

ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES
DURHAM UNIVERSITY

on behalf of
Myriad CEG Wind Ltd

Wydale Cote
Snainton
North Yorkshire

archaeological desk-based assessment

report 2968
August 2012

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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 Malton Cote Farm, Snainton, North Yorkshire. 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 Myriad CEG Ltd, and conducted by Archaeological Services Durham University.

The archaeological resource

- 1.3 There is no direct evidence of prehistoric or Roman activity along the route of the proposed turbine cable or within the footprint of the turbine. There is, however, evidence that the surrounding area was extensively exploited in prehistory, and an as yet unidentified resource relating to this has the potential to survive within the proposed development area.
- 1.4 There are no historic or statutorily protected buildings in the vicinity of the site. The structures on site are of 19th- and 20th-century date. The Scheduled Monument of Scambridge Dykes (HER 1192) is located to the west of the Malton Cote farm buildings.
- 1.5 The area lies beyond the northern edge of the medieval village of Snainton, and it is probable that it was used in the medieval and post-medieval periods as agricultural land, probably for grazing. It is unlikely that a significant archaeological resource from these periods is present on the site.

Impact assessment

- 1.6 The proposed development has the potential to impact upon the archaeological resource through the construction of foundations for the wind turbine and the associated cable run to the existing farm buildings.

Recommendations

- 1.7 No archaeological deposits have been identified which require preservation *in situ*.
- 1.8 It is recommended that the potential of the archaeological resource is evaluated through a geophysical survey in accordance with English Heritage guidelines.

2. Project background

Location (Figure 1)

- 2.1 The site is located in fields to the south-east of Malton Cote Farm, Snainton, North Yorkshire (NGR centre: SE 9073 8518). To the west are the farm buildings and yard of Malton Cote Farm with open, arable fields on all other sides.

Development proposal (Figure 2)

- 2.2 The proposal comprises a wind turbine and a service run leading to the farm building that covers a distance of approximately 350m.

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 1.5km 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 Appendix 1.

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 the *National Planning Policy Framework*.

Dates

- 2.6 The field visit took place on 9th August 2012. This report was prepared for the 14th August 2012.

Personnel

- 2.7 Research was conducted and this report prepared by Judith Roberts, 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 **archaeol3-132033**.

Acknowledgements

- 2.9 Archaeological Services Durham University is grateful for the assistance of the personnel of the North Yorkshire County Archive Service and North Yorkshire Historic Environment Record in facilitating this scheme of works.

3. Landuse, topography and geology

Landuse

- 3.1 At the time of this assessment, the proposed development area comprised two fields that had been ploughed and planted with barley and wheat with a path and dry-stone wall separating the two fields.

Topography

- 3.2 The proposed development area sloped gently down to the south and west, with a mean elevation of approximately 170m OD. The site is on the southern slope of the North Yorkshire Moors and the area is deeply incised by narrow valleys that drain in to the River Derwent in the Vale of Pickering.

Geology and soils

- 3.3 The underlying solid geology of the western part of the area comprises Jurassic Yedmandale limestone and calcareous sandstone with Hambleton oolite limestone to the east. The topsoil is relatively shallow and free-draining (E Hardwick, pers. comm.).

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 At the time of the walk-over survey the proposed development area comprised an eastern field that had been ploughed and planted with wheat (Figure 9). It is proposed to site the wind turbine along a former field boundary that was only visible as an unplanted patch in the wheat field. Small fragments of post-medieval pottery and roof tile (indicative of manuring) were visible on the surface of the soil. The soil was very stony with small to medium sized fragments of limestone.
- 4.3 It is proposed to excavate the service trench along the former boundary and through an existing gap in a dry-stone wall forming the western boundary of the field (Figure 9).
- 4.4 Having passed through the field boundary it is proposed for the service trench to cross the western field, which was planted with barley at the time of the site visit (Figure 10).
- 4.5 At the western end of the proposed cable run the service trench will pass between, and connect to, farm buildings at Malton Cote.

5. Historical and archaeological development

Previous archaeological works

- 5.1 No previous archaeological works have been identified within the proposed development area. An archaeological assessment was undertaken in 1986 in

advance of a proposed seismic survey (HER 1184). This was followed by field reconnaissance in the same year (HER 1185).

The prehistoric period (up to AD 70)

- 5.2 There is aerial photographic and earthwork evidence of prehistoric activity in the vicinity of the development area. This indicates that the surrounding area was extensively exploited and a resource relating to this exploitation may therefore survive within the proposed development area.
- 5.3 Mesolithic artefacts have been found to the north of the proposed development site. These include a perforated mace-head and microlithic tools (HERs 8942, 8944, 8945, 12268 and 12276). The foothills of the North Yorkshire Moors were only sporadically used during this period and no mesolithic settlement remains have yet been identified in the vicinity of the development site. More extensive Mesolithic remains have been found in the low-lying land to the south.
- 5.4 During the Neolithic period it is likely that the area was used for agriculture and for the construction of funerary monuments. Remains from this period include a pair of long barrows and a ditch to the north-west of Malton Cote (HERs 5516, 5517 and 5519; SAM 35441). These barrows are visible as cropmarks but have been damaged by agricultural activity. A further long barrow has been identified to the north-east (HER 5518). This, and another barrow to the north of Malton Cote, were damaged by farming operations in the early 19th century. Further burials in the area have been dated to the Late Neolithic or Bronze Age (HER 12273).
- 5.5 North Yorkshire is rich in Bronze Age ritual monuments many of which were excavated in the 19th century (Kinnes & Longworth 1985). The precise location of some of these features is not clearly recorded but those in the vicinity of Malton Cote include the barrow cemetery at Hog Pasture Buildings, to the south-east (HERs 5494) together with a double ditched enclosure (HER 5495), and ring ditches (HERs 5496 and 5497). Other round barrows containing inhumations or cremations and artefacts have been identified (HERs 12269, 12270, 12271, 12272, 12274, 12275, 16154, 16155, 16156, 16169, 16170, 16171, 16172 and 16173). A long barrow to the north of Malton Cote has been tentatively dated to the Bronze Age (HER 5540).
- 5.6 Immediately to the west of Malton Cote is an extensive earthwork known as Scamridge Dykes (HERs 1192, 5413, 5414, 5415, 5416 and 5417; SAM 35444). This feature is formed from two prehistoric dykes that run approximately north-east to south-west. It has two sections, the eastern one passing just to the west of Malton Cote. Other prehistoric earthwork dykes in the area include Cockmoor Dykes (HERs 5385, 5390 and 5391) and Netherby Dale Dyke (HERs 5435, 5436 and 5437). These dykes are believed to date from the Late Bronze Age to Late Iron Age.
- 5.7 The area continued to have ritual significance during the Iron Age and small square enclosures, identified in aerial photographs, have been interpreted as square barrows (HER 5506 and 5535). These are located approximately 1km to the south east of Malton Cote.

The Roman period (AD 70 to 5th century)

- 5.8 There is some evidence of Roman settlement to the south of Malton Cote (HER 5445). Excavations have revealed Romano-British remains dated from the 1st to 4th

centuries. A Roman temple was also found in the vicinity in the 19th century (HER 5446).

The medieval period (5th century to 1540)

5.9 The proposed development site lay to the north of the medieval village of Snainton, which was mentioned in the Domesday Book and was held by Earl Morcar. An extensive complex of rectilinear foundations immediately to the south of Malton Cote Farm may be the remains of Multon Cots belonging to the priory of Old Malton in the 14th century (HERs 5442, 5443 and 5444). The priory held substantial lands in the parish during the later medieval period. Further monastic remains have been found to the north, east and south-east of Moorsome Farm (HER 5407, 5408), to the north-east of Malton Cote.

5.10 Some earthwork features in the surrounding area have been dated to the medieval period. These include earthwork banks forming boundaries and evidence of ridge and furrow agriculture (HER 5439, 5440, 5441 and 5447).

The post-medieval period (1541 to 1899)

5.11 Speed's map of North Yorkshire (Figure 3) marks Snainton close to the head of a stream feeding the Derwent River in the Vale of Pickering. To the north a range of low hills is shown representing the foothills of the North Yorkshire Moors.

5.12 A more accurate map was produced in 1770 by Jeffreys (Figure 4). This shows details of the topography and the villages at the foot of the hills with routes leading north. A track is shown leading north from Ebberston but it climbs the spur of land to the north rather than running up Netherby Dale as the present track to Malton Cote does. The fields of Ebberston and Snainton were enclosed following acts of parliament in 1775-6 although there is evidence of more ancient enclosure in the area.

5.13 Tuke's map of 1787 (Figure 5) shows details of the settlements at Ebberston and Snainton and marks tracks leading up to Pickering Forest. Whilst occasional structures are shown in the area to the north of Ebberston and Snainton there is no evidence of a house at Malton Cote at this time.

5.14 The early 19th century maps of the area, including Greenwood's map of 1819 (Figure 6), show Cock Moor Hall, to the north of the development area, and Moorsome House (now Farm) to the east. The farm to the west of the development area is marked as Low Scamridge. This map is one of the first to mark the dykes as 'Old Entrenchments'.

5.15 Throughout the post-medieval period the development area was used as agricultural land, under either an arable regime or used as pasture.

5.16 The 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1857 (Figure 7) is the first to refer to Low Scamridge as Malton Cote on Snainton Heights. To the east of the farm buildings is a lime kiln and disused quarry. The surrounding fields are shown divided by with a tree belt to the north of Malton Cote and to the north of the old quarry. This map also marks Old Foundations in the field to the south of the farm.

- 5.17 By the end of the 19th century Ordnance Survey maps (viewed on line) mark seven quarries around Malton Cote and consolidation of the fields into larger units. The quarries close to Malton Cote are marked as 'Old' suggesting they had gone out of date by 1898.

The modern period (1900 to present)

- 5.18 During the 20th century the area around the proposed development site remained unchanged and under an arable regime. The present land owner and his family have farmed the area for three generations. There has been a shift from mixed farming to arable producing cereals and pulses (E Hardwick, pers. comm.).

The buildings

- 5.19 There are no statutorily protected buildings in the vicinity of the site. The farm buildings at Malton Cote are of 19th and 20th century date and not considered to be of archaeological significance. Scamridge Farm, just over 1km to the north-west of Malton Cote, is a grade 2 listed building.

Scheduled Ancient Monuments and other Designated Heritage Assets

- 5.20 There are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments within the proposed development route. Scamridge Dykes (HERs 1192 and 1193; SAM 35444, EH uid. 1020835) lie just to the west of the buildings at Malton Cote.

6. The potential archaeological resource

- 6.1 There is no direct evidence for prehistoric or Roman activity within the study area, but the presence of activity in the surrounding area indicates that an as yet unidentified resource has the potential to exist.
- 6.2 The development area was exploited as agricultural land in the medieval and post-medieval periods and it is unlikely that a significant archaeological resource from these periods is present on the site.

7. Impact assessment

Direct impact

- 7.1 The excavation of foundations for the wind turbine and a service trench from the turbine to the existing farm buildings may have an impact on any archaeological resource present on the site.

8. Recommendations

- 8.1 No archaeological deposits have been identified which require preservation *in situ*.
- 8.2 It is recommended that the potential of the archaeological resource is evaluated through geophysical survey along the route of the service trench in order to establish the nature and extent of any archaeological resource present which may be impacted upon.

9. Sources

Cartographic sources (North Yorkshire Archive Service)

Morden, 1695 The East Riding of Yorkshire
Jeffrey, 1770 Map of the County of Yorkshire
Tuke, 1787 Map of the County of Yorkshire
Smith, 1801-4 Map of the County of Yorkshire
Greenwood, 1817 Map of the County of Yorkshire
Bryant, 1827 Map of the East Riding of Yorkshire
Teesdale, 1828 Map of the County of Yorkshire
Ordnance Survey 1st edition 1" sheet 95
Ordnance Survey 6" 1st edition, 1855, 92
Ordnance Survey 6" 2nd edition, 1893, 92
Ordnance Survey 1:25,000, 1954 edition, sheet SE98

Other sources

Kinnes, I A, and Longworth, I H, 1985 *Catalogue of the excavated prehistoric and Romano-British material in the Greenwell Collection*. British Museum
Roskams, S & Wyman M, 2005 *Yorkshire Archaeological Research Framework: resource assessment*. York
Roskams, S and Wyman M, 2007 *Yorkshire Archaeological Research Framework: research agenda*. York

North Yorkshire Archives

MIC1816	1st edition Ordnance Survey maps
MIC1830	2nd edition Ordnance Survey maps
MIC1919	Various maps of Yorkshire
MIC1982	Maps of the East Riding of Yorkshire
MIC2002	Various maps of the Ridings of Yorkshire
MIC2036	Maps of the East Riding of Yorkshire
MIC2056	Various maps of Yorkshire

Websites

<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk>
<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/genmaps>
http://maps.northyorks.gov.uk/connect/?mapcfg=historic_maps
<http://sine.ncl.ac.uk>
<http://domesdaymap.co.uk/place/SE9182/snainton/>
www.bl.uk/ukgallery
www.british-history.ac.uk
www.english-heritage.org.uk
www.genuki.org.uk/big/eng/YKS/NY/
www.heritagegateway.org.uk
www.magic.gov.uk
www.nationalarchives.gov.uk
www.old-maps.co.uk

Aerial photographs

Aerial photographs of this area have been the subject of intensive study and the results are recorded in the North Yorkshire HER. As a result aerial photographs were not consulted as part of this assessment.

Geotechnical works

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

Appendix 1: Historic Environment Record

The tables include sites recorded within the vicinity of the proposed development area (within an approximate radius of 1.5km from the site). Not all numbers listed below are referred to in the text.

Historic Environment Record

(PRN = Public Record Number, SAM = Scheduled Ancient Monument)

PRN	SAM	Description	Date
5383		Earthworks and cropmarks	undated
5385	*	Cockmoor Dykes	Late Bronze Age to Late Iron Age
5390	*	Cockmoor Dykes	Late Bronze Age to Late Iron Age
5391	*	Cockmoor Dykes	Late Bronze Age to Late Iron Age
5407		Earthwork, ?sheepfold	medieval to modern
5408		Possible monastic building	medieval to modern
5410		Cropmarks, boundary ditches	undated
5413	*	Scamridge Dykes	Late Bronze Age to Late Iron Age
5414	*	Scamridge Dykes	Late Bronze Age to Late Iron Age
5415	*	Scamridge Dykes	Late Bronze Age to Late Iron Age
5416	*	Scamridge Dykes	Late Bronze Age to Late Iron Age
5417	*	Scamridge Dykes	Late Bronze Age to Late Iron Age
5435	*	Netherby Dale Dyke	Late Bronze Age to Late Iron Age
5436	*	Netherby Dale Dyke	Late Bronze Age to Late Iron Age
5437	*	Netherby Dale Dyke	Late Bronze Age to Late Iron Age
5439	*	New Dyke	medieval
5440		Earthwork ditch	undated, ?medieval
5441	*	High Park Dyke	undated, ?medieval
5442		Malton Cote	medieval
5443		Malton Cote	medieval
5444		Malton Cote	medieval
5445		Settlement	2nd to 4th century AD
5446		Temple	Roman
5447		Earthwork banks	medieval
5448		Cropmark ditch	undated
5493		Cropmark, ?barrow cemetery	undated
5494		Cropmark, barrow cemetery	Bronze Age
5495		Ditched enclosure	Bronze Age
5496		Ring ditch and round barrow	?Early Bronze Age
5497		Ring ditch and round barrow	Bronze Age
5498		Ring ditch	undated
5499		Cropmark ditches	?Roman to modern
5502		Ditched enclosure	undated
5503		Cropmarks, natural features	undated
5504		Ditch and trackway	prehistoric
5505		Ditch, field boundary	prehistoric
5506		Ditched enclosure, square barrow	Iron Age
5509		Ditched enclosure	undated
5516	*	Rob Howe long barrow	neolithic
5517	*	Cropmark ditch flanking barrow	neolithic
5518	*	Long barrow north-east of Low Scamridge Farm	neolithic
5519		Cropmark ditches	?neolithic
5535		Ditched enclosure and square barrow	Iron Age
5540		High Park Farm ?long barrow	?Bronze Age
5590		Limestone quarry	?Roman to modern
8927		Unstratified stray find (flint)	prehistoric
8942		Stone tool	mesolithic
8944		Stone tool	mesolithic
8945		Stone tool	mesolithic
12268		Perforated quartzite mace-head and microlith	mesolithic
12269		Round barrow	Bronze Age
12270		Round barrow	Bronze Age

12271		Inhumation	Bronze Age
12272		Round barrow	Bronze Age
12273		Inhumation	Bronze Age
12274		Round barrow	Bronze Age
12275		Inhumation	Bronze Age
12276		Flint artefact	mesolithic
16154		Inhumation	Bronze Age
16155		Pottery vessel	Bronze Age
16156		Flint spearhead	Bronze Age
16169		Human burial	Bronze Age
16170		Pottery urn	Bronze Age
16171		Crouched inhumation	Bronze Age
16172		Flint artefacts	Bronze Age
16173		Flint arrowhead	Bronze Age
21544	*	Scarridge Dykes	undated

Scheduled Monuments

PRN	Description	Date
611	Long barrows	neolithic
612	Long barrows	neolithic
1192	Scamridge Dykes	prehistoric
1193	Scamridge Dykes	prehistoric
1196	Scamridge Dykes	prehistoric
1197	Linear boundary and medieval monastic grange	prehistoric and medieval

Historic Landscape Characterisation

PRN	Description	Date
10557	Planned large scale parliamentary enclosure	18th-19th century
21740	Planned large scale parliamentary enclosure	18th century
21749	Planned large scale parliamentary enclosure	18th century
21960	Modern improved fields; planned large scale parliamentary enclosure	20th century
23897	Broad-leafed plantation	17th-19th century

Listed buildings

PRN	Description	Grade
9464	Scamridge Farmhouse (EH uid 1149563)	II

Previous archaeological interventions

PRN	description
1184	Taylor Woodrow Seismic Survey; desk-based assessment
1185	Taylor Woodrow Seismic Survey; field survey

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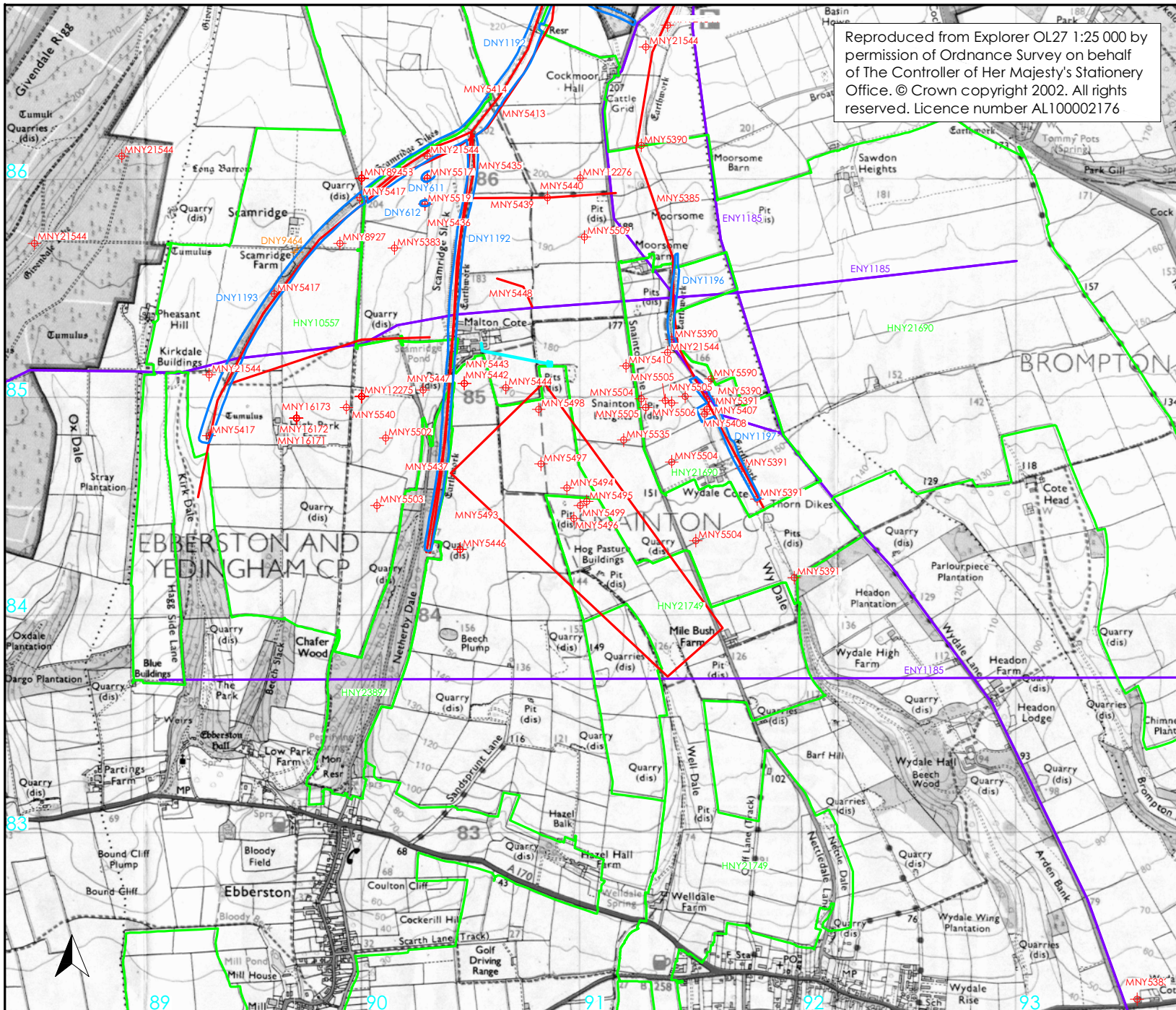
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Figure 1: Site location and
Historic Environment Record

0 1km
scale 1:25 000 for A4 plot

-  proposed development
-  MNY5391 monument
-  DNY9464 listed building
-  DNY1196 scheduled ancient monument
-  HNY21749 historic land characterisation
-  ENY1185 event



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Scarborough/Rydale boundary

Cable route

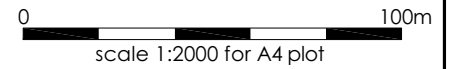
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Figure 2: Proposed development



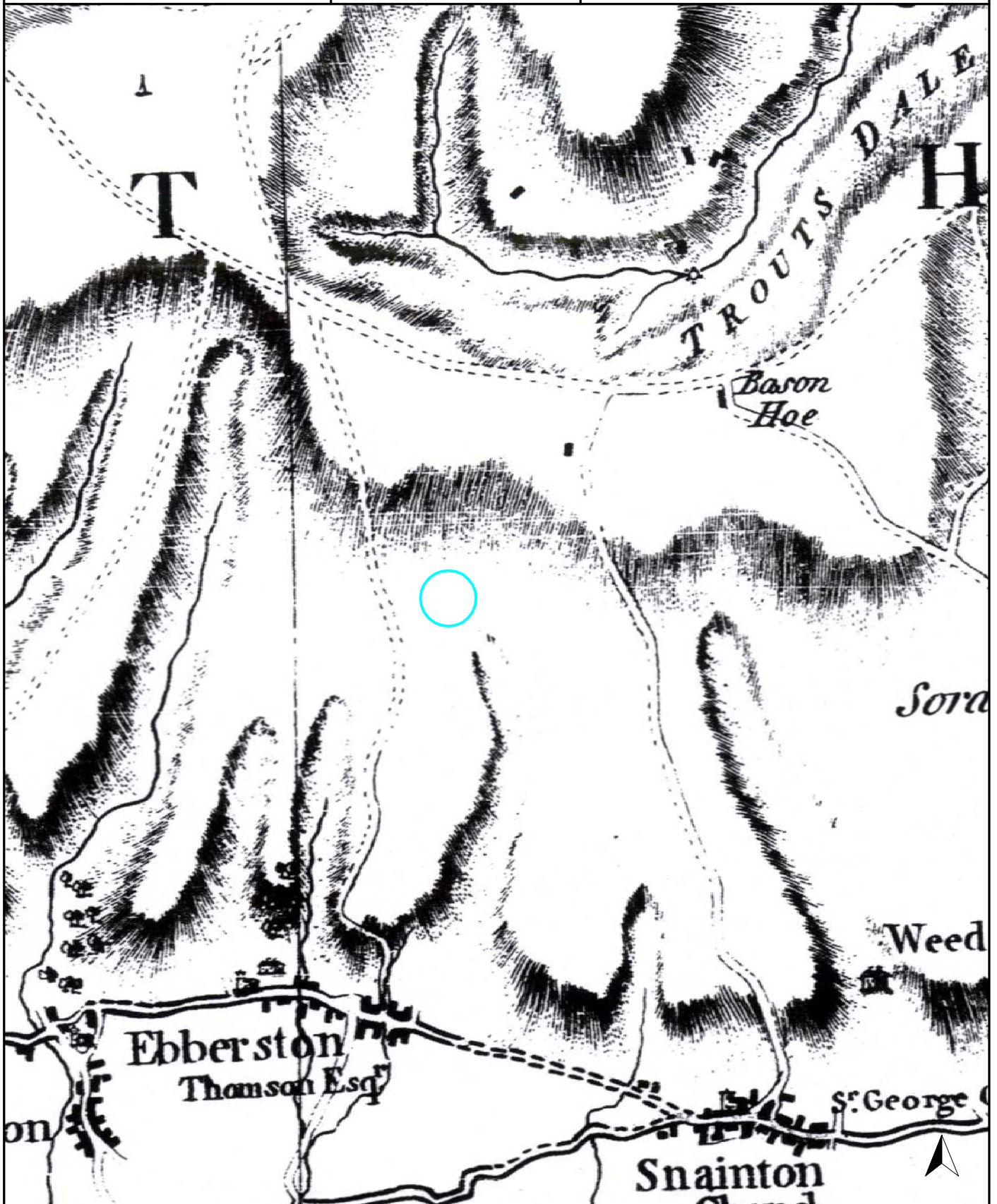
 proposed development






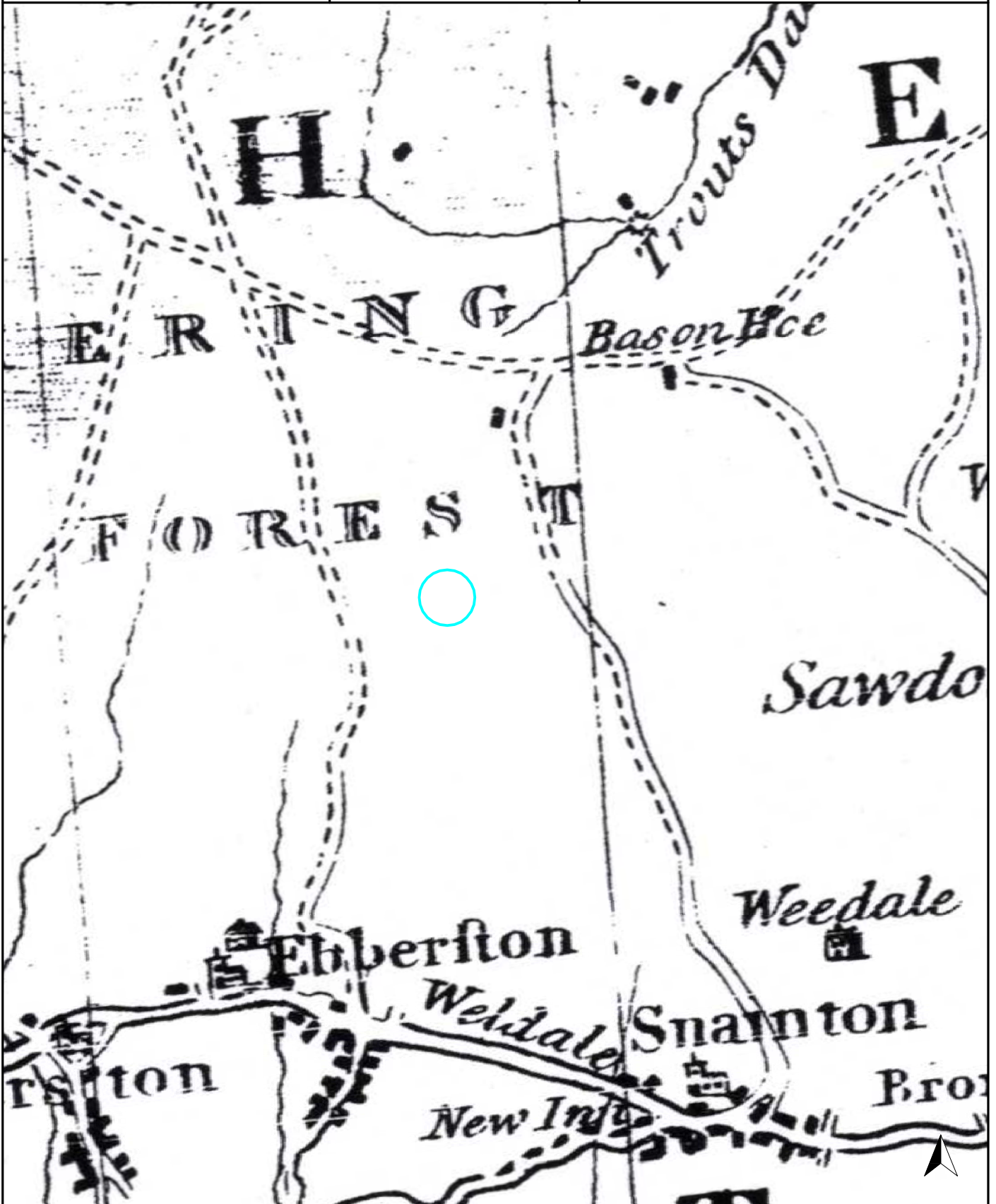
approximate location of the
proposed development

not to scale



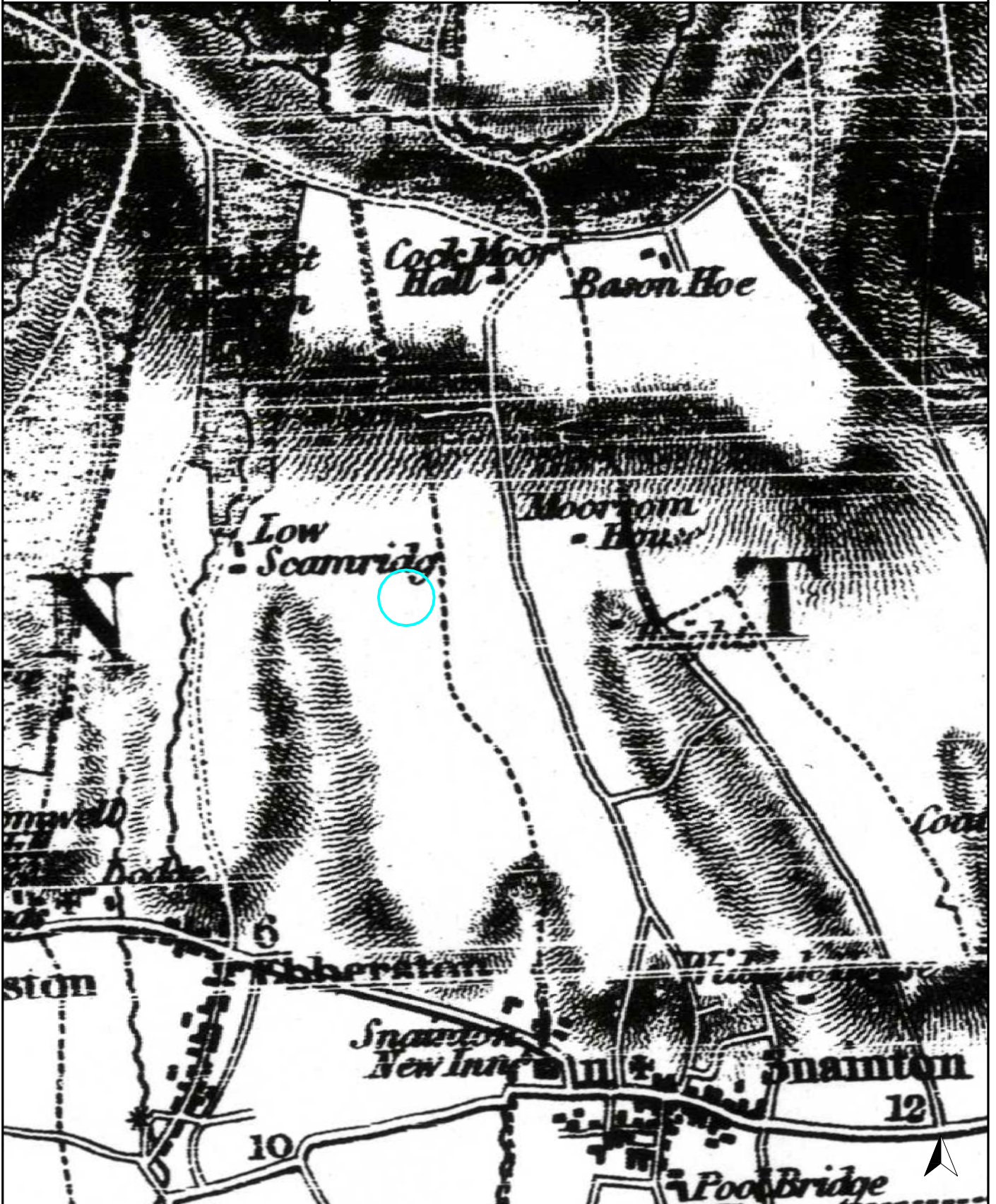
 approximate location of the
proposed development

not to scale



approximate location of the
proposed development

not to scale



approximate location of the
proposed development

not to scale



Figure 8: View along the former field boundary to the proposed site of the turbine, looking east



Figure 9: Gap in the dry-stone wall, looking west



Figure 10: Western field, looking north-west towards Malton Cote Farm