

ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES
DURHAM UNIVERSITY

on behalf of
Yuill Homes

Land west of Eaglesfield Road
nursing home application area
Hartlepool
Teesside

archaeological desk-based assessment

report 2481
September 2010

Contents

1.	Summary	1
2.	Project background	2
3.	Landuse, topography and geology	3
4.	Site walk-over survey	3
5.	Historical and archaeological development	3
6.	The potential archaeological resource	6
7.	Impact assessment	6
8.	Recommendations	7
9.	Sources	7
Appendix: Historic Environment Record		9

Figures

Figure 1:	Site location
Figure 2:	Site as existing
Figure 3:	Proposed development
Figure 4:	Historic Environment Record
Figure 5:	Extract from the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map, 1861
Figure 6:	Extract from the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map, 1898
Figure 7:	Extract from the Ordnance Survey map of 1952
Figure 8:	The proposed development area looking north
Figure 9:	The proposed development area looking south

1. Summary

The project

- 1.1 This report presents the results of an archaeological desk-based assessment, which was conducted in advance of a proposed development at land west of Eaglesfield Road, Hartlepool. The assessment comprised a search of pertinent documentary and cartographic records, records of archaeological interventions, the Historic Environment Record, and a site walk-over survey.
- 1.2 The works were commissioned by Yuill Homes, and conducted by Archaeological Services Durham University.

The archaeological resource

- 1.3 No archaeological resource has been identified which requires preservation *in situ*. There are no historic or statutorily protected buildings in the vicinity of the site. There are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments on or in the near vicinity of the site.
- 1.4 There is widespread evidence for prehistoric and Roman activity within the surrounding area. This activity, together with the topographic evidence, indicates that an as yet unidentified resource has the potential to exist.
- 1.5 The proposed development area was probably utilised in the medieval and post-medieval periods as agricultural land. Evidence relating to this, in the form of ridge and furrow cultivation and field boundaries, may survive.
- 1.6 Significant archaeological remains of 19th or 20th century date are unlikely to be present.

Impact assessment

- 1.7 The proposed development has the potential to impact upon the archaeological resource through ground reduction and the construction of foundations and associated services.

Recommendations

- 1.8 It is recommended that the potential of the archaeological resource is evaluated through geophysical survey to establish the nature and extent of any archaeological resource present which may be impacted upon. Depending on the results of the survey, a scheme of trial trenching and mitigation works may be required as part of a planning condition.

2. Project background

Location (Figures 1 & 2)

- 2.1 The site is located in a field to the south of Brierton Lane, Hartlepool (NGR centre: NZ 4868 3020). It is roughly rectangular in plan, and covers an area of approximately 0.6 ha. To the east are Eaglesfield Road and a housing estate, to the west and south is a continuation of the existing field. To the north is the housing application area, currently agricultural land.

Development proposal (Figure 3)

- 2.2 It is proposed to build a nursing home on the site.

Objective

- 2.3 The objective of the scheme of works was to assess the nature, extent and potential significance of any surviving archaeological resource within the proposed development area, so that an informed decision may be made regarding the nature and scope of any further scheme of archaeological works that may be required in relation to the proposed development.

Methods statement

- 2.4 The works have been conducted in accordance with standard Archaeological Services' procedures for desk-based assessments. The works comprised the study of pertinent cartographic and other historical sources, records of previous archaeological interventions, sites listed in the Historic Environment Record (HER) within 1km of the proposed development area, and a site walk-over survey. HER references are referred to in brackets throughout the text of this report, and are listed in the appendix and are shown on Figure 4.

Planning guidance

- 2.5 This assessment and its recommendations are a considered response to the proposed development in relation to Government policy, as it is set out in *Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment*, and the *Historic Environment Planning Practice Guide*.

Dates

- 2.6 The field visit took place on 3rd September 2010. This report was prepared for the 17th September 2010.

Personnel

- 2.7 Research was conducted and this report prepared by Andy Platell, with illustrations by David Graham. The Project Manager was Daniel Still.

OASIS

- 2.8 Archaeological Services Durham University is registered with the **Online Access to the Index of archaeological investigationS project (OASIS)**. The OASIS ID number for this project is **archaeol3-82146**.

3. Landuse, topography and geology

Landuse

- 3.1 At the time of this assessment, the proposed development area comprised part of a recently ploughed field immediately outside the built-up area of Hartlepool.

Topography

- 3.2 The proposed development area was situated on the crest of a north-south aligned ridge at a mean elevation of around 38m to 40m OD. To the west the remainder of the field (outside the proposed development area) dropped away fairly steeply for around 5m or 6m. To the east the ground slopes away more gently towards the town. Hill crests were preferred settlement locations in the prehistoric period.

Geology and soils

- 3.3 The underlying solid geology of the area comprises Permian strata of the Sherwood Sandstone Group, which are overlain by Devonian till (information from British Geological Survey website). Fluvio-glacial sands and gravels are present in the fields immediately to the west and these have been commercially exploited in a number of places.

4. Site walk-over survey

- 4.1 A walk-over survey was conducted, to help ascertain the potential of the proposed development area to contain any archaeological resource. The visit noted site topography, earthworks and areas of modern overburden, modern services, boundaries, buildings and other upstanding remains. A *pro forma* recording sheet was completed.
- 4.2 The site comprises part of a single field that has recently been ploughed. Although the remainder of the field slopes away fairly sharply, the part including the proposed development area is nearly level. No earthworks or other features of archaeological interest were identified. No drain covers or other evidence for modern services was seen (Figures 8 and 9).

5. Historical and archaeological development

Previous archaeological works

- 5.1 No previous archaeological works have been identified within the proposed development area. Extensive archaeological works have taken place at Catcote, around 1km to the north. These are described below. Two archaeological evaluations have been conducted along Thackeray Road and Kipling Road, both close to the Catcote site (HER events 631 and 714; Noakes 2008, Jackson and Clark 2010). The latter was preceded by a geophysical survey (HER event 713). An archaeological evaluation has taken place at Brierton Farm to the west (HER event 407; Durkin 2001). None of these works produced any findings of archaeological significance. However, an archaeological evaluation at Manor College, Owton Manor (HER event 41; Grahame 2004) produced evidence for medieval activity.

The prehistoric and Roman periods (up to 5th century AD)

- 5.2 A rhinoceros bone (HER 774) was recovered from Brierton Quarry in 1937. Although this was collected along with burials that had been disturbed, it is probable that this

bone was earlier, and was contemporary with the deposition of the gravel. The bone is therefore likely to be of early Palaeolithic date.

- 5.3 A flint arrowhead of Bronze Age date (HER 4461) has been recovered through fieldwalking in fields to the north of the proposed development area. Two worked flints (HER 4967) were recovered during an archaeological evaluation at Manor College, Owton Manor, 1km to the southeast of the proposed development area.
- 5.4 A significant Iron Age and Roman site is present at Catcote, around 1km to the north of the proposed development area. This site was discovered by local amateurs in 1963 during the levelling of the playing fields for the English Martyrs School. Records are limited, but it appears that stone-built foundations were uncovered, together with a large quantity of Roman artefacts. The findings were significant enough to justify Durham University carrying out an excavation on ground just outside the school perimeter the following year (Long 1988). Further works were carried out to the north in 1987 (Vyner and Daniels 1989) and since 1998 a research project by Tees Archaeology and Durham University has continued investigation of the site. This work has shown that the site was in use through both the Iron Age and the Roman periods, with the focus of occupation generally shifting slightly to the east through time. Some burials in stone-lined cists have been excavated. These are thought to date from the 5th or 6th centuries, so occupation might extend to slightly beyond the end of the Roman period. An earlier Bronze Age settlement has also been found to the north of the Iron Age and Roman one. The quantity and quality of finds from all these excavations show that the settlement had been relatively important, perhaps being the headquarters of a local chief.
- 5.5 Several enclosures are recorded from aerial photographs of the area around Catcote. The main enclosure (HER 3458) has been the site of most of the excavations here. Horse Close enclosure (HER 3403) is recorded around 250m to the southwest and another enclosure is recorded 400m to the southwest (HER 3460). The HER description is identical for the records of HER 3458 and 3460, suggesting a duplication with altered co-ordinates. A fourth enclosure (HER 805) is recorded another 100m further southwest. This HER record does not identify a source and is almost certainly a duplication.
- 5.6 In 1937 work at Brierton Quarry exposed several burials in stone-lined cists (HER 773). The finds were reported in the local newspaper but they were not examined by an archaeologist. A rhinoceros bone was recovered, although this appears to have been from the surrounding gravel rather than the burials (see above). In 1949 further burials in stone-lined cists were disturbed. Again these were not examined by an archaeologist, although a description was provided by the quarry manager around four years later. It appears that eight burials were disturbed in this latter discovery. A sherd of greyware was recovered, suggesting a late Roman date for them, similar to that of the burials at Catcote.
- 5.7 Two Roman coins, of Constantine (317-337) and Constans (333-337), together with a probable post-medieval trade token, were recovered 'during potato picking' from a field near Brierton Quarry 'in the second half of the 20th century' (HER 6171). These may be considered further evidence for a Roman date of the Brierton burials. A Roman coin of Elagabalus (218-222) was recovered from Stranton allotments around

1954/5 (HER 799). Three sherds of Roman pottery have been recovered by fieldwalking in the field to the west of the main Catcote enclosure (HER 1765).

- 5.8 There is evidence that the land surrounding the proposed development area was exploited in the prehistoric and Roman periods. A resource relating to this exploitation may therefore survive within the proposed development area.

The medieval period (5th century to 1540)

- 5.9 Anciently the field containing the proposed development area lay within the township of Brierton, part of the parish of Stranton (the boundaries were realigned in the 1960s when Owton Manor housing estate was built; it no longer lies in Brierton). At the time of the Norman Conquest Brierton formed part of the area known as Hartness and passed by marriage to the family of Brus. By 1344 William Lord Greystock held the manor, and later it passed to the Howard family. In 1699 it was in the possession of Sir William Blackett, bart, who sold it to Charles Turner. He used most of the property to endow the school connected to Kirkleatham Hospital. Until recently the hospital owned a large estate in Brierton (Page 1928, 366-7).
- 5.10 Earthworks of a medieval settlement survive around Brierton Farm. Surviving traces of ridge and furrow earthworks have been recorded in fields to the east of the farm (HER 5509) and in the field immediately north of the proposed development area (HER 1533).
- 5.11 Owton Manor, 1km to the southeast was also a small medieval settlement. An evaluation (HER event 41) on the site of Manor College found a medieval boundary ditch (HER 4965) and a possibly medieval pond (HER 4966). The 18th and 19th century farm buildings (HER 4853) and the associated gardens (HER 4854) are also recorded on the HER.
- 5.12 Brierton formed a small farming settlement through the medieval and post-medieval periods. The proposed development area lies beyond the edge of the village, and it is probable that the area was utilised in the medieval and post-medieval periods as agricultural land. Evidence relating to this, in the form of ridge and furrow cultivation and field boundaries, may survive.

The post-medieval period (1541 to 1899)

- 5.13 Two post-medieval lead tokens have been recovered from 'Summerhill Field, Catcote Road' (HER 1109). Note that these are incorrectly located on the HER. They should be located some distance to the northeast, and outside the study area.
- 5.14 The earliest detailed map of the proposed development area is the first edition Ordnance Survey plan of 1861 (Figure 5). This shows that it lies in a group of typical post-enclosure rectangular fields, named on the map as Brockey Moor (the road to the north is also named as Brockey Moor Lane on this map). The origin of this name could not be traced, although the name is recorded slightly earlier, in a letter to the New Sporting Magazine of 1838 (vol. 14, no 81), when a correspondent from Sedgfield described a fox hunt extending 'from Brockey-Moor, down to Seaton, and up to Stranton'.
- 5.15 The proposed development area forms part a field. No features are present in this field. A gravel pit is present in a field to the northwest (HER 4513).

- 5.16 The second edition Ordnance Survey map of 1898 (Figure 6) shows no changes, although the name Brockey Moor is no longer displayed (and Brierton lane is given its modern name).

The modern period (1900 to present)

- 5.17 Later editions of the Ordnance Survey show no alterations until the 1952 edition (Figure 7), by which time the intervening field boundary was removed to form a single field. The same map also shows Brierton Quarry for the first time, while the discovery of burials here in 1937 is marked. By the time of the edition of 1975 (not reproduced) the housing estate to the east of the proposed development area had been built and the field boundary to the south of the proposed development area had been removed to produce the current field pattern. Gardner House and the other buildings along the north side of Earlsferry Road were built in the 1980s.
- 5.18 An anti-aircraft battery of Second World War date is present in fields to the west of the proposed development area on an aerial photograph taken in 1946. This is no longer visible on the ground.

Scheduled Ancient Monuments and other Designated Heritage Assets

- 5.19 There are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments, listed buildings or other designated heritage assets within the vicinity of the proposed development area.

6. The potential archaeological resource

- 6.1 There is widespread evidence for prehistoric and Roman activity within the surrounding area. This activity, together with the topographic evidence, indicates that an as yet unidentified resource has the potential to exist.
- 6.2 The proposed development area is unlikely to have been the site of medieval or later settlement, although it was probably utilised in the medieval and post-medieval periods as agricultural land. Evidence relating to this, in the form of ridge and furrow cultivation and field boundaries, may survive.
- 6.3 Significant archaeological remains of 19th or 20th century date are unlikely to be present.
- 6.4 The regional research framework (Petts & Gerrard 2006) contains an agenda for archaeological research in the region, which is incorporated into regional planning policy implementation with respect to archaeology. In this instance, the potential archaeological resource could address a number of agenda items, specifically Agenda Items Ri. The Iron Age to Roman transition; Riv. Native and civilian life; Rvi. Trade and industry; Rviii. Burial and Rx. Roman-early medieval transition.

7. Impact assessment

- 7.1 The proposed development has the potential to impact upon the archaeological resource through ground reduction and the construction of foundations and associated services.

8. Recommendations

- 8.1 It is recommended that the potential of the archaeological resource is evaluated through geophysical survey followed by the excavation of a series of trial trenches across the site in order to establish the nature and extent of any archaeological resource present which may be impacted upon.

9. Sources

Cartographic sources

1861 Ordnance Survey 1st Edition, 25" sheet 45.2
1898 Ordnance Survey 2nd Edition, 25" sheet 45.2
1923 Ordnance Survey 3rd Edition, 25" sheet 45.2
1939 Ordnance Survey 4th Edition, 25" sheet 45.2
1861 Ordnance Survey 1st Edition, 6" sheet 45
1898 Ordnance Survey 2nd Edition, 6" sheet 45
1923 Ordnance Survey 3rd Edition, 6" sheet 45
1939 Ordnance Survey 4th Edition, 6" sheet 45
1952 Ordnance Survey edition, 1:10 000
1975 Ordnance Survey edition, 1:10 000

Other sources

Petts, D, & Gerrard, C, 2006 *Shared Visions: The North-East Regional Research Framework for the Historic Environment*. Durham
Durkin, A, 2001 *Archaeological evaluation and recording at Brierton Farm, Brierton, Hartlepool*, Unpublished report, PCA Ltd
Grahame, R, 2004 *Manor College, Owton Manor*; archaeological evaluation, unpublished report, Tees Archaeology
Jackson, D, & Clack, A, 2010 *Land at Kipling Road, Hartlepool, Teesside; evaluation report*, Unpublished report, NPA Ltd
Noakes, N, 2008 *An archaeological evaluation on land at Thackeray Road, Hartlepool, Teesside*, Unpublished report, NPA Ltd
Long, C, 1988 The Iron Age and Romano-British settlement at Catcote, Hartlepool, Cleveland, *Durham Archaeol J* 4, 13-35
Page, W, (ed.) 1905 The Victoria History of the County of Durham, Vol 3, 366-7
Vyner, B, and Daniels, R, 1989 Further investigation of the Iron Age and Romano-British settlement site at Catcote, Hartlepool, Cleveland, 1987, *Durham Archaeol J* 5, 11-34

Websites

http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyviewer_google/googleviewer.html
<http://www.teesarcheology.com/projects/catcote/catcote.pdf>
Bing Maps
Google Earth

Aerial photographs [Tees Archaeology aerial photograph collection]
CPE/UK 1835.13/11/46.3009, 3010, 3011, 4008, 4009
541/23.3014

Geotechnical works

No records of geotechnical works within the proposed development area were identified.

Appendix: Historic Environment Record

The tables include sites recorded within the vicinity of the proposed development area (within an approximate radius of 1km from the site).

Historic Environment Record

(PRN = Public Record Number]

PRN	Description	Date
773	Burials found in 1937	Roman / Saxon?
774	Rhinoceros bone	Palaeolithic
779	Coin	Roman
805	Enclosure?	unknown
1109	Lead tokens (NB grid reference incorrect?)	Post-medieval
1533	Field of ridge and furrow – aerial photograph	Medieval
1765	Pot sherds recovered by fieldwalking	Roman
3403	Horse Close enclosure – aerial photograph	Iron Age / Roman?
3458	Catcote enclosure – aerial photograph	Iron Age / Roman?
3460	Catcote enclosure – aerial photograph (same as 3458?)	Iron Age / Roman?
4461	Flint arrowhead	Bronze Age
4513	Gravel pit	19th century
4853	Owton Manor Farm	18 th /19 th century
4854	Gardens of Owton Manor Farm	18 th /19 th century
4965	Boundary ditch found in evaluation art Owton Manor	Medieval
4966	Pond found in evaluation art Owton Manor	Medieval?
4967	Worked flints found in evaluation art Owton Manor	Prehistoric
5509	Field of ridge and furrow – aerial photograph	Medieval
6171	Coins	Roman

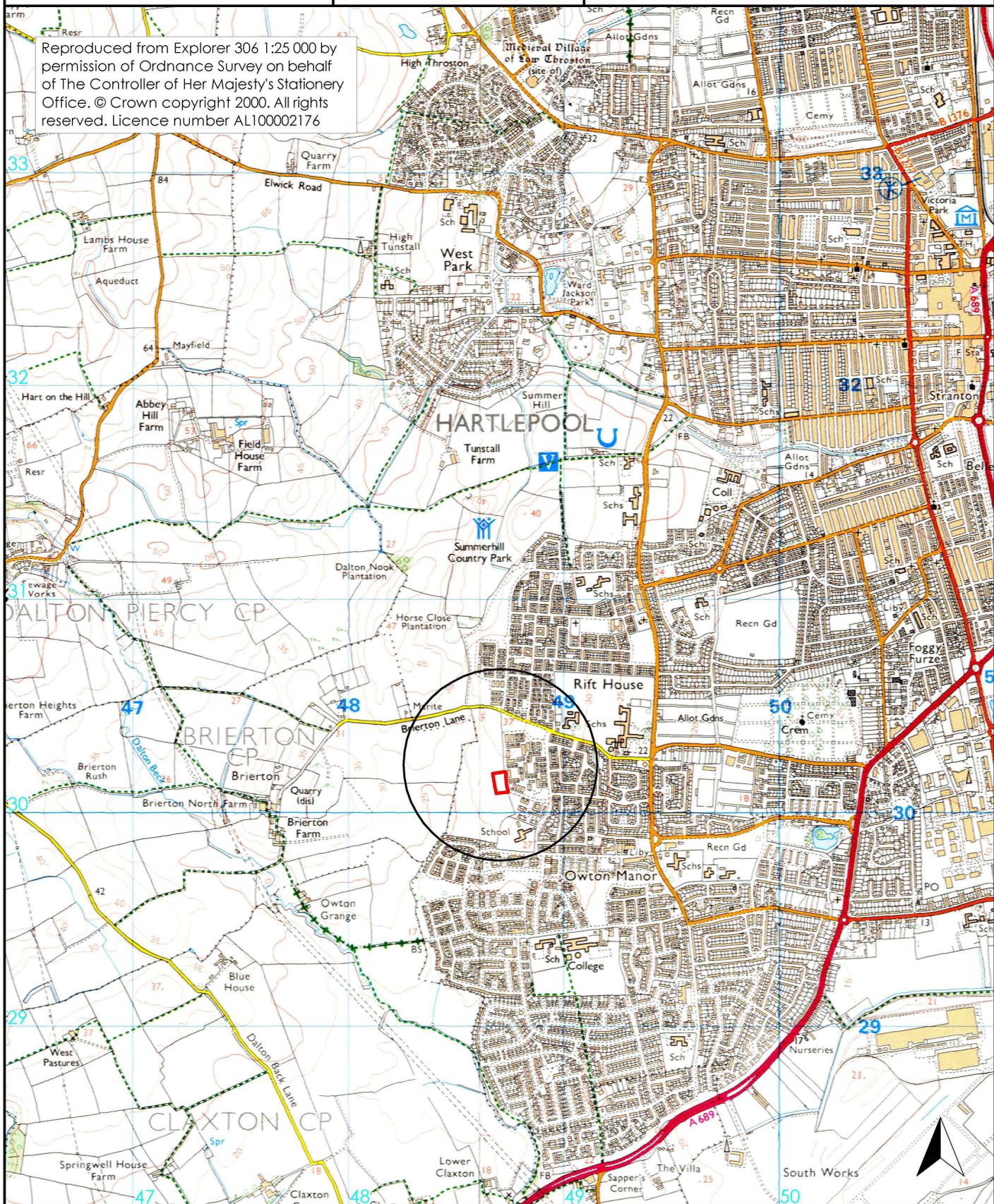
Previous archaeological interventions

PRN	description
41	Owton Manor; archaeological evaluation
407	Brierton Farm; archaeological evaluation and recording
631	Thackeray Road; archaeological evaluation
713	Kipling Road, geophysical survey
714	Kipling Road; archaeological evaluation

NB Archaeological interventions at Catcote have not yet been entered on to the HER

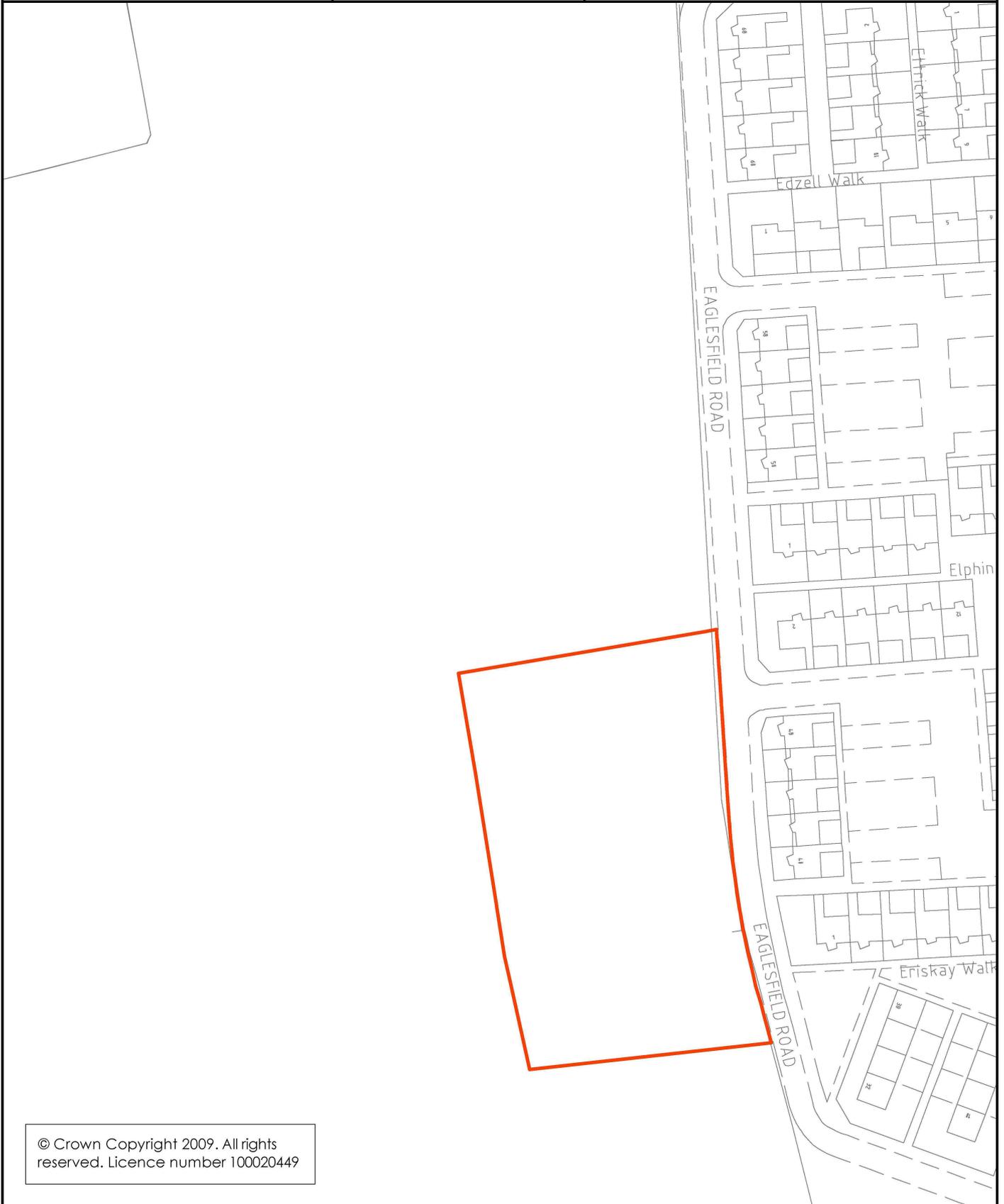
Figure 1: Site location

Reproduced from Explorer 306 1:25 000 by permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown copyright 2000. All rights reserved. Licence number AL100002176



 nursing home application area

0 1km
scale 1:25 000 for A4 plot



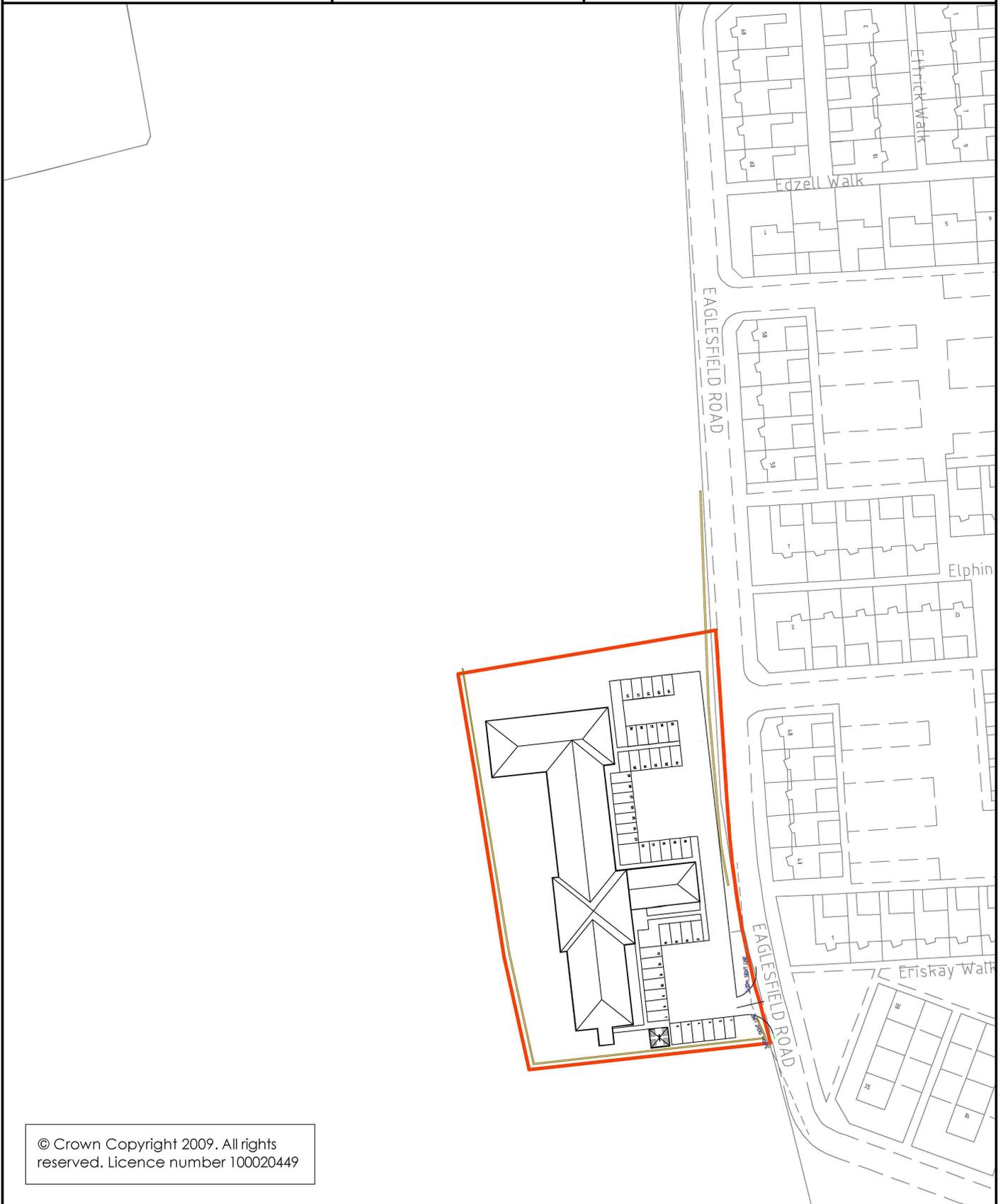
© Crown Copyright 2009. All rights reserved. Licence number 100020449



proposed development area

0 50m
scale 1:1250 for A4 plot





© Crown Copyright 2009. All rights reserved. Licence number 100020449

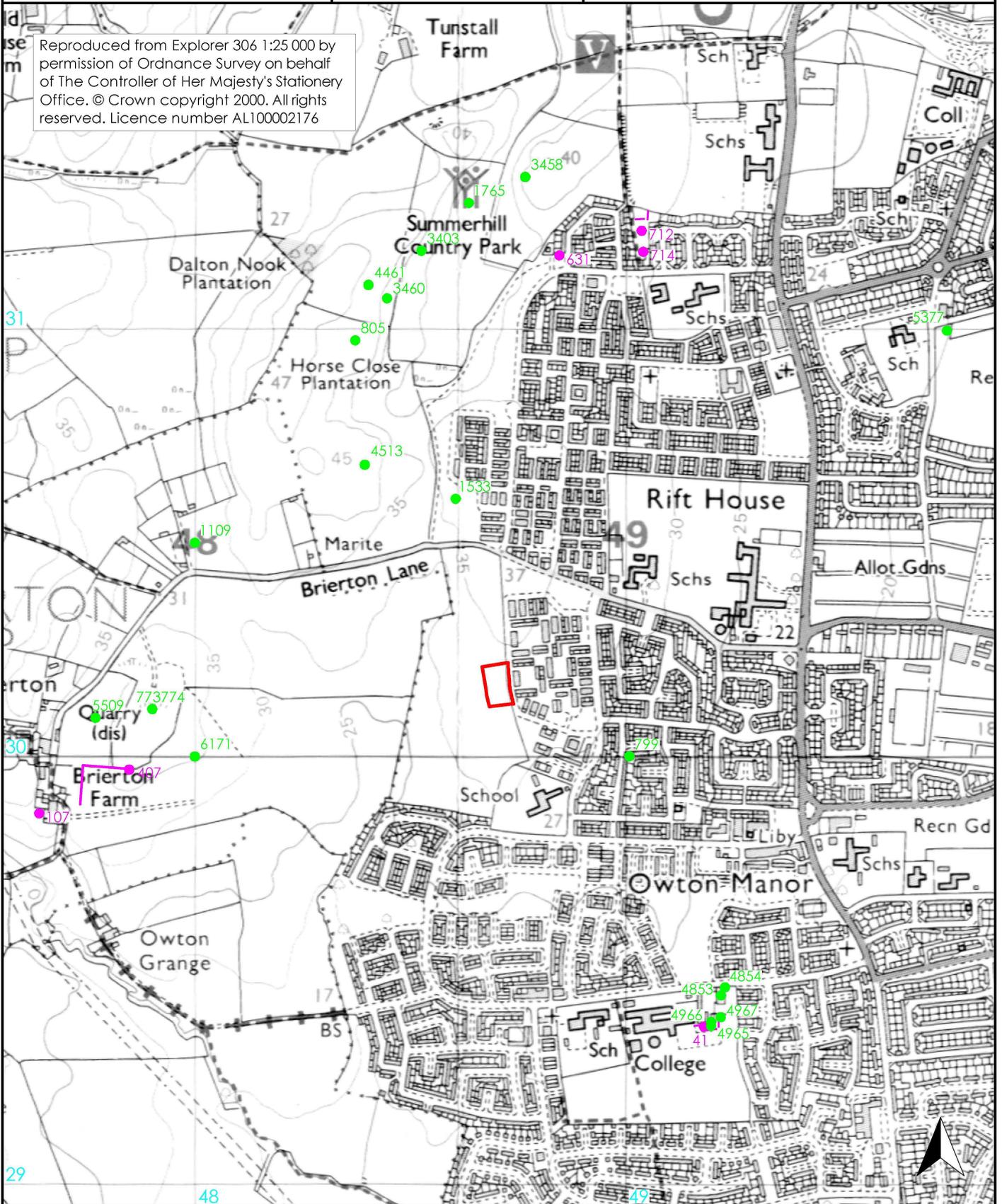


proposed development area

0 50m
scale 1:1250 for A4 plot



Reproduced from Explorer 306 1:25 000 by permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown copyright 2000. All rights reserved. Licence number AL100002176



 nursing home application area

 HER site

 HER event

0  500m
scale 1:12 500 for A4 plot

on behalf of

Yuill Homes

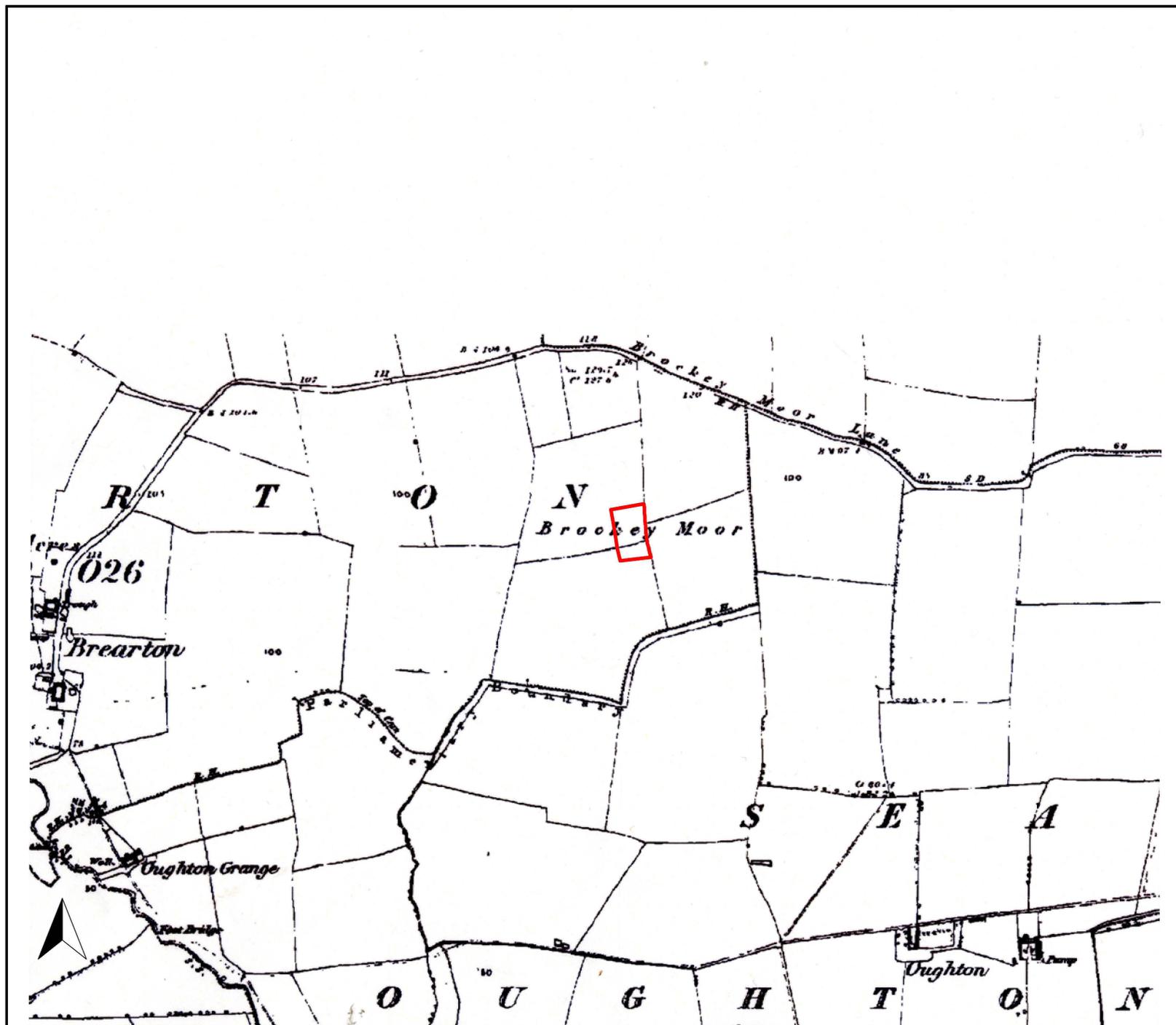
Land west of Eaglesfield Road
nursing home application area
Hartlepool
Teesside

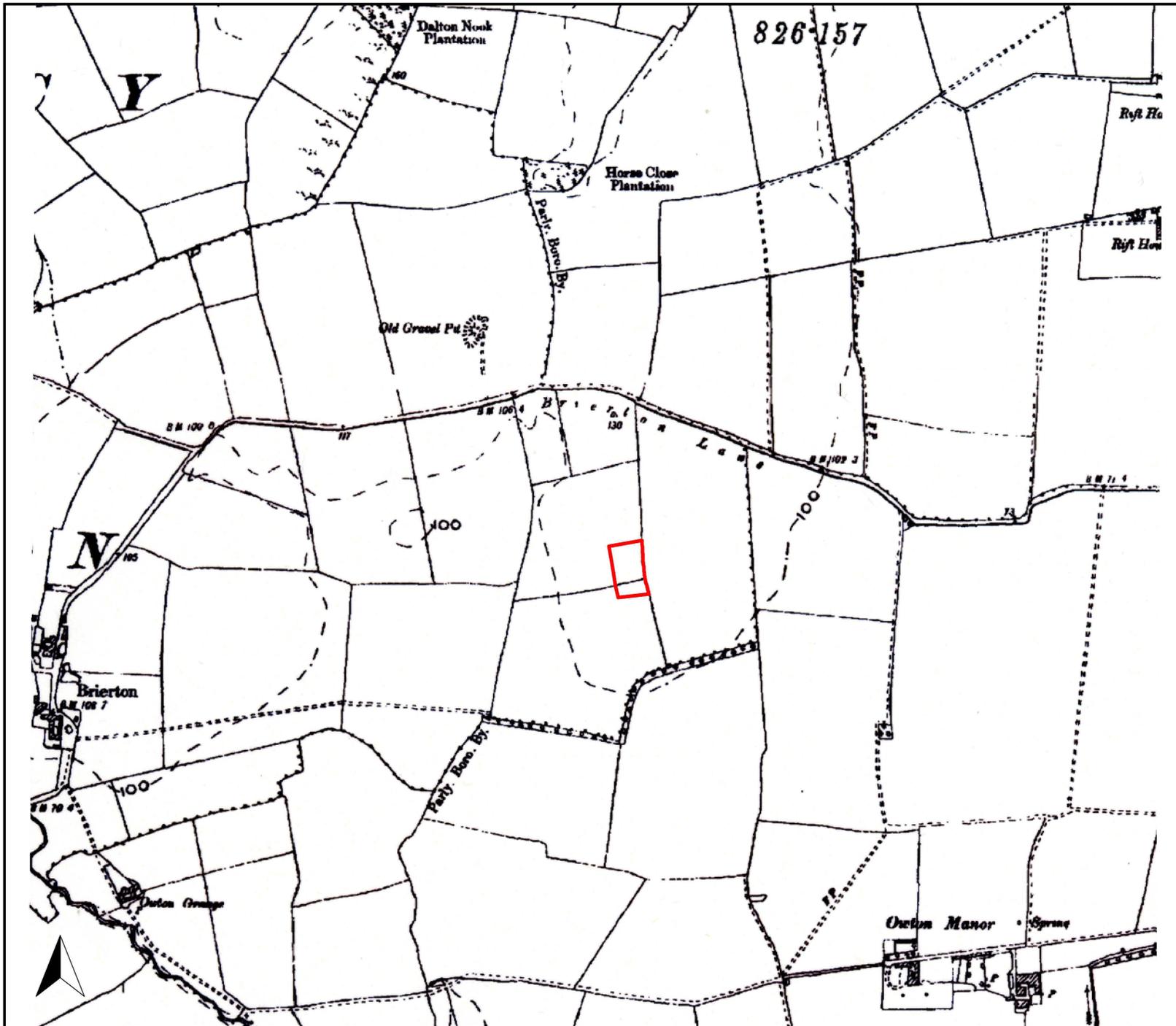
archaeological desk-based
assessment
report 2481

Figure 5: Extract from the 1st edition
Ordnance Survey map, 1861

0 500m
scale 1:10 000 for A4 plot

 nursing home application
area





ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES
 DURHAM UNIVERSITY

on behalf of
 Yuill Homes

Land west of Eaglesfield Road
 nursing home application area
 Hartlepool
 Teesside

archaeological desk-based
 assessment
 report 2481

Figure 6: Extract from the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map, 1898



 nursing home application area

on behalf of
Yuill Homes

Land west of Eaglesfield Road
nursing home application area
Hartlepool
Teesside

archaeological desk-based
assessment
report 2481

Figure 7: Extract from the
Ordnance Survey map of 1952

0 500m
scale 1:10 000 for A4 plot

 nursing home application
area

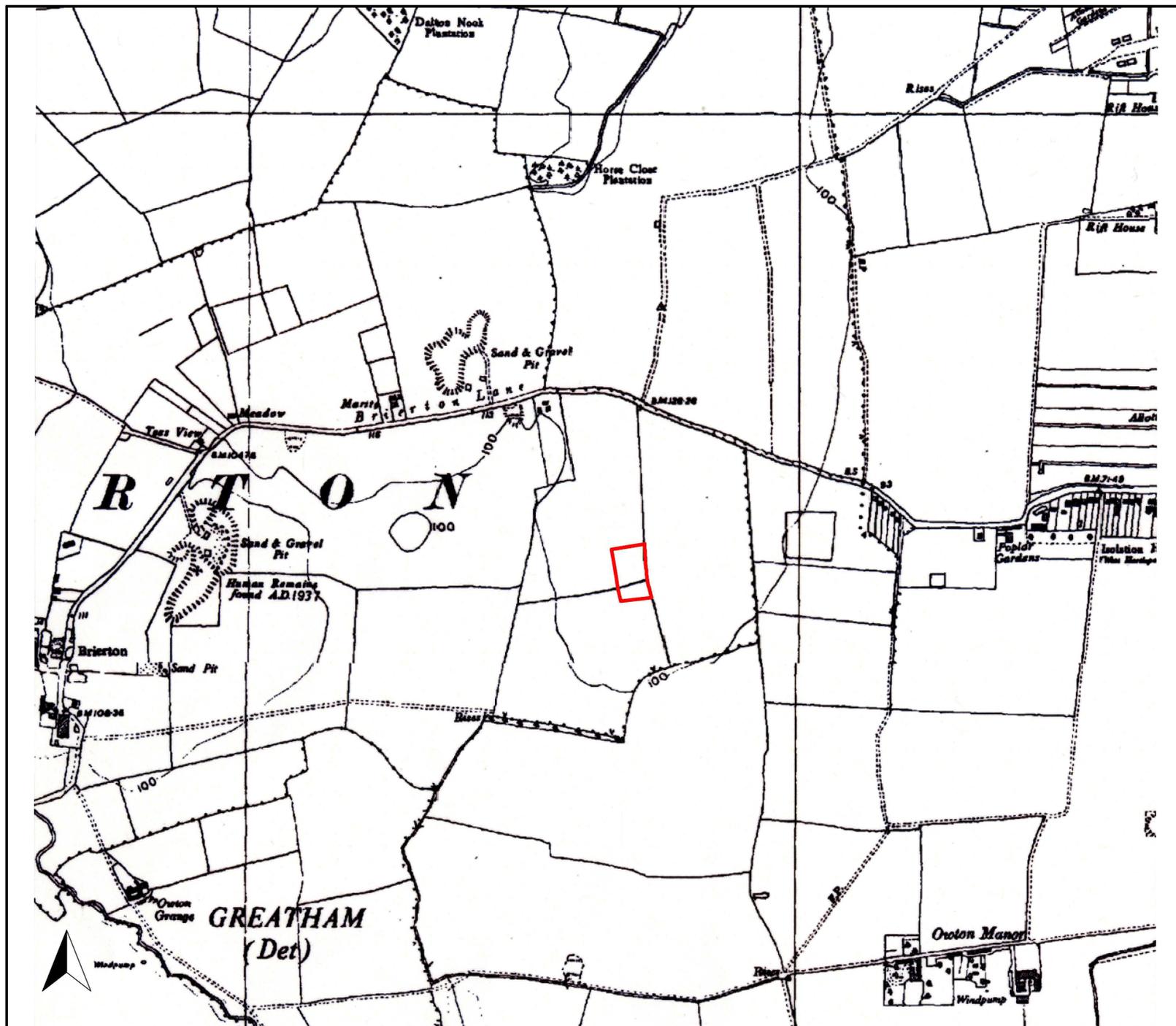




Figure 8: The proposed development area looking north



Figure 9: The proposed development area looking south