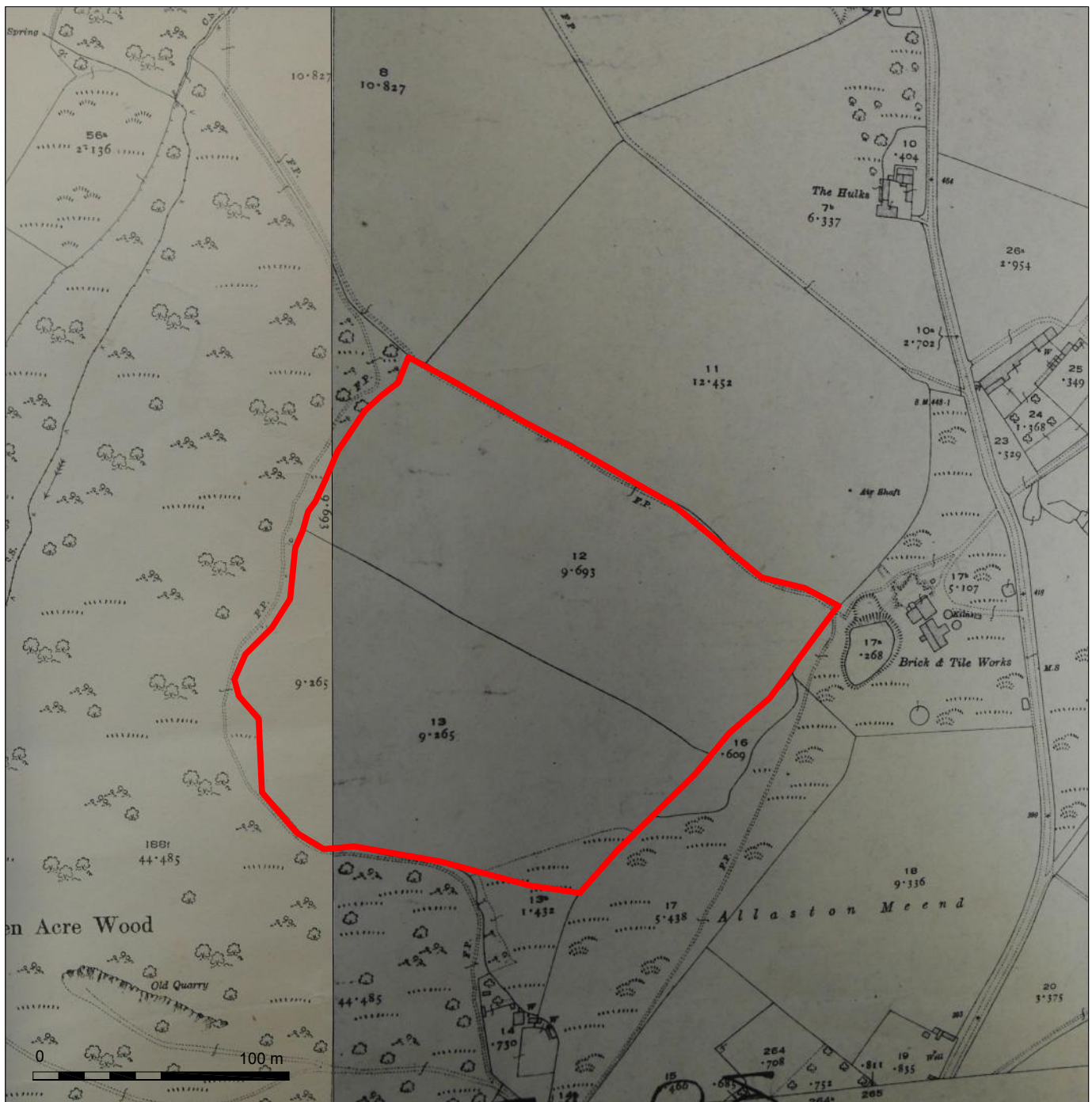


Figure 8



Composite extract from OS 25" Third Edition maps, Gloucestershire Sheets 39.14 and 39.15, surveyed 1878, revised 1920, published 1922 (GRO). Outline of study site in red. Note 'Brick and Tile Works' at eastern corner of site. Scale as shown.



Extract from OS 25" map (1:2 500) of Gloucestershire, published 1958-9 (Old-maps).
Outline of study site in red. Scale as shown.



Figure 9

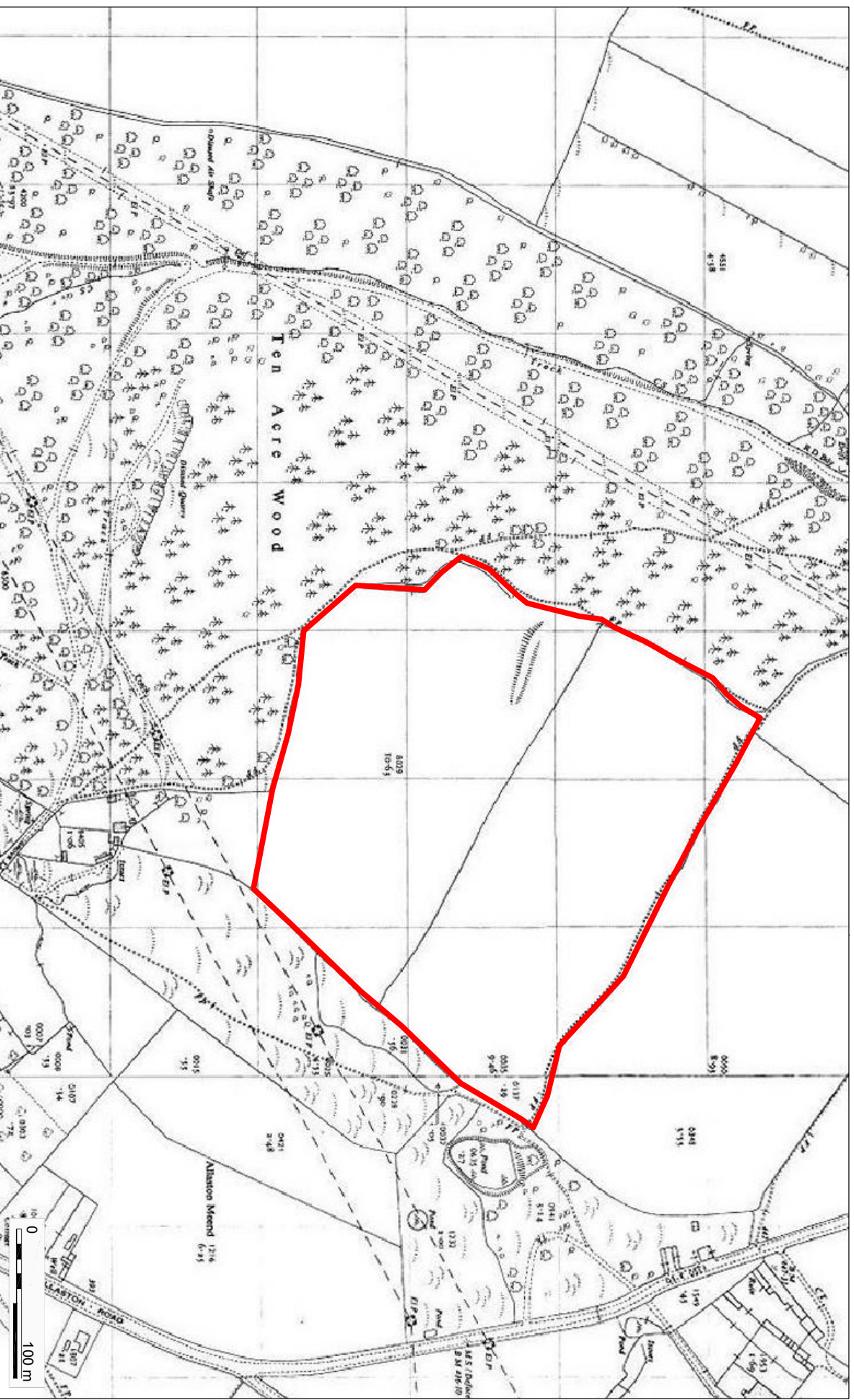


Figure 10



Extract from Historic Aerial Photograph, taken April 1946. Study site outlined in red. NMR RAF/106G/UIC/1355, frame 5302. Areas of probable quarrying/mining activity outlined in blue.

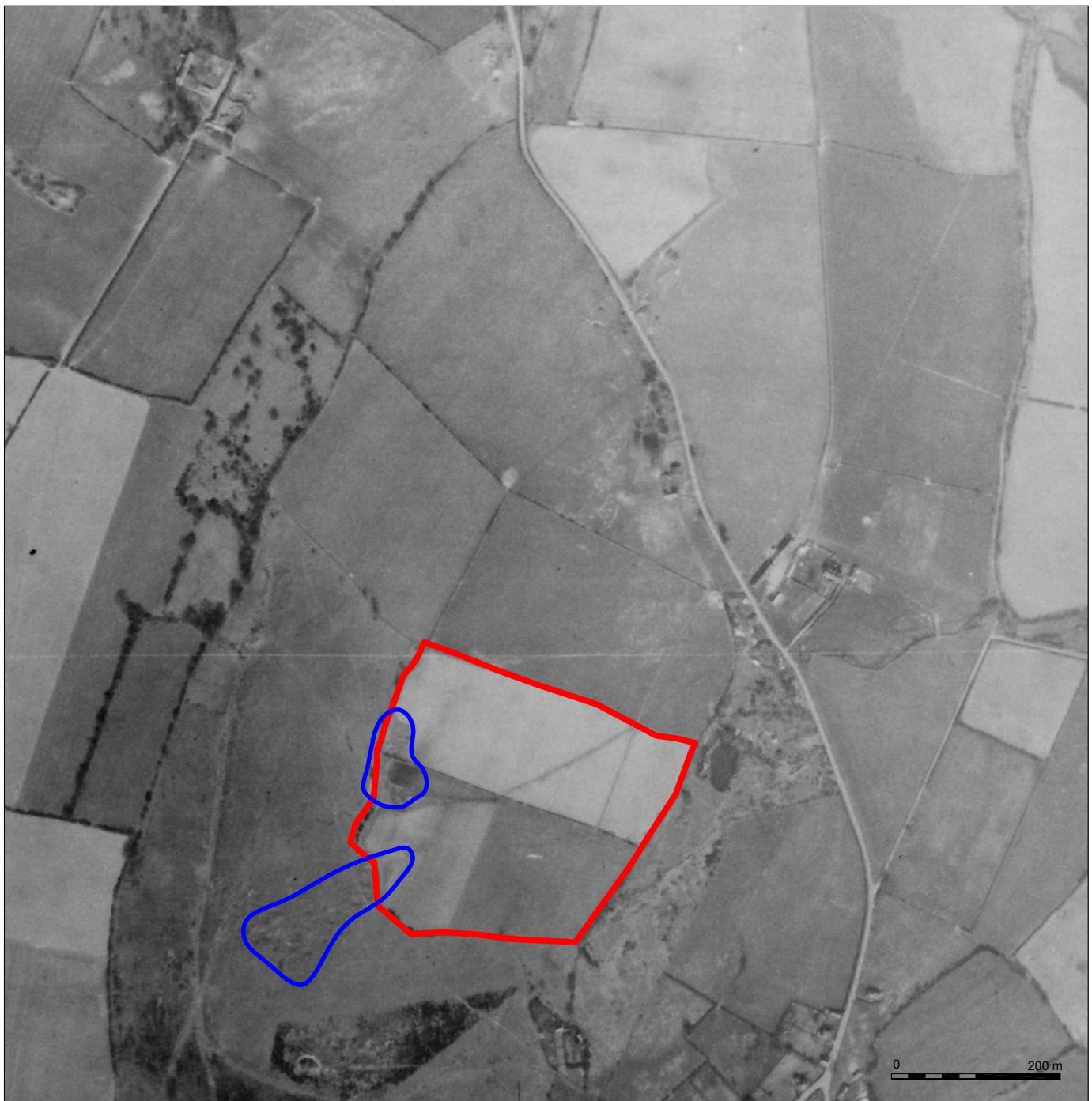




Plate a): Looking south-west across southern half of site, former hedge-line in foreground.



Plate b): South-west corner of site, from north, showing possible quarry spoil-heap in background.



Plate c): Looking along western edge of site, from south, showing possible quarrying activity along site boundary.



Plate d): Spoil-heap(s) from probable mining activity, part of GSMR 26047, just outside western edge of study area from south.



Plate e): Area of possible mining/quarrying activity just south of south-eastern corner of study area, approximately at SO 6385 0514, not recorded on HER (from north).



Plate f): Shallow ditch observed along part of eastern boundary of Ten Acre Wood, probably forming part of the hollow way recorded as GSMR 26026, area centred SO 6381 0518 (from north).



Plate g): Part of the Dean Road, a possible Roman road, whose course runs less than 300 m to the east of the study area. Photograph taken at SO 64395 05450, looking north. Note remains of paving, and kerb-stones to bottom left of frame.



Plate h): Looking north into Allaston Meend, an area which may have remained as uncultivated scrubland since the medieval period.