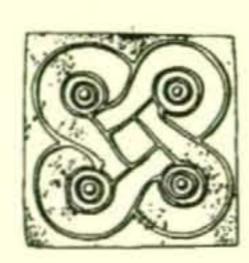
HER 0072 12852



<u>Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd</u>

ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT: BOXMOOR HOUSE SCHOOL HEMEL HEMPSTEAD HERTFORDSHIRE

on behalf of Hertfordshire County Council



Karin Semmelmann MA PIFA

August 2005

ASC: 706/BHS/1

Letchworth House Chesney Wold, Bleak Hall, Milton Keynes MK6 1NE Tel: 01908 608989 Fax: 01908 605700

Email: office@archaeological-services.co.uk Website: www.archaeological-services.co.uk



Site Data

ASC project code:	BHS		ASC Proje	ect No:	706	
Event No:			Accession	No:		
County:	•	Hertford	shire			
Village/Town:	•	Boxmoo	Boxmoor			
Civil Parish:		Hemel Hempstead				
NGR (to 8 figs):		TL 0380	TL 0380 0565			
Present use:		School				
Planning proposal:		N/A				
Planning application	on ref/date:	N/A				
Local Planning Authority:		Dacorum Borough Council				
Date of assessment	•	August 2	2005		•	
Client:				•		
Contact name:		June Ke				
Telephone 019	992 588118	*	Fax:			

Internal Quality Check

Primary Author:	Karin Semmelmann	Date:	4 th August 2005
	- dh	-	
Edited/Checked By:		Date:	5/08/2005
	<u>~},</u>		· /
Revisions:		Date:	
		<u> </u>	
Edited/Checked By:		Date:	

© Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd

No part of this document is to be copied in any way without prior written consent.

Every effort is made to provide detailed and accurate information. However, Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd cannot be held responsible for errors or inaccuracies within this report.

© Ordnance Survey maps reproduced with the sanction of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

ASC Licence No. AL 100015154

CONTENTS

Sw	mmary	4
1.	Introduction	5
2.	Aims & Methods	7
3.	Archaeological & Historical Evidence	8
4.	Walk-Over Survey	21
5.	Statutory Constraints on Development	24
6.	Conclusions	25
7.	Acknowledgements	27
8.	Sites & Monuments Data	28
9.	References	29
10.	. Cartographic Sources	31
11.	. Documentary Sources	31
Αp	ppendix 1: Photos of the Roman Villa remains	32
Fię	gures:	
1.	General location	4
2.	Site location	6
3.	Archaeological Sites in the Hertfordshire HER	11
4.	Period I timber building	14
5.	Roman Villa	15
6.	Estate Map of 1835	16
7.	Bovingdon Tithe Map of 1838	16
8.	1898 2 nd edition Ordnance Survey Map	17
9.	1925 3 rd edition Ordnance Survey Map	17
10	. 1940 Ordnance Survey Map	18
11	. Plan of school in relation to excavation trenches of 1967, 1969-70	19
12	. Archaeological features in neighbouring plots	20
Pl	ates:	
Ca	over: Boxmoor House excavation 1966	
1.	East Elevation of Boxmoor House	22

2.	School and playing field	. 22
3.	Playing field looking NNE	. 22
4.	Playing field looking NE	. 22
5.	Playing field looking E	. 22
6.	Playing field looking S	. 22
7.	School looking W	. 23
8.	1960s school building	. 23
9.	Looking towards NW corner of the site	. 23
10.	NW corner of the site	. 23
11.	NW end of playing field looking SE	. 23
12	Main entrance	. 23

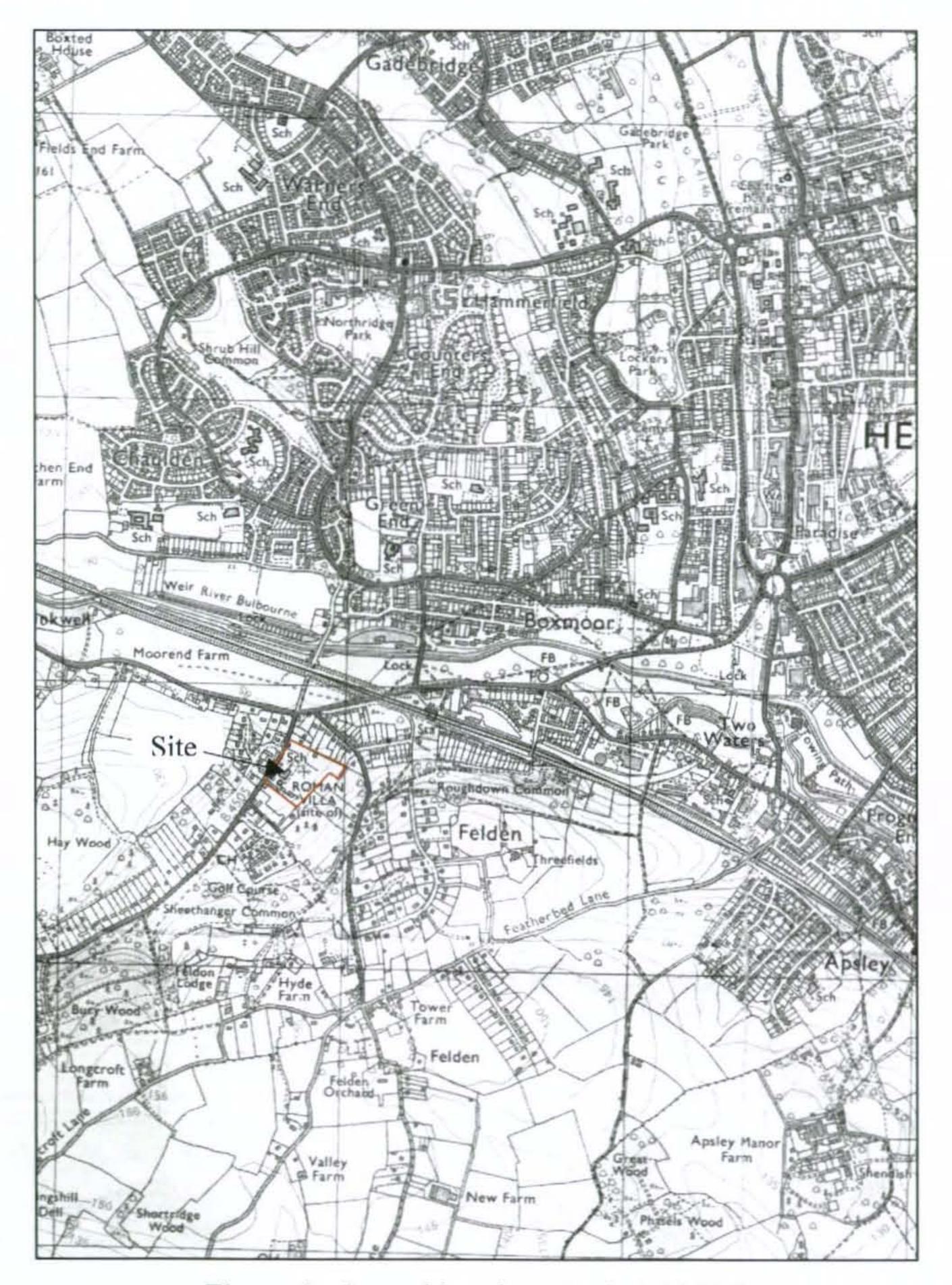


Figure 1: General location (scale 1:25,000)

Summary

In July 2005 ASC was commissioned by Hertfordshire County Council to undertake a desk-based assessment of Boxmoor House School, Box Lane, Boxmoor, Hertfordshire prior to further consultations regarding the future of the site. Boxmoor House School stands on a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM 27916) comprising a Roman Villa, which was excavated in the 19th century by John Evans and again in the 1960s by David Neal. The desk based assessment has shown that there is a strong potential for archaeological remains, such as workshops, outhouses and in particular the bathhouse, to have survived within the school grounds. In addition, Boxmoor House itself, although unlisted, is an unusual 19th century structure of some local and architectural significance.

1 Introduction

1.1 In July 2005 Archaeological Services and Consultancy Ltd (ASC) carried out an archaeological desk-based assessment of a site at Boxmoor House School, Box Lane, Boxmoor, Hertfordshire (NGR TL 0380 0565: Fig. 1). The project was commissioned by Hertfordshire County Council prior to assessing its future use.

1.2 Location & Description

The site is approximately 250 m south of the River Bulbourne and lies between the 90 m and 95 m contours AOD. The terrain is gently sloping to the south and the soils belong to the Coombe Complex (Avery 1964), which is derived from 'Flinty and Chalky Head over chalk'. The surface texture is 'flinty or pebbly clay loam or loam, locally clay'. The drainage is classified as 'Free' and the subsoil is described as a 'brown, friable and flinty or pebbly, generally becoming stiffer and redder with depth, but locally passing to loose gravel' (ibid).

1.3 Existing Buildings & Access

The school buildings are mainly concentrated on the western side of the site and access is gained from Box Lane to the west.

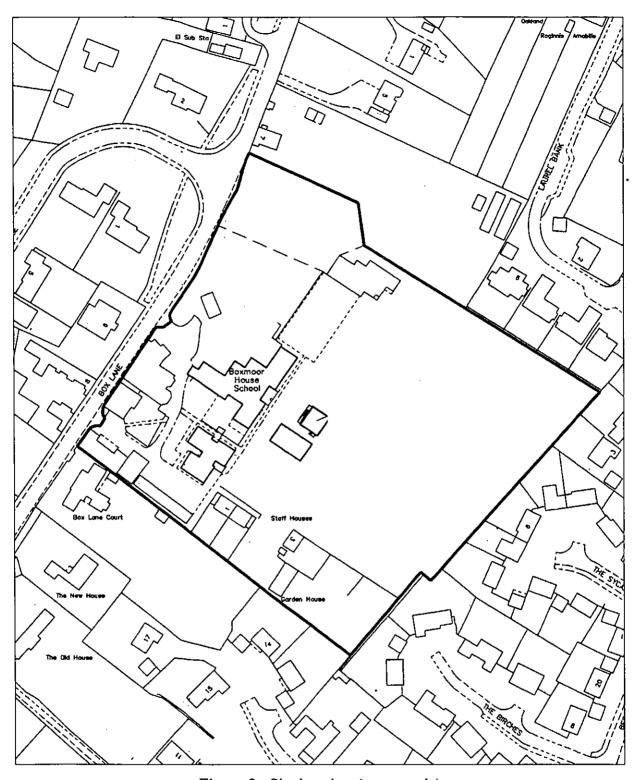


Figure 2: Site location (not to scale)

2 Aims & Methods

- 2.1 'Archaeological desk-based assessment is an assessment of the known or potential archaeological resource within a given area, consisting of a collation of existing information in order to identify the likely extent, character and quality of the known or potential archaeological resource, in order that appropriate measures might be considered' (IFA 2000).
- 2.2 The assessment was carried out according to the Brief, and the Institute of Field Archaeologists' Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-Based Assessments (IFA 2001).
- 2.3 The following readily available sources of information were consulted for the desk-based assessment:

2.3.1 Archaeological Databases

Archaeological databases represent the standard references to the known archaeology of an area. The principal source consulted was the Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Record (HER), Hertford. The study area employed in the HER search includes the site itself, and a surrounding study area of approximately 1km radius.

2.3.2 Historic Documents

Documentary research provides an overview of the history of a site and its environs, suggesting the effects of settlement and land-use patterns. The principal source consulted was the Hertfordshire Archive and Local Studies Library (HALS), Hertford.

2.3.3 Cartographic & Pictorial Documents

Old maps and illustrations are normally a very productive area of research. The principal sources consulted were the Hertfordshire Archive and Local Studies Library (HALS) in Hertford and the Dacorum Heritage Trust in Berkhamsted.

3 Archaeological & Historical Evidence

The local and regional settings of archaeological sites are factors that are taken into consideration when assessing the planning implications of development proposals. The following sections provide a summary of the readily available archaeological and historical background to the development site and its environs.

The study area lies within an area of archaeological and historical interest, and the site has the potential to reveal evidence of a range of periods. The location of known archaeological and historical sites recorded in the SMR is shown in Fig. 3, and details appear in Section 9.

3.1 Archaeological & Historical Background to the Study Area

3.1.1 Prehistoric (before 600BC)

There is little archaeological evidence for prehistoric activity in the study area other than the presence of late Neolithic/early Bronze Age artefacts at Laurel Bank, Felden Lane, which lies approximately 150m north east of the study area (HER 11687).

3.1.2 Roman (AD43-c.450)

The same site (HER 11687) also produced evidence for Roman occupation, which was interpreted as being part of the Roman Villa at Boxmoor House School (see Section 3.2). Four archaeological investigations took place at Laurel Bank in the 1990s (West 1995a & b, Ford & Hull 1997 Pollinger 1997), during which two parallel ditches associated with a trackway and containing mid-late 1st century pottery, a further ditch, a large lynchet bank, two flint wall foundations, a chalk layer, several pits and a circular Roman oven were discovered. Demolition deposits containing 2-3rd century pottery sealed the oven and one of the wall foundations. The ditched trackway and lynchet found in the southern end of the site in 1995 almost certainly cross into the ground of Boxmoor House School, and the wall foundations to the west of the track may also have extended into the present day school grounds (Fig.*). These features were almost certainly part of the Roman Villa, and may represent part of the economic activity of the villa when it was at its peak (Section 3.2.1).

Archaeological excavations to the north of Hemel Hempstead station in the 19th century revealed a Roman well and building (HER 517). This building, which was located approximately 600m north east of Boxmoor House School, was made of flint and rendered internally with red plaster. It has been proposed that this building may also have been a villa.

Several ditches and beam slots were found at The Spinney approximately 150m north west of the study area in 2003 (HER 11911). Although there was no dating evidence it was thought that these features could have been part of a Roman timber building that could have been associated with the villa at Boxmoor House School (Askew 2003).

Cremation burials were found in 1837 during grave digging in the graveyard of the Independent Chapel, which was located on the opposite side of Box Lane

(HER 516). The artefacts accompanying the burials included a bronze lamp stand, a square glass bottle and bronze fragments, which are now in the British Museum. A single outlying cremation burial was recently discovered during an evaluation c.30m east of The Spinney (Saunders 2005).

A Romano-British key was found approximately 400m north west of the study area in 1903 (HER 515).

All of the Roman features and finds were located south of the River Bulbourne apart from a length of the Roman road identified as Viatores 16A (HER 4582), which lies approximately 800 north of Boxmoor House School on the northern side of the Bulbourne.

Although the origins of the settlement at Hemel Hempstead is unclear, the earliest indication is that the area may have once been a Roman administrative unit or 'pagus' (Bailey 1989, 111).

3.1.3 Saxon (c.450-1066)

The name 'Haemele' is of Saxon origin (Gover et al 1970, 41). It was granted Wealdhere, Bishop of London by Offa, King of the East Saxons in AD 705 (Sawyer 1968, 471, no. 1784; Williamson 2000, 121). The only archaeological evidence for the Saxon period, however, is a chance find of a disc brooch approximately 100m north of the study area (HER 1606).

3.1.4 *Medieval* (1066-1500)

At the time of the Domesday Survey Hemel Hempstead was the most valuable estate that belonged to the Count of Mortain. (Morris 1976, 15/10). By 1334 the Lay Subsidy it would appear that Hemel Hempstead (which also included Gaddesden) was in the top five most wealthy settlements (P.R.O. E. 179 120/14). However, it never attained borough status in the medieval period and it was not until 1539 when the town received a charter of incorporation (Page 1908, 217).

There is remarkably little medieval archaeology within the study area. Indeed, the only three sites listed are common land (Roughdown, Sheethanger, Boxmoor and Dew Green Commons), which are only tentatively dated to the medieval period. Roughdown (HER 12387) and Sheethanger (HER 12386) Commons both lie to the south of the railway line and are located approximately 500m north east and south west of Boxmoor House School respectively. Boxmoore and Dew Green Commons (HER 12388) lie to the north of the railway line approximately 900m to the north west of the present site.

3.1.5 *Post-Medieval* (1500-1900)

The pastoral resources of the manor of Hemel Hempstead would have been concentrated along the margins of the Bulbourne and Gade. It was also these

rivers that supplied the necessary water power to drive the various corn and fulling mills that existed up to the early years of the 20th century. In the medieval period common pastures existed at Shothanger, Dow Green, Rough Down, Howgrove, Water Moor, Spencer's Field, and Little Spencer's Field, Ashridge and at Flaunden by Church Path (Page 1908, 216). Other pastures also existed such as Castlemead, Bayliemead, Felden Heath and Bovingdon Green (Yaxley 1973, 28). In 1650 Two Waters Moor and Box Moor were estimated at 120 acres, though by 1806 Boxmoor contained 159 acres (*ibid.*). Doubtless this included Two Waters and other adjacent parcels of land.

It is probable that the Gaddesdens were originally part of Hemel Hempstead which even as late as 1841 contained over 5034 ha (12440 acres). Due to its large size there were several chapels in the parish. Those of Bovingdon and Flaunden became parishes in the 19th century (Page 1908, 216). It is probable that they were originally townships or 'vills' in the early medieval period. It is also possible that small settlements like Eastbrookhay and Westbrookhay may also have been townships at some time, though this is by no means certain.

In the late 15th century there was mention of a dispute concerning rights of pasture in Castlemead (later Boxmoor), Balimede, Rowdown, Felden Heath and Twowaters More (Yaxley 1973, 217). The inhabitants of Hemel Hempstead secured their rights of pasture and fishing on payment half a mark (6/8) to the Rector of Ashridge (*ibid.*). However, actual possession was not secured until the later part of the 16th century when three individuals were instrumental in securing these rights by secret subscription (Hunn 2002, 7).

The earliest reference to the name *Boxmoor* occurs in 1638 (Gover et al 1938, 41). It is believed that this name replaced the name Castlemead. Why this should be so is not certain but name changes are not unusual.

The socio-economic effects of the construction of the Grand Union Canal in the late 18th century and the railway in 1837 were similar to other towns in Hertfordshire, including a considerable expansion of the population in the late 19th century (Hunn 2002, 8; Munby 1977, 208 & 212).

Amongst the post-medieval features lying within 1km of the study area is a former chalk mine on Roughdown Common (HER 684), two bridges over the Grand Union Canal (HER 5240 & 5241), two brick pillar wall boxes (HER 5287 & 5316), three railway bridges (HER 5567, 5568 & 7096), two canal locks (HER 7208 & 7210), a milepost (HER 7209), three former industrial sites (HER 7115, 7116 & 7117), a possible model farm (HER 10248) and the grave of highwayman Robert Snooks (HER 459). Of these only canal bridge 5240 and railway bridge 5567 lie within a 500m radius of the site.

3.1.6 Modern (1900-present)

Of the four modern features listed, three are residential or associated outbuildings (HER 11801, 11802 & 11910) and the fourth is a former WWII German prisoner of war camp (HER 12339).

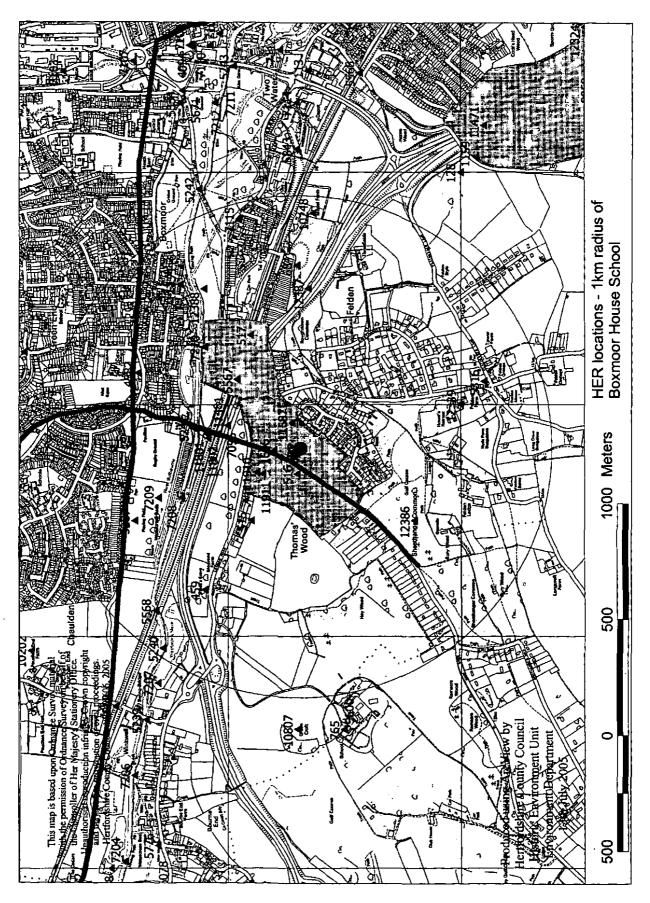


Figure 3: Archaeological sites in the Hertfordshire HER. (Courtesy of Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Record)

© ASC Ltd 2005

3.2 The Known Archaeology & History of the Site

3.2.1 Roman (AD43-c.450)

The earliest known archaeological evidence from the site is of the Roman villa which is now a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM 27916). The villa, which lies approximately 400 m to the west of the railway station on the eastern side of Box Lane, opposite the chapel grounds which produced the cremation burials in 1837, was first excavated by John Evans in 1852. The remains he recovered ran on an east-west alignment, and comprised five rooms (A-E), the second of which (B) was ornamented with an elaborate mosaic. The other rooms had plain tessellated pavements with the exception of the third room (C), which was decorated with an "embattled" pattern. Another room had a hypocaust (Neal 1977, 55-57). The archaeological excavations undertaken in the 1960s found that there had been two buildings on the site, and identified a number of building sequences.

The earliest structure (Period 1) was a timber building that was probably constructed towards the end of the 1st century (Fig.4). It was 21.60m long x 12.80m wide and contained 5 rooms aligned east-west, one of which contained painted plaster. The layout was similar to many later masonry villas in that there was a main block with wing rooms on both sides, partly enclosing a small courtyard, and a surrounding corridor. It is thought that there may have been a bathhouse as flue tiles and a drain were found to the south of the main building. As yet, the bathhouse remains undiscovered (Neal 177, 57&122).

The first villa burnt down, possibly deliberately to make way for a masonry structure (ibid, 53). This was erected slightly north of and above the timber building and consisted of cob (chalk and clay) walls on rammed chalk foundation c. 0.60m wide (Fig.5). It was 42.70m long x 16.63m wide and consisted of a range of rooms aligned east-west with wing rooms on either end and corridors to the north and south. The Period 2 villa had 11 rooms and the Period 3 villa, which used the same footings but had flint dwarf walls supporting the cob walls, had 12 rooms (*ibid*, 60). It is thought that these dwarf walls were a means of preventing rising damp (Middleton 1997).

The masonry building was similar in size to other Antonine houses at Northchurch, Gadebridge, Gorhambury and Park St. It was, however, one of the earliest villas to have mosaics in the 2nd century and the interior decorations are considered to have been finer than those at Northchurch and Gadebridge (Neal 1977, 123-4).

Large parts of the villa were rebuilt in the 3rd century (Period 4), which involved destroying the cob walls and widening the flint footings. The north corridor was rebuilt and the one to the south abandoned. Further changes occurred in the late 3rd/early 4th century, when the villa was reduced in size to 7 rooms in Period 5A and subsequently 5 rooms on Period 5B. Other alterations at this time include the insertion of a hypocaust in Period 5A and the amalgamation of two rooms to form a workshop in Period 5B (*ibid*, 65-6). It is

thought that the villa may have been under governmental control at this time, as a late 3rd/early 4th century imperial seal was found in the west corridor (Middleton 1997). Whether the structural and functional changes from the 3rd century onwards are indicative of economic decline or socio-political developments (cf. Niblett 1995, 113-5), the house was abandoned in the mid 4th century.

3.2.2 *Saxon*

(c.450-1066)

No Saxon features or finds are known at this site.

3.2.3 Medieval

(1066-1500)

No medieval features or finds are known at this site.

3.2.4 Post-Medieval

(1500-1900)

There was a farmstead on the site during the Tudor period, remnants of which are apparently visible in the present buildings. The house is first mentioned in 1709 and it is recorded that it was bought by William Bourdillon in 1771. A plan drawn up of the Boxmoor House estate when it was for sale in 1835 shows the mansion lying next to the Congregational chapel and other buildings within the footprint of the present Boxmoor House (Fig.6). These were radically altered by the time the Tithe Map was drawn up in 1838 (Fig.6). It is thought that the present building probably dates from c.1844 when Thomas Davis, surgeon to William IV owned the property. It was during his ownership that John Evans undertook his excavations in 1852.

The house was sold a number of times after Davis's death in 1863 until it was bought by Rev Blackwood, of the publishing family, in 1873 (Hands & Davis 1994, 82). His wife, Lady Alicia, who had worked with Florence Nightingale at Crimea played a prominent role in local society long after the Reverend's death in 1882 (Brown 2002, 63).

3.2.5 Modern

(1900-present)

Boxmoor House was used as a convalescent home for soldiers during the First World War and became a 'Home for Imbecile Children of Gentle Folk' in the 1930s (Hands & Davis 1994, 82).

Boxmoor House appears to have remained largely unaltered between 1898 and 1940 apart from the reduction of the northern wing. The complex of outbuildings to the south east of Boxmoor House, however, underwent a number of changes in the same period (Figs. 8-10).

The house was sold to Hertfordshire County Council in 1942 who converted it into a school. Modern permanent and temporary buildings have subsequently been added to the east of the original building, the permanent structure partly overlying the timber and masonry Roman villas (Fig.11).

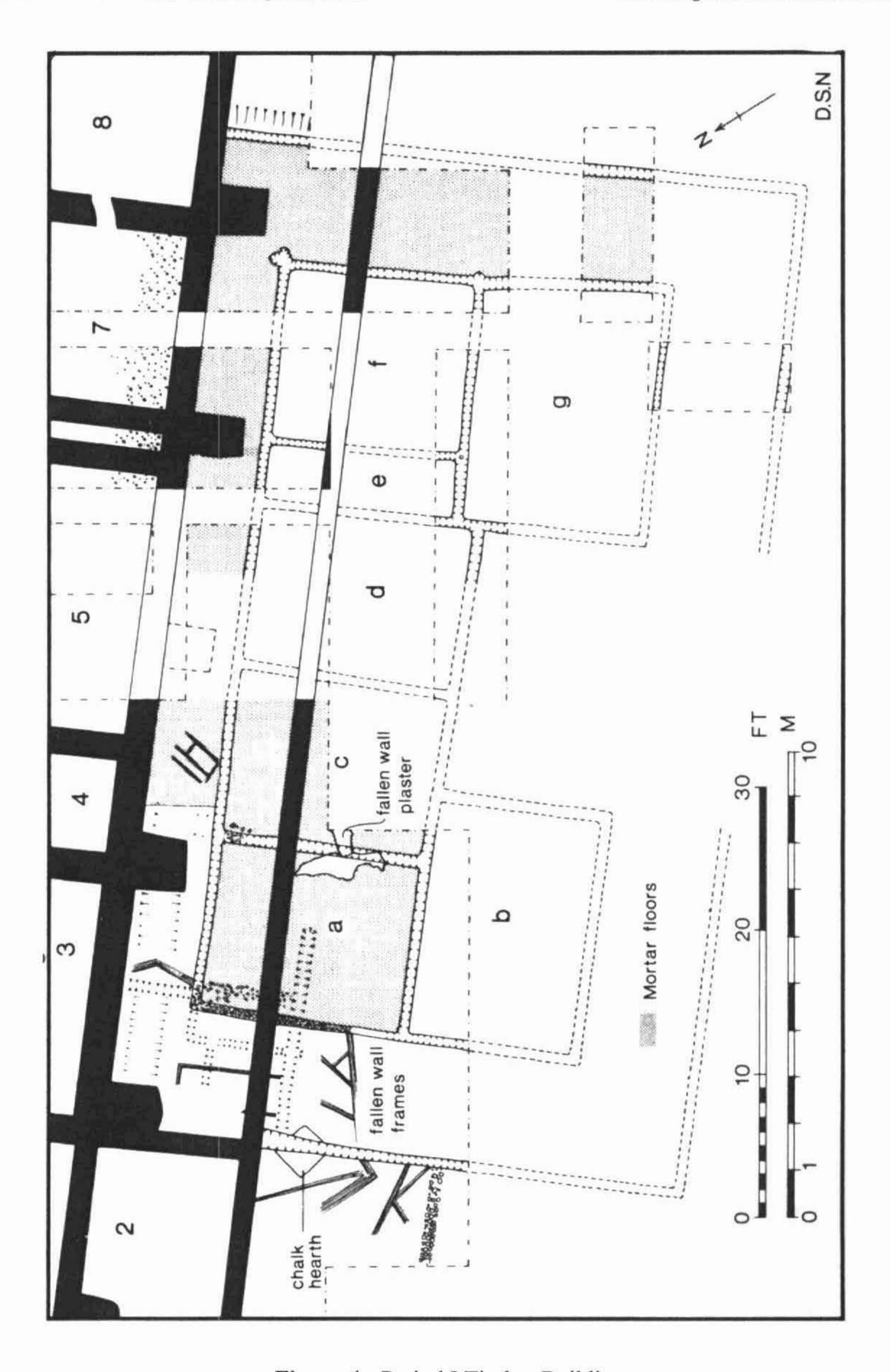


Figure 4: Period I Timber Building

igure 5: Roman Villa

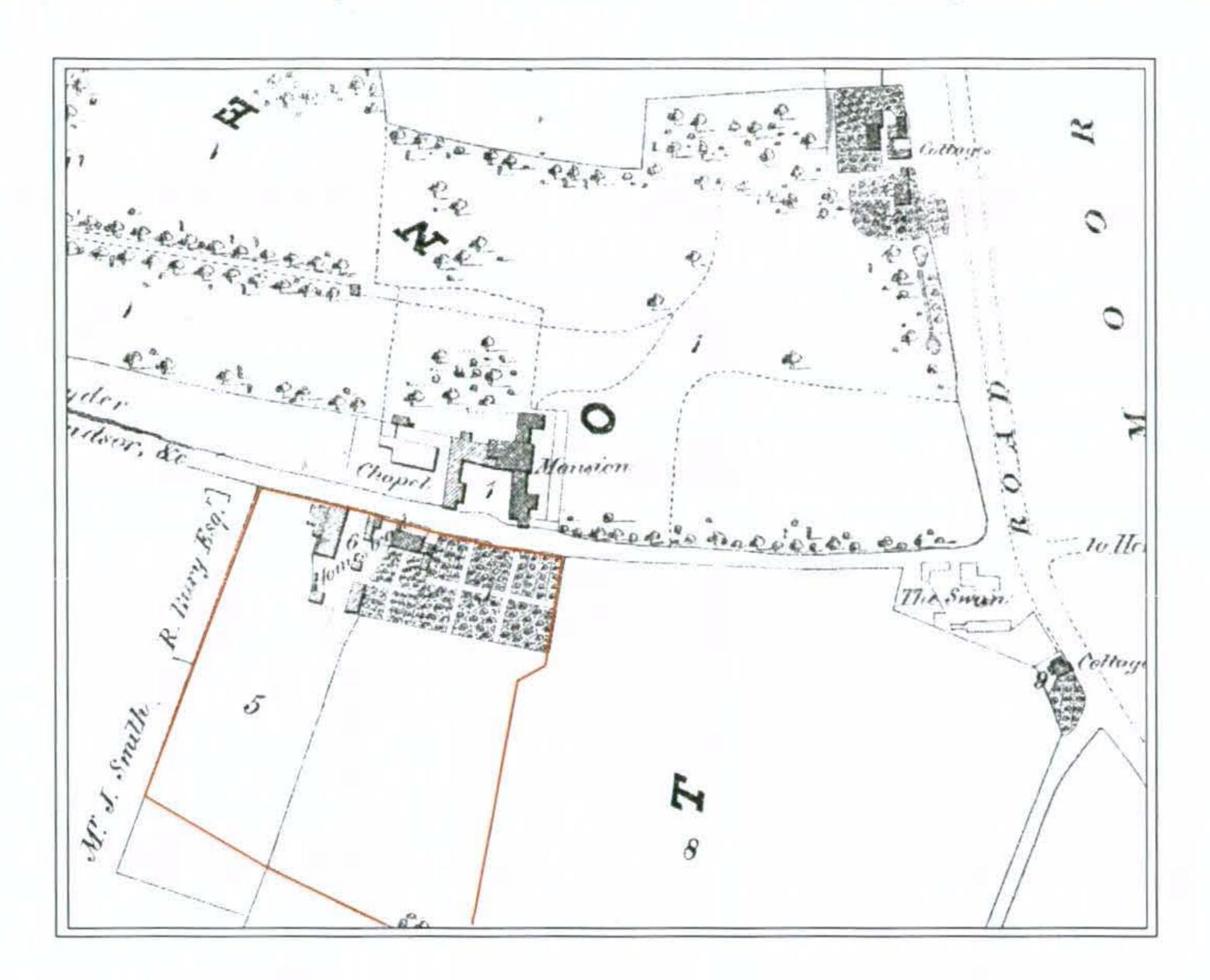


Figure 6: Estate Map of 1835 (Not to scale)



Figure 7: Bovingdon Tithe Map of 1838 (Not to scale)

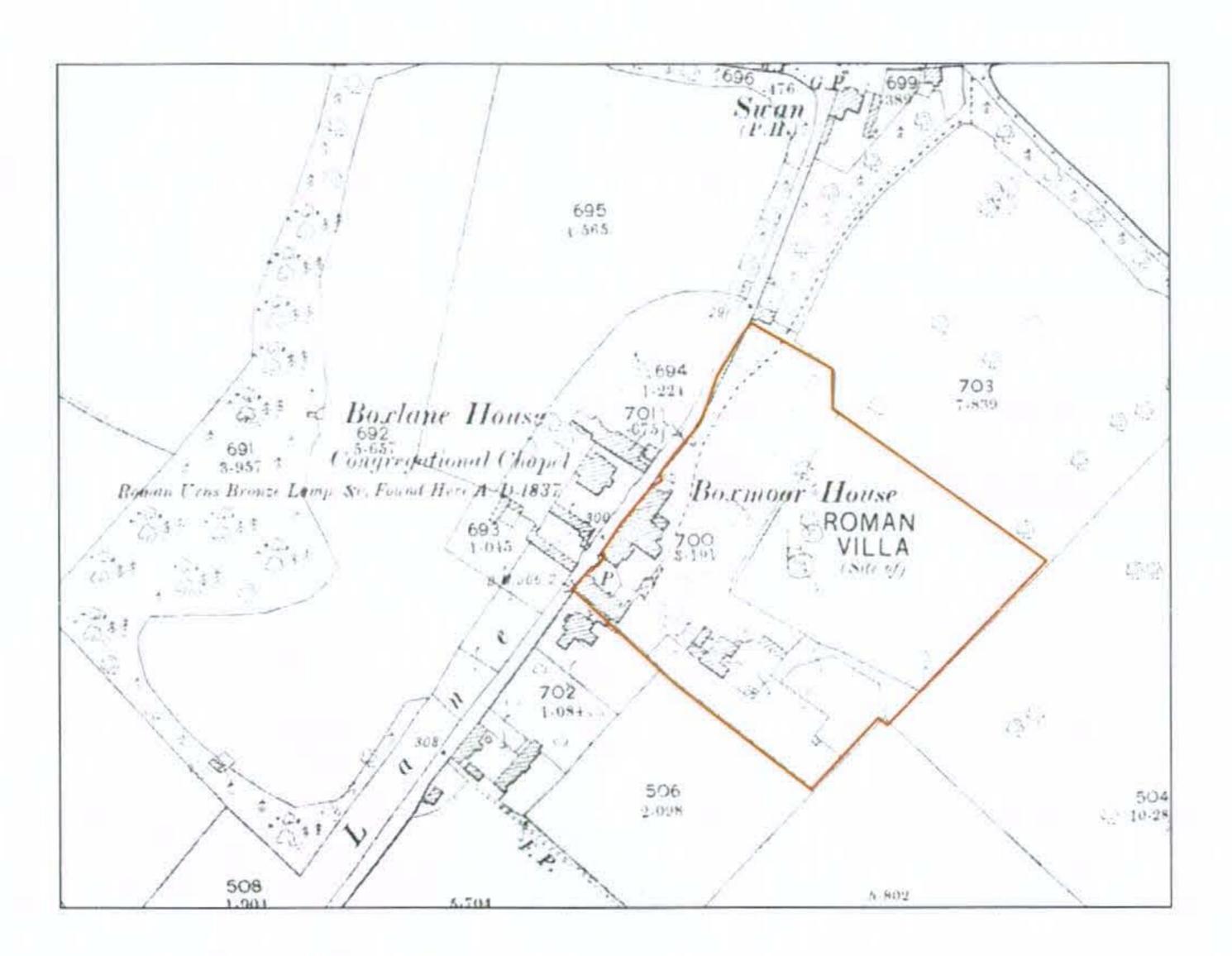


Figure 8: 1898 2nd edition Ordnance Survey Map (Not to scale)

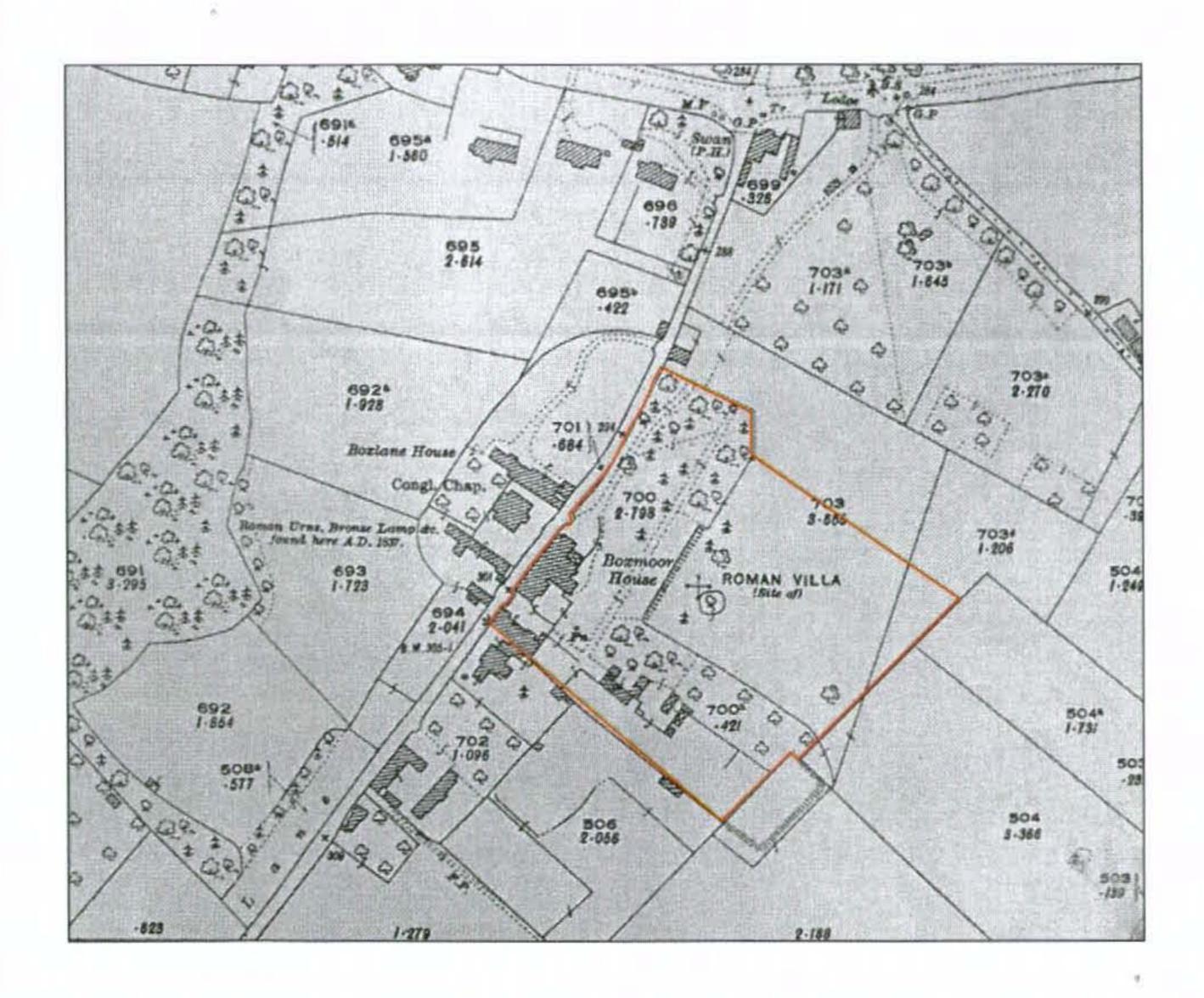


Figure 9: 1925 3rd edition Ordnance Survey Map (Not to scale)

© ASC Ltd 2005

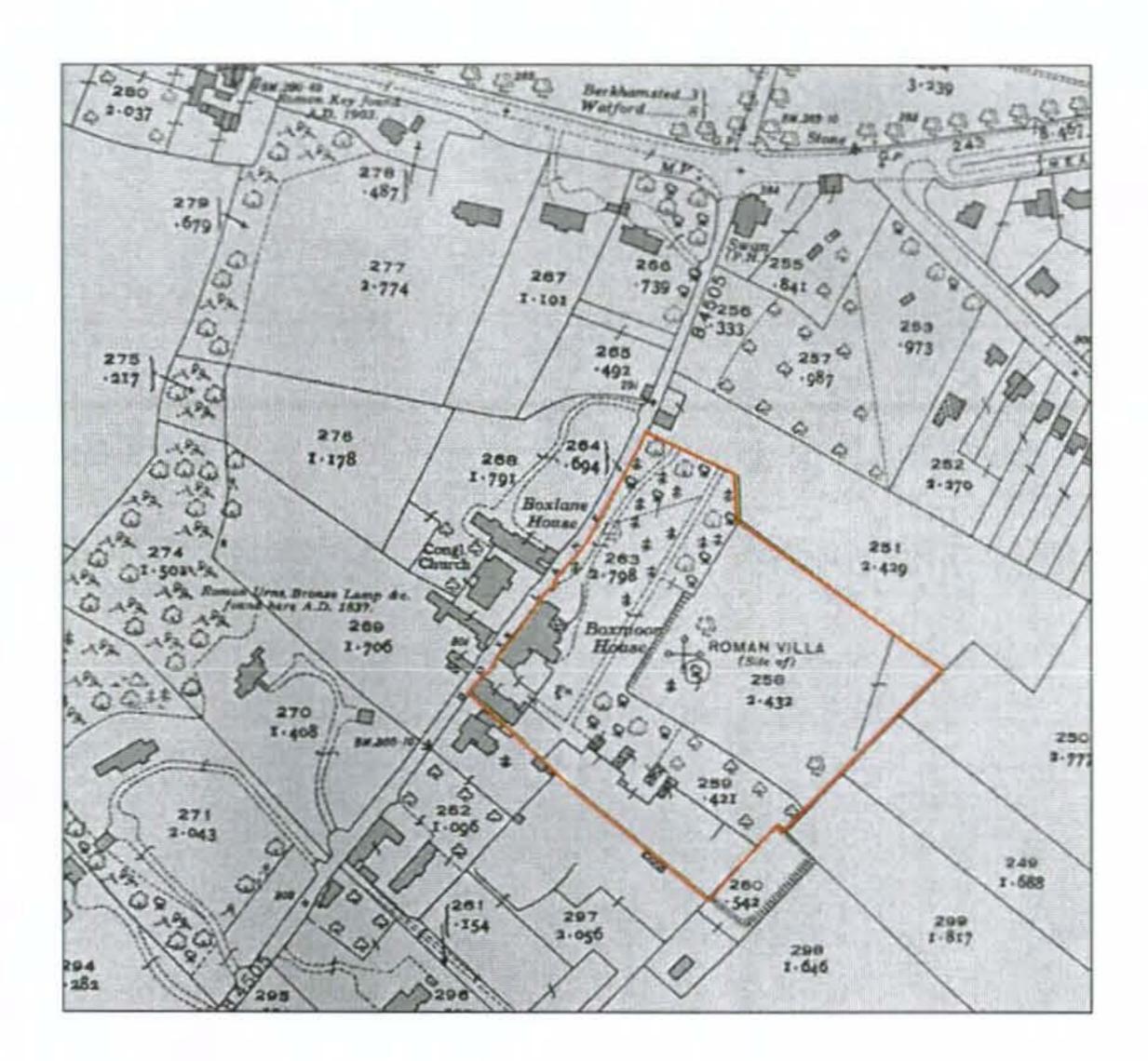


Figure 10: 1940 Ordnance Survey Map (Not to scale)

© ASC Ltd 2005

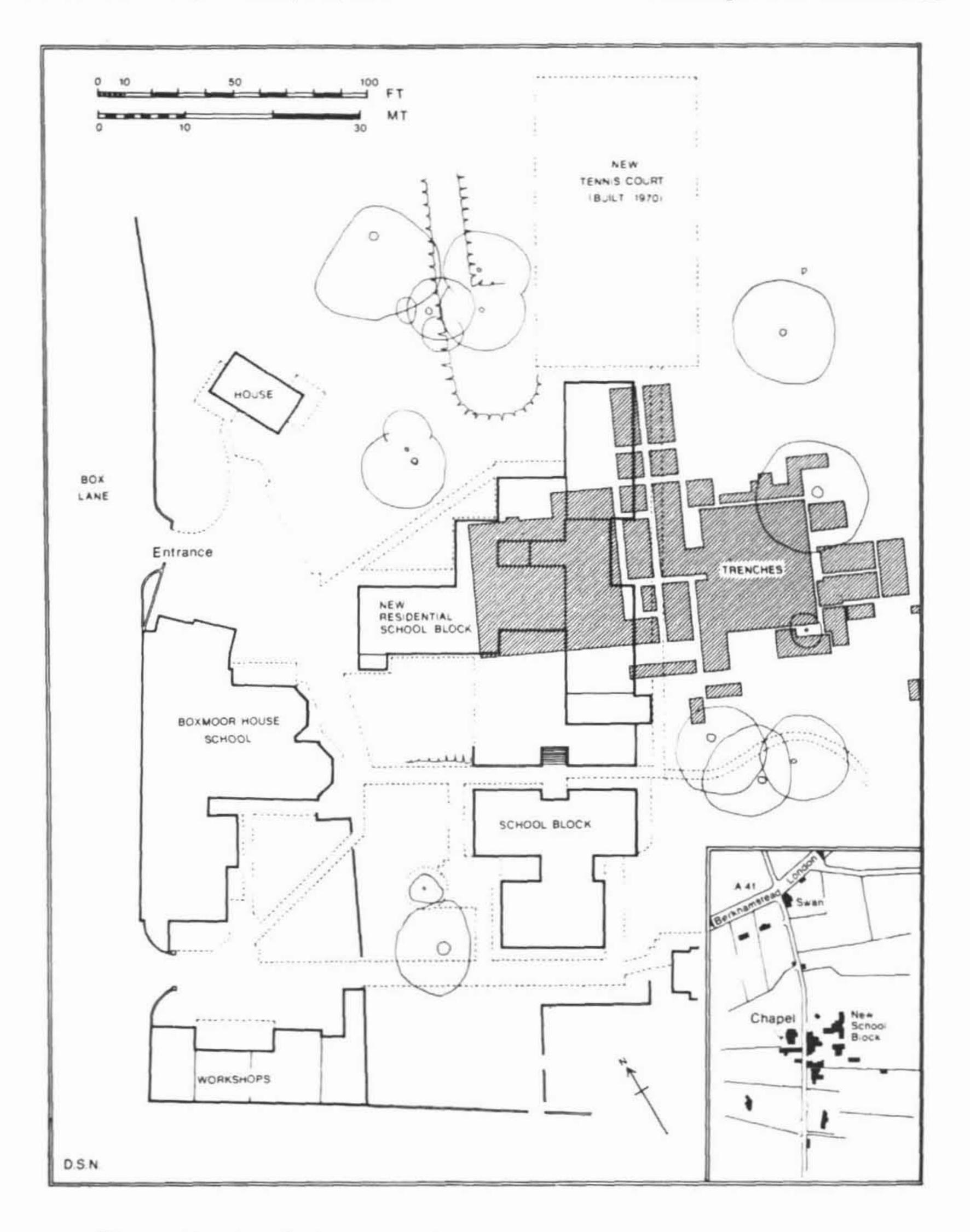


Figure 11: Plan of school in relation to excavation trenches of 1967, 1969-70

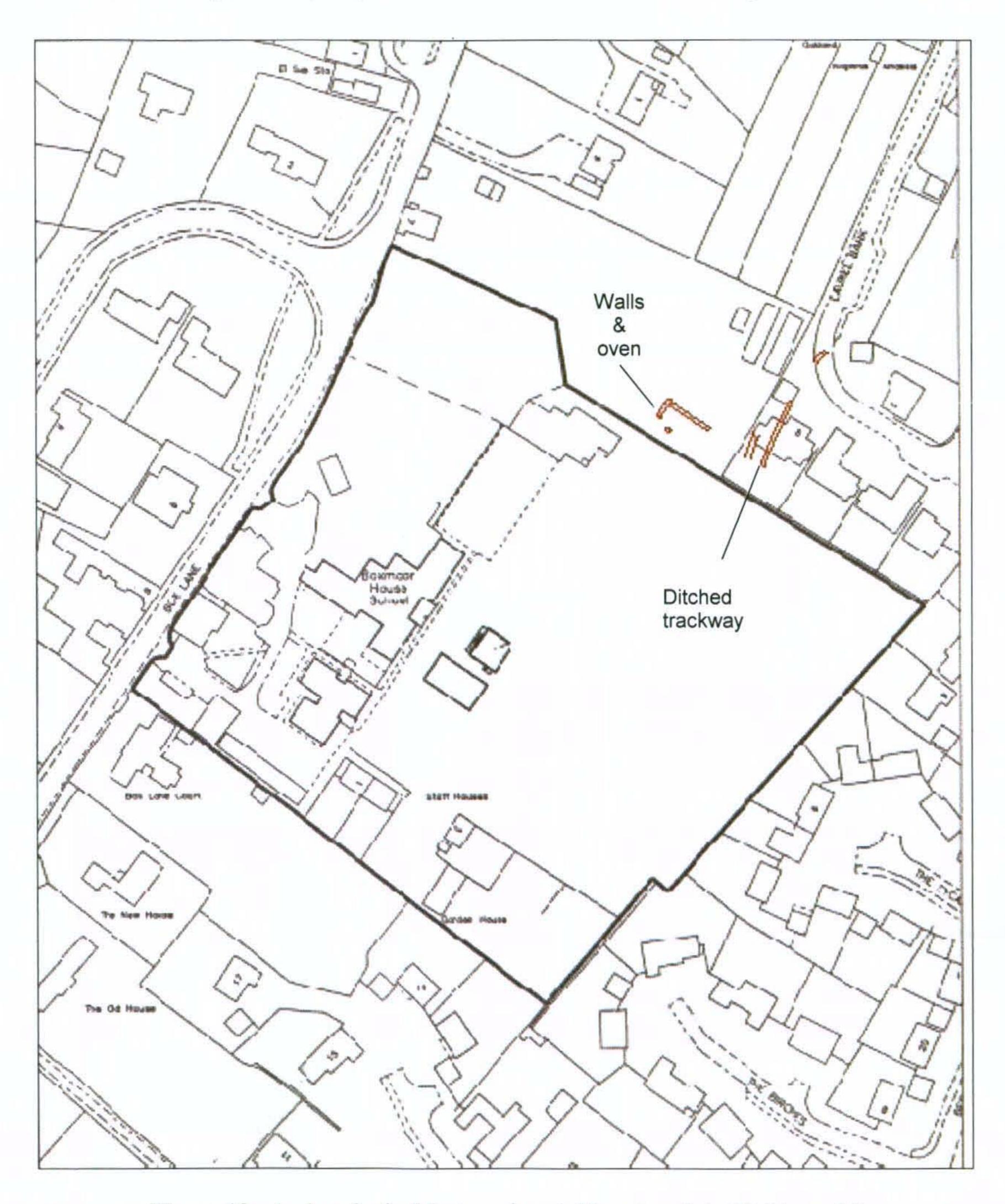


Figure 12: Archaeological features in neighbouring plots (Not to scale)

4 Walk-Over Survey

4,1 *Aims*

As part of the assessment a walk-over survey of the site was undertaken on 18th July 2005, with the following aims:

- To examine any areas of archaeological potential identified during research for the assessment, in particular with a view to gauging the possible survival or condition of any remains present.
- To consider the significance of any above-ground structures, historic buildings or historic landscape features present.
- To assess the present site use and ground conditions, with a view to the appropriate deployment of fieldwork techniques, if required by the AA.

4.2 Results

Boxmoor House School stands in the south west corner of the site with staff houses and other ancillary buildings to the north and south (Fig. 2). The playing field in which the Roman villa was discovered lies to the east of the permanent school buildings and is bounded by trees and fencing to the north and east (Plates 2-9). The northwest corner of the site consists of a small wooded area, which is heavily overgrown (Plate 10).

The survey was undertaken on a day where visibility was good and the irregularities in the ground surface of the playing field could be clearly seen. These may have been indicative of archaeological remains rather than the result of grounds maintenance or countless games of football, but appeared to follow no discernible pattern.

The original school building (Cover and Plates 1 & 12) is a mid 19th century structure, apparently containing remnants of the Tudor farmstead that was formerly on this site. The building is not listed, but even a cursory inspection shows that the building has some architectural and historical merit.



Plate 1: East elevation of Boxmoor House

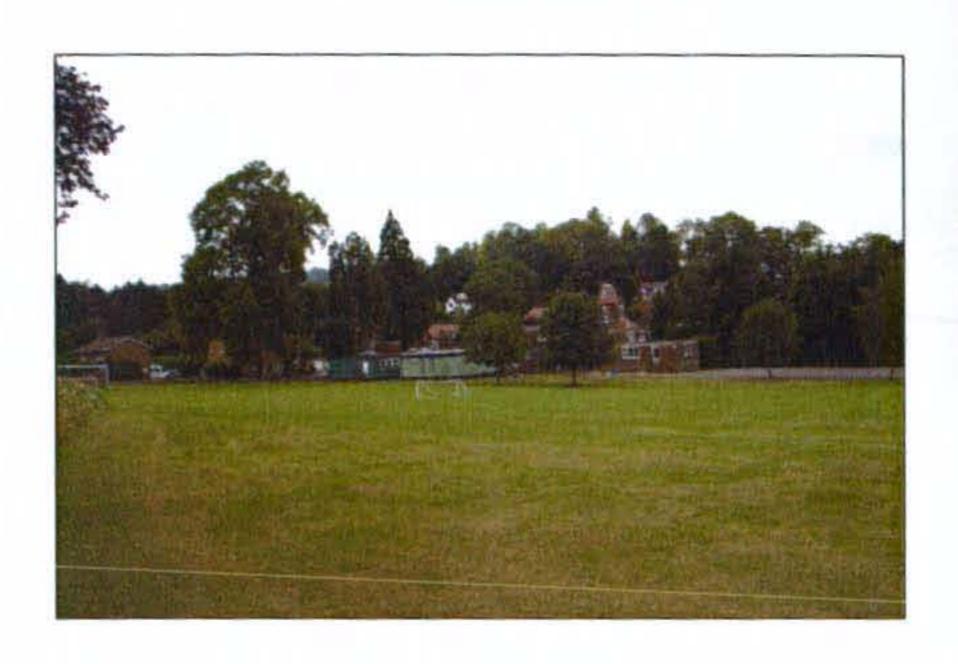


Plate 2: School & playing field

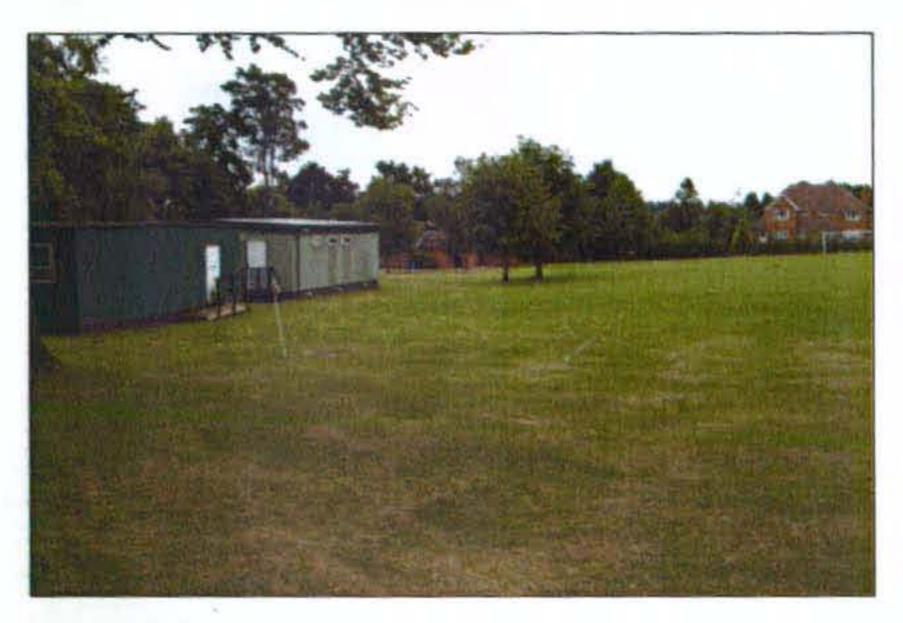


Plate 3: Playing field looking NNE

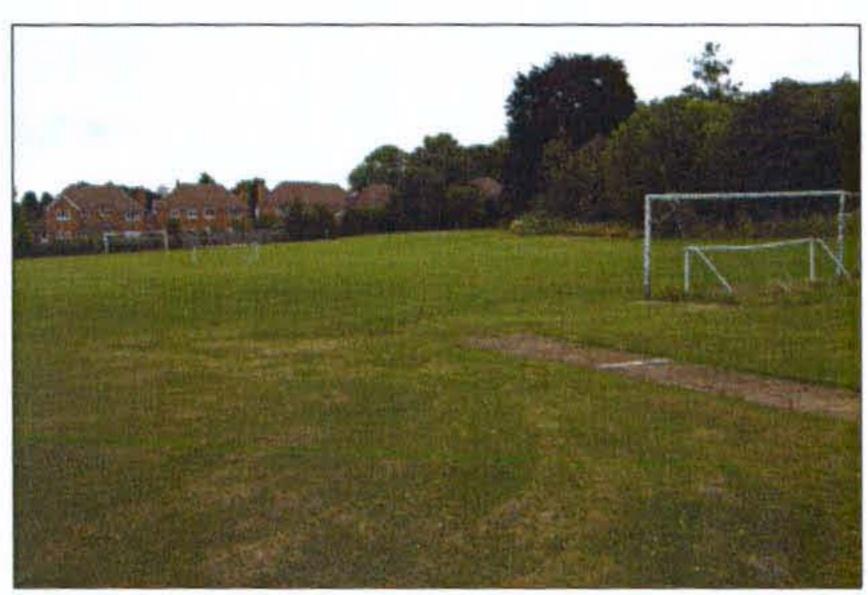


Plate 4: Playing field looking NE



Plate 5: Playing field looking E



Plate 6: Playing field looking S

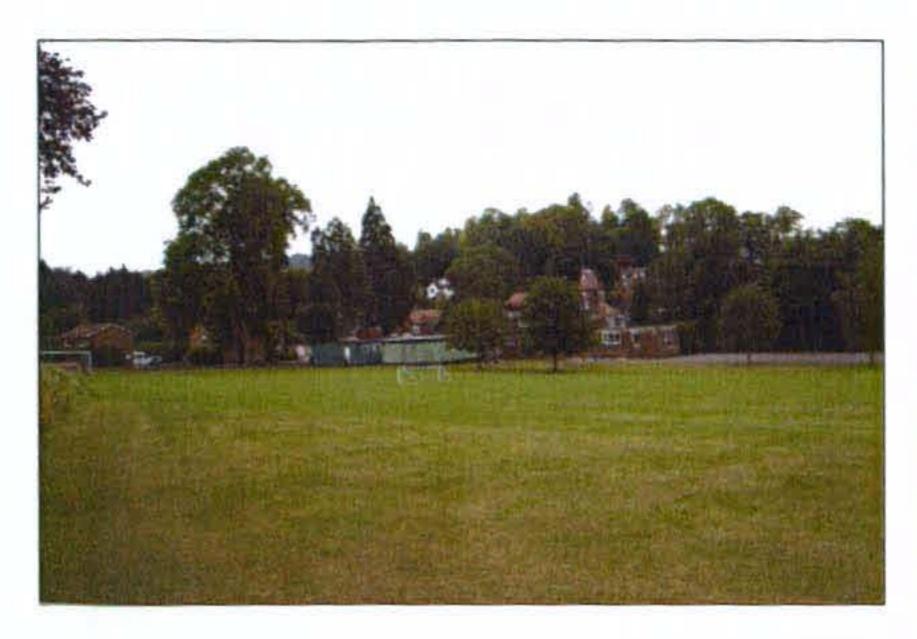


Plate 7: School looking west

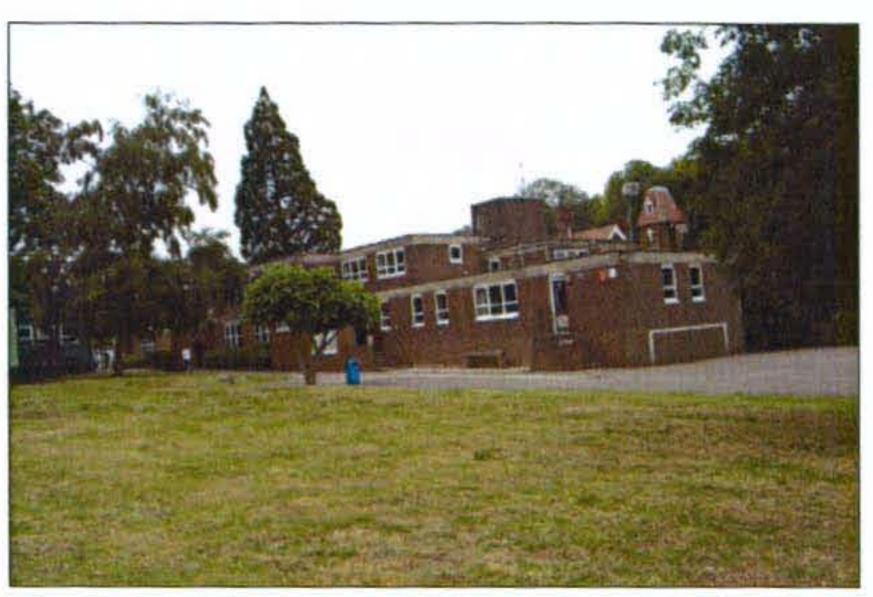


Plate 8: 1960s school building

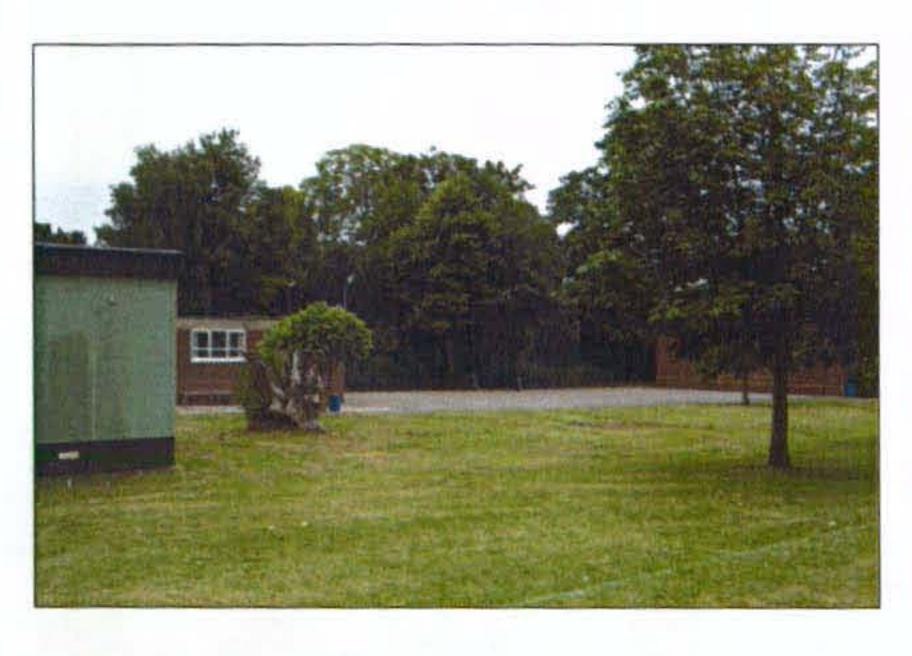


Plate 9: Looking towards NW corner of the site



Plate 10: NW corner of the site

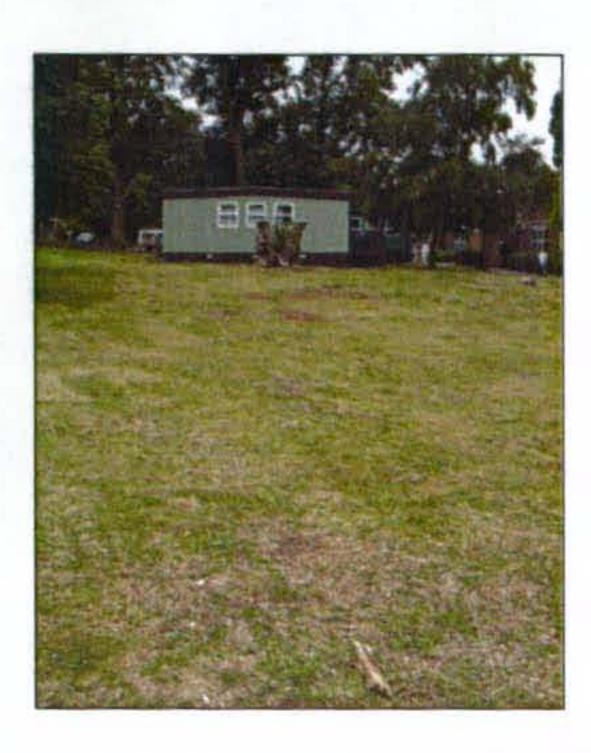


Plate 11: NW end of playing field looking SE

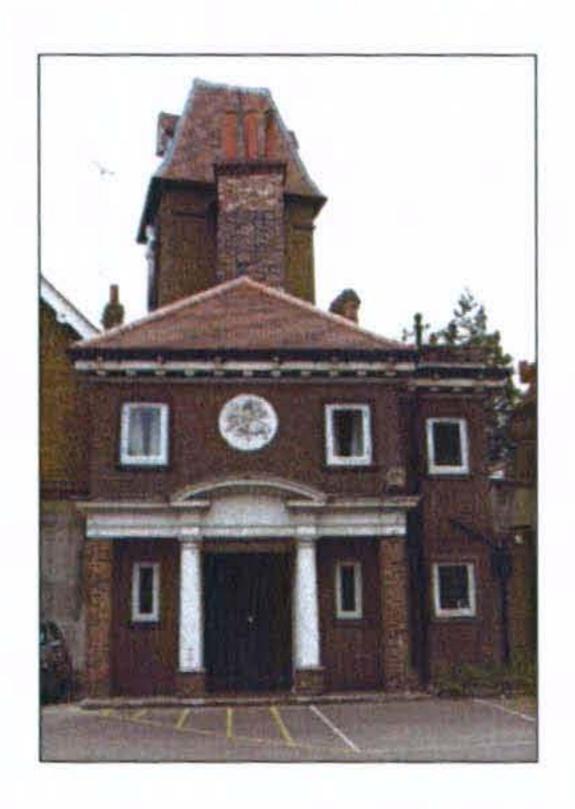


Plate 12: Main entrance

5 Statutory Constraints on Development

- 5.1 A range of planning constraints are in place in the area of the site. These constraints relate both to the area as a whole, and to individual buildings and sites. These constraints are taken into consideration when assessing the implications of planning and other proposals made to the local authority and to other local and national bodies.
- 5.2 Conservation Areas

Boxmoor House School does not lie within a conservation area.

5.3 Areas of Archaeological Significance

See Section 5.4.

5.4 Scheduled Ancient Monuments

Boxmoor House stands on the site of a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM 27916), which automatically makes it an Area of Archaeological Significance with a protection area of at least 100m.

5.5 Listed Buildings

Boxmoor House is not a listed building.

6 Conclusions

6.1 Boxmoor House School lies on one of the most significant Roman villa sites in south west Hertfordshire with Roman cremations less than 100m to the west of Boxmoor Villa (HER 516) and Roman structural remains immediately north east of the site (HER 11687) and at Hemel Hempstead station (HER 517).

6.2 Archaeological Potential of the Site

The history of archaeological discovery on and immediately adjacent to the site would suggest that this is a highly sensitive location, with a high probability of encountering further features associated with the Roman Villa (Figs.11 & 12).

The Roman Villa lies partly below the permanent school building erected in the 1960s and partly below the grounds to the east of it. The southern mobile classroom overlies the 1st period timber building whilst the northernmost mobile classroom lies outside the area excavated in the 1960s. No archaeological features were discovered during the archaeological monitoring when the mobile classrooms and the associated services were installed, partly as the groundworks were very shallow (Hunn 1999,10 and Hunn 2001,9). It is, however, highly likely that archaeological remains survive elsewhere in the grounds as Romano-British features associated with the villa have been uncovered in neighbouring plots and the preservation conditions within the school grounds are good. This is of particular significance when considering that no bathhouse has yet been identified, despite the archaeological evidence for its presence.

The wooded area to the northwest of the site is little more than a heavily overgrown stand of trees where nothing could be observed within the overgrowth. The proximity of this area to the archaeological remains both within the grounds and immediately to the north east (HER 11687) would suggest that this could be a highly sensitive area were it not for the probability of root damage.

Whilst much has been learnt about the different developments of villas in the region, there is still a need for more research in order to better understand the socio-economic basis of the villas themselves and their relationships to urban areas and beyond (cf. Glazebrook & Brown 2000). This is clearly expressed in the revised Schedule of 1997 as follows:

The buried remains of Boxmoor House Roman Villa represent a valuable example of this monument class, with building phases clearly reflecting the fluctuations of the villa's economic basis. The remains will retain further evidence for the methods of construction and period of use, and for the status and lifestyles of the occupants. Archaeological deposits within the area of the villa precinct, including the remains of ancillary buildings such as barns, stables and baths, will not only enable the reconstruction of the layout of the villa complex, but will contain evidence relating to the agricultural activities carried out and to other craft occupations, such as metal working, which are typically found in such contexts.

Environmental evidence preserved within the same features will provide information relating to the diet of the occupants and the types of agriculture practiced, and may illustrate the nature of the landscape in which the monument was set.

Boxmoor House Roman Villa is one of a number of Roman sites in the area, two of which — Gadebridge Roman Villa c.1km to the north east (HER 27881), and the elaborate temple complex at Wood Lane End c.1km to the north west (HER 27921), are the subject of separate schedulings. These sites are thought to have been linked by a network of roads and trackways. As such, the villa at Boxmoor House has particular significance for the study of settlement patterns and communications during the period of the Roman occupation.

The 19th century core of Boxmoor House School is a fairly substantial structure embellished externally with figures, plaques and a turret and containing some original internal architectural features. It is an outstanding local building both as a residence of minor 19th century worthies and for its architectural eclecticism. Although no specific research strategies have been proposed for 19th century residential buildings in the Eastern Regional Ressearch Agenda (Glazebrook & Brown 2000), the architectural and historical characteristics of a building such as this would fully justify a historic buildings recording programme.

6.3 The framework for the management of archaeological issues in the planning system is currently set out in the document PPG16 Archaeology and Planning. Decisions relating to archaeological matters within the area of the site are taken by the Dacorum Borough Council, acting on the advice of Hertfordshire County Council.

7 Acknowledgements

The writer is grateful to Hertfordshire County Council for commissioning and funding this assessment. Thanks are also due to Alison Tinniswood of the Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Unit for providing access to the HER data. The assistance of the staff of HALS and the Dacorum Heritage Trust is also gratefully acknowledged.

The research for the assessment, and the walk-over survey, were undertaken for ASC Ltd by Karin Semmelmann. The report was prepared by Karin Semmelmann and edited by Bob Zeepvat BA MIFA.

8 Sites & Monuments Data

Sites listed below are those within the study area, *i.e.* within 1km radius of Boxmoor House School.

CAS No	NGR	Period	Type	Description
72	TL 0381 0568	Roman	Villa	Roman villa. See Herts Arch IV, 1974-76, 53-110
459	TL 032 061	Post-med	Grave	Grave of highwayman, Robert Snooks
515	TL 035 059	Roman	Find	Romano-British key
516	TL 037 057	Roman	Burials	Roman cremations in Box Lane
517	TL 043 059	Roman	Structure	Possible villa at Hemel station
684	TL 046 057	Post-med	Quarry	Chalk mine on Roughdown Common
1606	TL 038 058	Anglo-Saxon	Find	Disc brooch
4582	TL 0414 0638	Roman	Road	Viatores 16a
5240	TL 0295 0628	Post-med	Structure	Bridge over Grand Union Canal
5241	TL 0390 0615	Post-med	Structure	Bridge over Grand Union Canal
5287	TL 035 064	Post-med	Structure	Brick pillar wall box
5316	TL 041 049	Post-med	Structure	Brick pillar wall box
5567	TL 0411 0596	Post-med	Structure	Railway bridge
5568	TL 0311 0630	Post-med	Structure	Railway bridge
7096	TL 0387 0605	Post-med	Structure	Railway bridge
7115	TL 048 0595	Post-med	Structure	Brewery site
7116	TL 046 062	Post-med	Structure	Ste of brickyard & wharf
7117	TL 0452 0620	Post-med	Structure	Site of saw mill & timber yard
7208	TL 036 062	Post-med	Structure	Lock
7209	TL 036 063	Post-med	Structure	Milepost
7210	TL 0425 061	Post-med	Structure	Lock
10248	TL 0482 0563	Post-med	Structure	Model farm
11481	TL 0391 0600	Prehistoric	Natural feature	Pingoes
11687	TL 0392 0572	Prehistoric/	Finds & Features	Prehistoric activity & Roman
		Roman		settlement evidence adj. to Boxmoor House School
11801	TL 0387 0609	Modern	Structure	Cottage, 1-2 Fishery Lane
11802	TL 0385 0608	Modern	Structure	Outbuilding, 1-2 Fishery Lane
11910	TL 0370 0587	Modern	Structure	House, The Spinney, London Rd
11911	TL 0370 0585	Roman	Structure	Possible Roman timber building
12339	TL 040 050	Modern	PoW Camp	WWII German PoW camp
12386	TL 0350 0520	Medieval	Common	Sheethanger Common
12387	TL 0450 0565	Medieval	Common	Roughdown Common
12388	TL 0450 0610	Medieval	Common	Boxmoor & Dew Green Commons

9 References

Standards & Specifications

- ALGAO 2003 Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 14.
- IFA 2000a Institute of Field Archaeologists' Code of Conduct.
- IFA 2000b Institute of Field Archaeologists' Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology.
- IFA 2001 Institute of Field Archaeologists' Standards & Guidance documents (Desk-Based Assessments, Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings).

Secondary Sources

- Askew, P. 2003. The Spinney, London Road, Boxmoor, Hemel Hempstead: an archaeological evaluation MOLAS
- Brown, S. 2002 Bovingdon: a history of a Hertfordshire village Bovingdon Parish Council
- Ford, A & Hull, G. 1997. Land off Laurel Bank, Felden Lane, Hemel Hempstead: an archaeological evaluation TVAS
- Gover, J.E.B., Mawer, A. and Stenton, F. M. 1970: *The Place-Names of Hertfordshire*. English Place-Name Society vol XV. Cambridge University Press. (Cambridge)
- Hands, R & J and Davis E. 1994: The Book of Boxmoor 2nd ed. Barracuda Books reprinted by
- Hunn, J. 1998. Report on a Watching Brief at Roughdown Villas Boxmoor, Hertfordshire ASC
- Hunn. J. 1999. Boxmoor House School, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire: an archaeological monitoring and recording programme
- Hunn, J. 2000. Site at Boxmoor Lodge Hotel: an archaeological evaluation ASC
- Hunn, J. 2001. An Archaeological Watching brief at Boxmoor House School, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire ASC
- Hunn, J. 2002. An Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment of 1-2 Fishery Lane, Boxmoor, Hertfordshire ASC
- Middleton, A.R. 1997 Schedule of Boxmoor House Roman Villa (File Ref. 40777/1)
- Morris, J. 1976: Domesday Book Vol 12 Hertfordshire. Phillimore. Chichester.
- Munby, L. 1977. The Hertfordshire Landscape Hodder & Stoughton (London)
- Neal, D. 1974-6 (r). Three Roman Buildings in the Bulbourne Valley reprinted from Herts Archaeology Vol. 4
- Niblett, R. 1995 Roman Hertfordshire Dovecote Press (Stanbridge)
- Page, W. 1908: The Victoria County History of Hertfordshire. Dawsons of Pall Mall. (Folkestone & London.)

- Pevsner, N. & Cherry, B. 1977 The Buildings of England: Hertfordshire Penguin (London)
 Pollinger, L. 1998. Land off Laurel Bank, Felden Lane, Hemel Hempstead: watching brief
 TVAS
- Saunders, G. 2005 Romany Rye, London Road, Boxmoor, Herts: an evaluation report Heritage Network
- Soil Survey 1983 1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales, and accompanying legend (Harpenden).
- West, S. 1995a. Felden Lane, Hemel Hempstead: an archaeological evaluation St. Alban's Museum Service
- West, S. 1995b. Felden Lane, Hemel Hempstead: an archaeological evaluation Phase 2 St. Alban's Museum Service
- Yaxley, S (ed) 1973 History Of Hemel Hempstead. Hemel Hempstead .

10 Cartographic Sources

The following maps and plans were consulted in the course of this assessment:

Date	Reference	Description	
No date	DSA4/48/2	Hemel Hempstead Tithe Map	
1758	76831	Estate of Paul Vaillant Esq	
1805	D/EX 134P2	Plan of an Estate belonging to Thomas Abbott Green Esq	
1831	D/EMd 60	London to Birmingham Railway Map	
1843	D/EBn P14	Plan of the estates of the late James Field Esq	
1864	D/Ex 398 T2	6 lots of land for sale	
1835	D/EB 818 T30	Boxmoor House Sale Plan	
1898	D/ELS P37	OS Sheet of Hemel Hempstead XXXIII 3.16	
1925	D/ELS P37	OS Sheet of Hemel Hempstead XXXIII 3.16	
1940	N/a	OS Sheet of Hemel Hempstead XXXIII 3.16	
1958	D/P47/29/35	Map of parish	
1838	DSA4/22/2	Tithe map of Bovingdon	

11 Documentary Sources

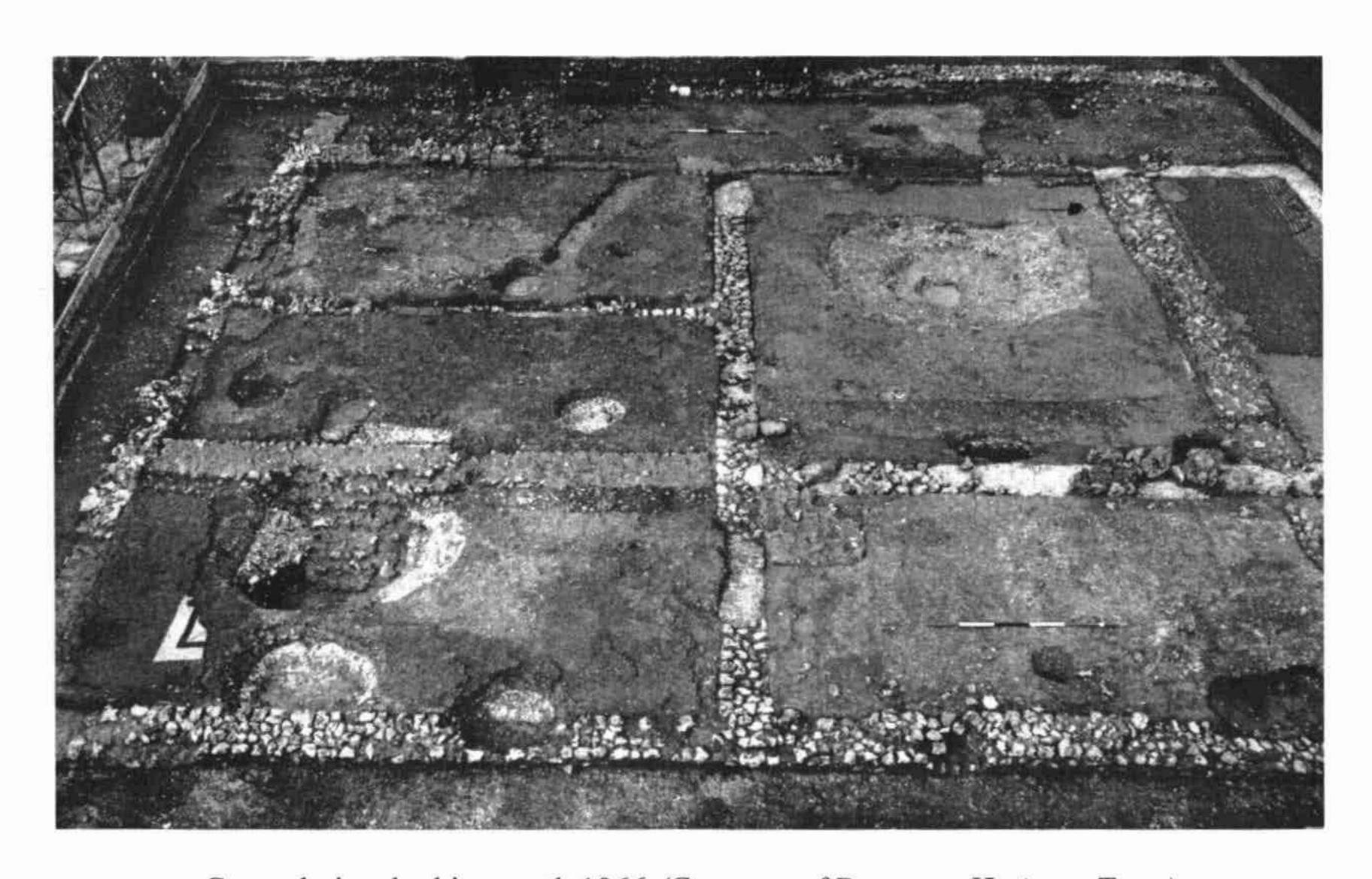
The following documents were consulted in the course of this assessment:

Date	Reference	Description		Description	
1843	DSA4/48/1	Hemel Hempstead Tithe Award			
1853	D/Ecl/Z22	John Evans account of the excavation of two villas			
1795	D/EB818/T30	Lease for 1 year dated 15 th May			
1789	D/EB818/T30	Lease for 1 year dated 9 th June			
1772	D/EB818/T30	Release of? or tenement, Blacksmiths Shop & 3 closes of land in Boxlane dated 14 th March			
1772	D/EB818/T30	Another similar to above dated 25 th February			

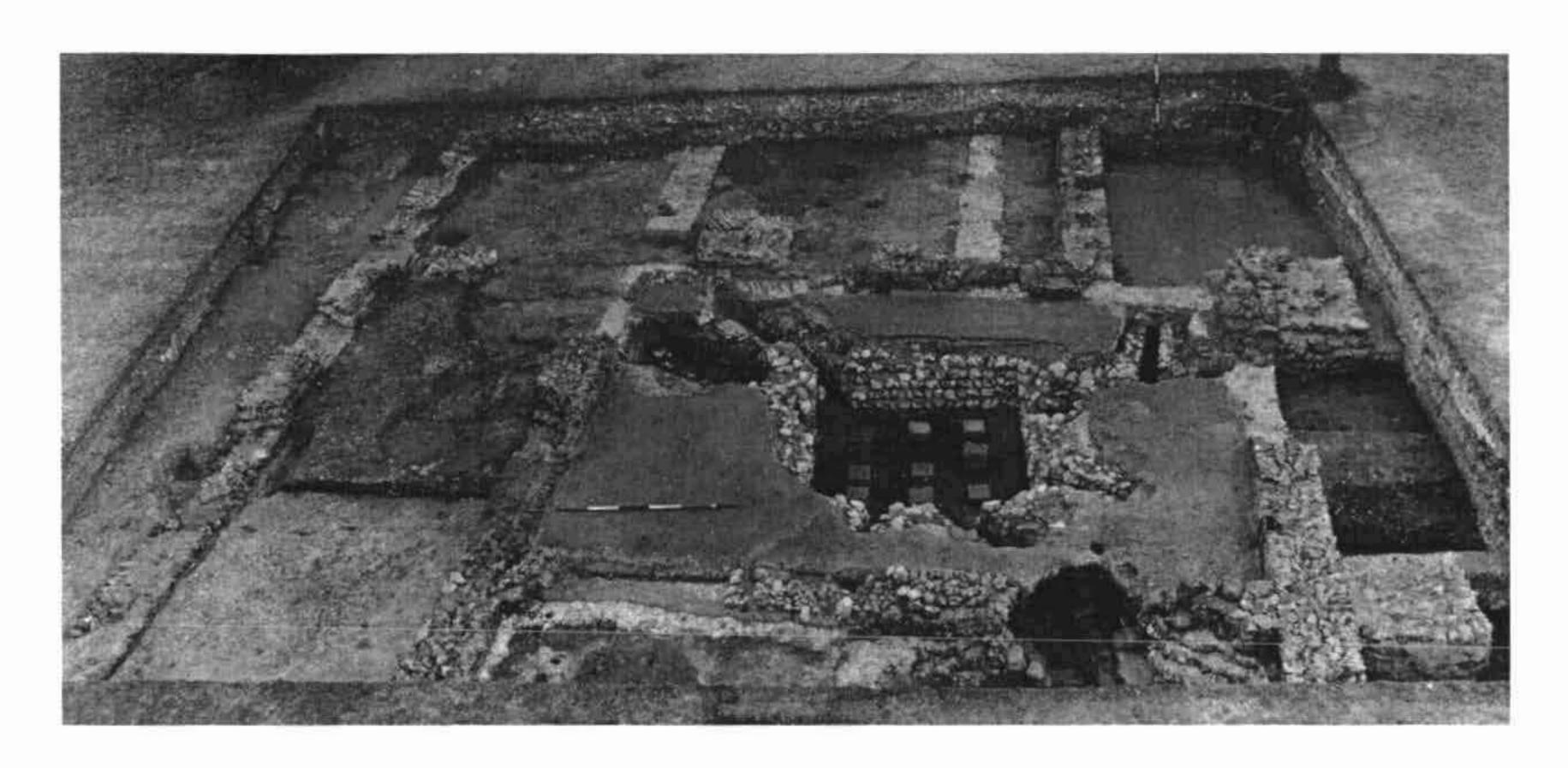
Appendix 1: Photos from the 1960s excavations



General view looking east 1966 (Courtesy of Dacorum Heritage Trust)



General view looking north 1966 (Courtesy of Dacorum Heritage Trust)



General view looking east 1969 (Courtesy of Dacorum Heritage Trust)



View WNW of the villa in 1969 prior to the construction of the staff room over the terrace