

**MAP**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRACTICE Ltd.**

**Land North of Manor House Farm  
Long Hill  
Helperthorpe  
North Yorkshire**

**SE 94800 71222  
NY 12/00201/FUL & APP/Y2736/A/12/2179101  
MAP 10.31.2013**

**Archaeological Strip and Record**

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRACTICE LTD**

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**Archaeological Strip and Record Report**

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<b>Date:</b> 24/09/2013	<b>Date:</b> 24/09/2013

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***Summary***

*An Archaeological Strip and Record was carried out by MAP Archaeological Practice Ltd. on land north of Manor House Farm, Long Hill, Helperthorpe, Malton, North Yorkshire (SE 94800 71222) on the 13<sup>th</sup> September 2013. The work involved monitoring the groundworks associated with the erection of 1 no. 36.4m high (overall tip height 46m) 55Kw wind turbine to generate electricity for on farm use.*

*No archaeological features, deposits or finds were encountered during the Strip and Record.*

**1. Introduction**

1.1 This report sets out the results of an Archaeological Strip and Record that was carried out on the 13<sup>th</sup> September 2013 during the groundworks associated with the erection of 1 no. 36.4m high (overall tip height 46m) 55Kw wind turbine to generate electricity for on farm use on land north of Manor House Farm, Long Hill, Helperthorpe, Malton, North Yorkshire, (SE 94800 71222; Fig. 1). The Archaeological work was undertaken to fulfil an archaeological condition attached to the Planning Application Consent (Ref: 12/00201/FUL; Appeal Ref: APP/Y2736/A/12/2179101).

- 1.2 The Strip and Record was designed to provide the appropriate level of recording for archaeological remains, deposits or finds that might be affected by the development, in accordance with the recommendations of the National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012).
- 1.3 All work was funded by Earthmill.
- 1.4 All maps within this report have been produced from the Ordnance Survey with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, Crown Copyright, Licence No. AL 50453A.

## **2. Site Description**

- 2.1 The site of the proposed development is located 1km north of Helperthorpe village. Helperthorpe is a small village situated along the York to Bridlington Road, about 1.6km south-west of Weaverthorpe and 17.7km east of Malton (Fig. 1).
- 2.2 Manor House Farm is situated in the main village and amounts to c. 60 hectares of arable farmland. The site of the proposed wind turbine lies to the north of the main farm complex on relatively steep sloping grounds at an approximate height of 121.8m AOD (Fig. 2: Pl. 1).

## **3. Historical and Archaeological Background**

- 3.1 A Geophysical Survey was undertaken by On Site Archaeology in January 2012 in advance of submission for the above planning application for the single mid-size wind turbine and associated cable trench. The evaluation revealed responses mostly relating to current agriculture practice or to modern features. A small number of responses reproduced from the survey indicated the presence of infilled pit features, but in the absence of obvious archaeological response elsewhere in the survey area they should be considered as 'uncertain' and were also construed as geological in origin. None of the data indicated an obvious presence of archaeological deposits and the

survey was generally very quiet in magnetic responses due to the low magnetism of the underlying hard geology.

- 3.2 Helperthorpe is recorded in the Domesday Survey of 1089. The name derives from the Old Scandinavian for "*Hjalp's village*" (Smith, 1937).
- 3.3 Helperthorpe is a Shrunken Medieval Village, the contraction in size and population from its full extent in the medieval period being evident in the presence of village earthworks to the north-west of the present site and immediately north-east of the vicarage grounds. Further indication of a later Medieval population decline in this part of the Wolds is evident in the sites of the Deserted Medieval Villages of Croom and Cowlan, situated 4.5km and 3.5km to the south of Helperthorpe (Beresford and Hurst 1971, 208).

#### **4. Aims and Objectives**

- 4.1 The aims of the Archaeological Recording Brief were to record and recover any archaeological remains that were affected by the development, and to prepare a report summarising the results of the work.

#### **5. Methodology**

- 5.1 The installation of the wind turbine base involved the preliminary topsoil strip of an area measuring 7m by 7m using a 360<sup>o</sup> tracked excavator with a broad, toothless ditching bucket, operating under close archaeological supervision. Machining ceased at the top of archaeological or naturally-formed deposits, depending upon which was located soonest.
- 5.2 The machine subsequently excavated the trench for the cable using a 0.60m wide toothless bucket under archaeological supervision. The cable trench ran on a north-west to south-east alignment from the site of the turbine base through three fields towards the main village of

Helperthorpe allowing for connection to the client's meter located within Manor House farm itself (Pl. 3).

5.3 All work was carried out in line with the Institute of Field Archaeologists Code of Conduct (IFA 1998).

5.4 A photographic record of the monitored groundworks was maintained throughout the Strip and Record on a high resolution digital camera.

## **6. Results (Pls. 2-4)**

6.1 Natural deposits of hard compact chalk were encountered at the location of the wind turbine. A dark brown loamy clay topsoil deposit (001) lay directly above the natural chalk. The topsoil deposit had a maximum depth of 0.16m (Pls. 2 & 3).

6.2 The cable trench was excavated to an average depth of 0.90m. Stratigraphy consisted of a loamy topsoil (001), which sealed the natural chalk (Pl. 4).

6.3 No archaeological features, deposit or finds were present in either the wind turbine base or cable trench.

## **7. Conclusions**

7.1. Natural deposits were revealed within the wind turbine base. No archaeological features, deposits or finds were encountered within the depth of the excavation areas. The absence of any archaeological deposits may be due to the relative shallowness of the topsoil, which may have been disturbed by modern farming techniques.



## 8. Bibliography

- Beresford, M & Hurst, J G      1971    Deserted Medieval Villages. Lutterworth Press.
- OSA                      2012    Manor House Farm, Helperthorpe, North  
Yorkshire. Report on Archaeological Geophysical  
Survey. *OSA Report No: OSA12EV02*
- Smith, A H              1937    The Place-Names of the North Riding of Yorkshire  
and York.

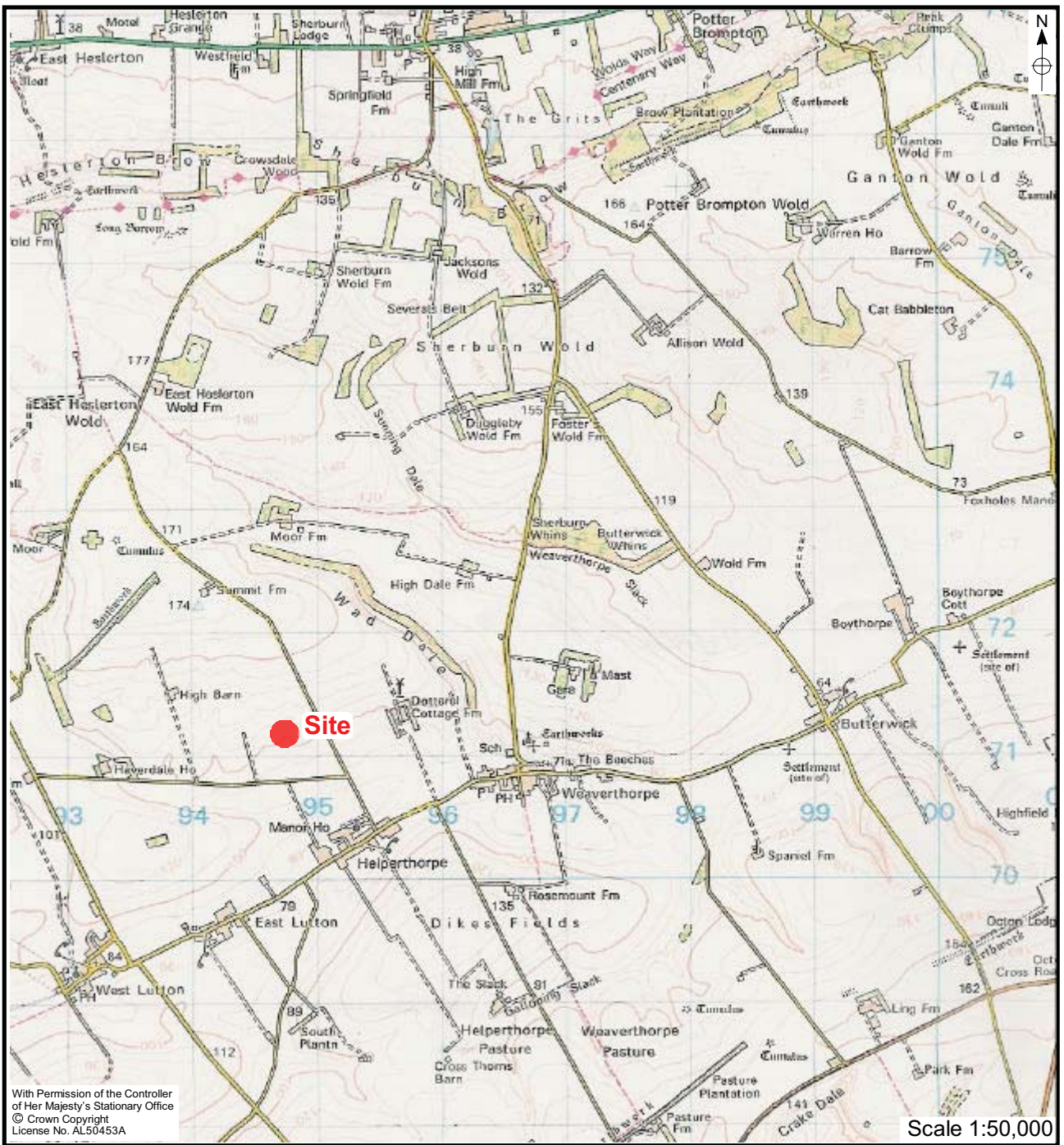


Figure 1. Site Location.

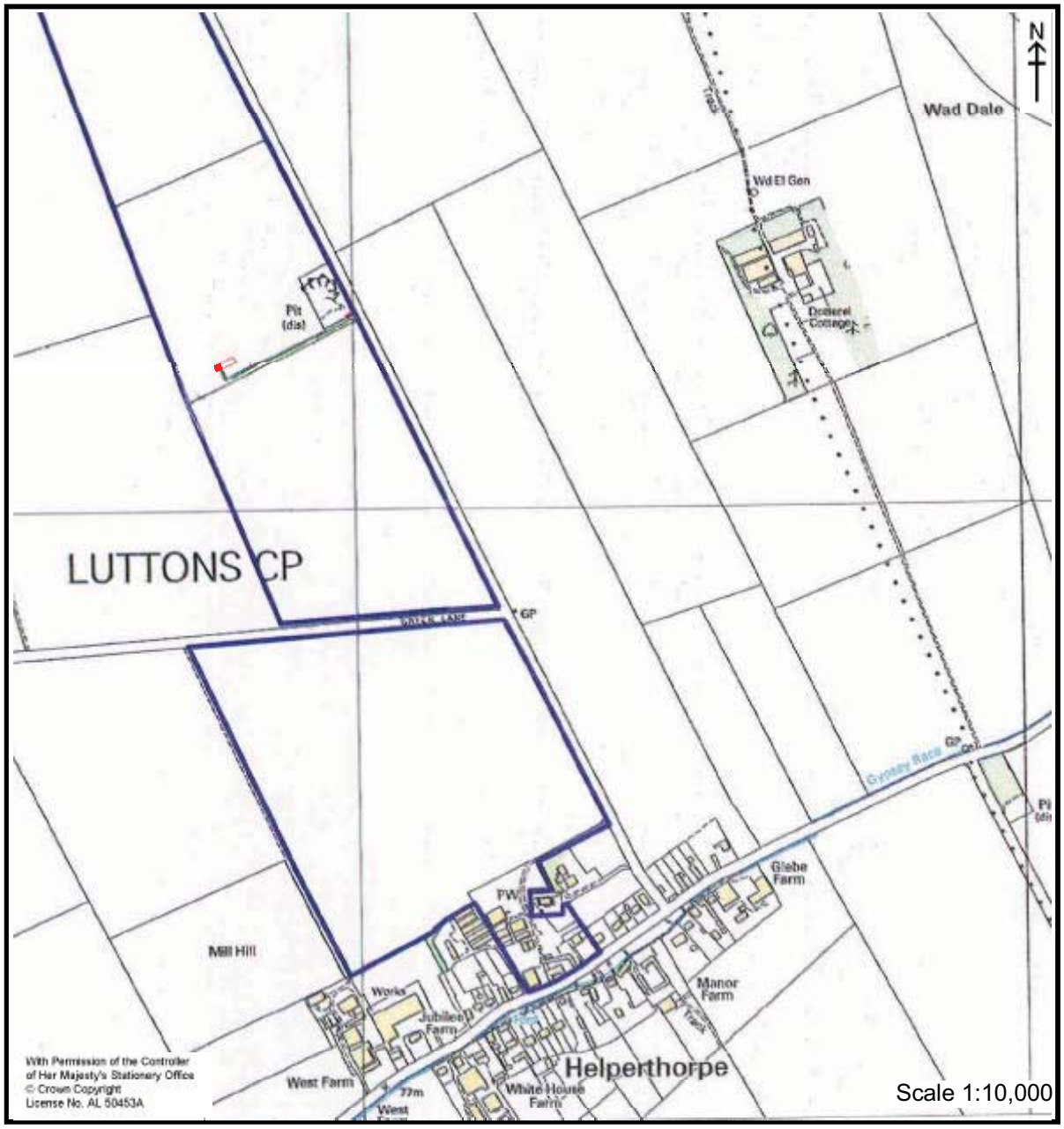


Figure 2. Location of Development Area.

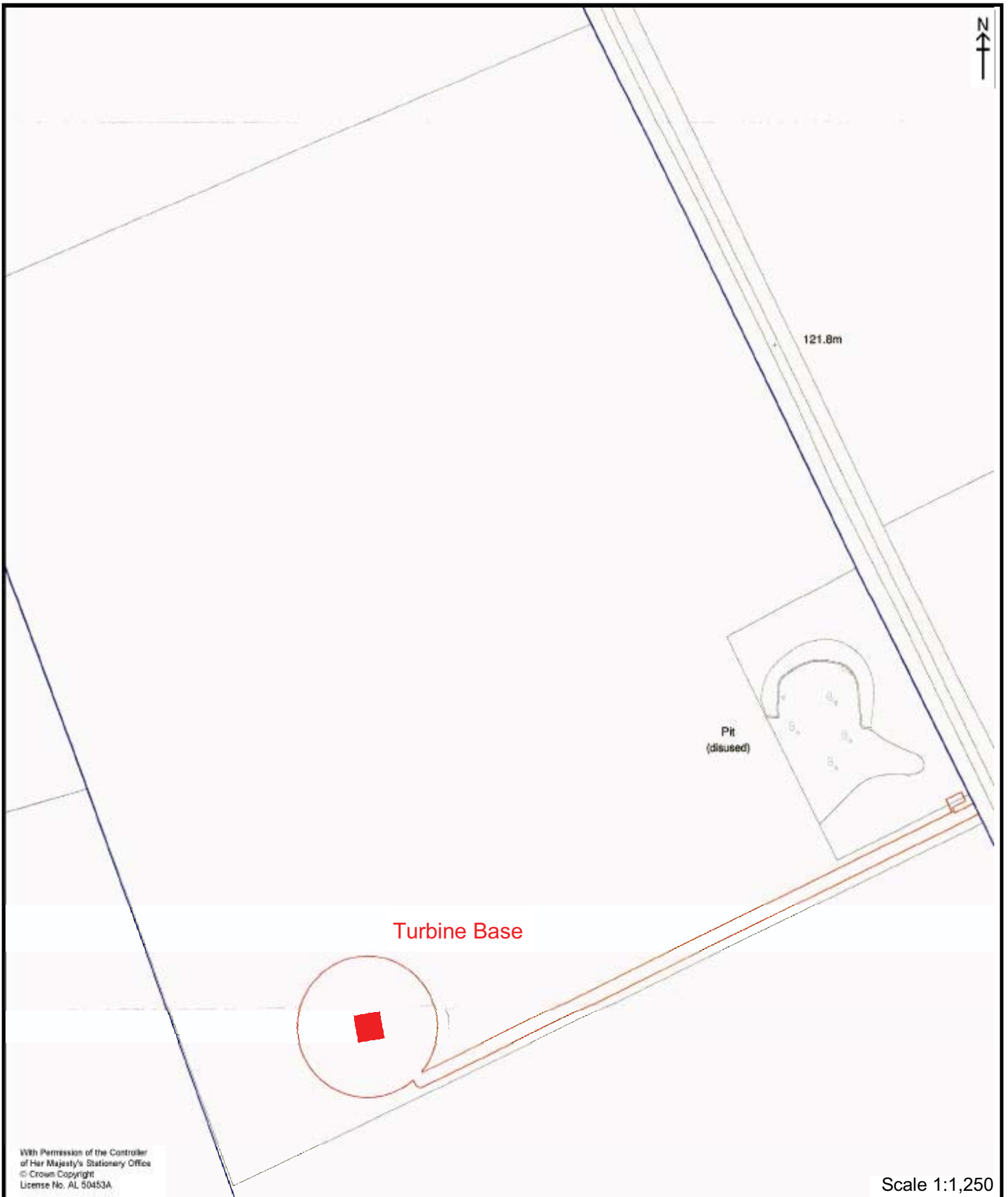


Figure 3. Location of Archaeological Strip and Record Area.



Plate 1. General View of Site. Facing South-east.



Plate 2. Wind Turbine Base after Topsoil Strip. Facing North-west.



Plate 3. Cable Trench. Facing South-east.



Plate 4. Section through Cable Trench. Facing South.

