

**Amberfield Cottage,
Maidstone**

**Archaeological Desk-
Based Assessment**

Client: ABBYAD ARCHITECT

AB Heritage Project No:10566

Date:19/05/2015

Amberfield Cottage, Maidstone Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment

Client ABBYAD Architect
Project Number 10566
Prepared By Zoe Edwards
Illustrated By Zoe Edwards
Approved By Hannah Simpson

Rev Number	Description	Undertaken	Approved	Date
1.0	DRAFT	ZE	HS	18/05/15

This document has been prepared in accordance with AB Heritage standard operating procedures. It remains confidential and the copyright of AB Heritage Limited. Any unauthorised reproduction or usage by any person other than the addressee is strictly prohibited

Enquiries To:

AB Heritage Limited (Head Office)
Caerus Suite, 150 Priorswood Road,
Taunton, Somerset, TA2 8DU
Email: info@abheritage.co.uk
Tel: 03333 440 206



CONTENTS

1.	Introduction.....	2
1.1	Project Background	2
1.2	Site Location & Description.....	2
1.3	Geology & Topography.....	2
1.4	Proposed Development	2
2.	Aims & Methodology	3
2.1	Aims of Works	3
2.2	Methodology of Works	3
2.3	Assessment of the Cultural Heritage Resource	4
2.4	Limitations	5
3.	Planning & Legislative Framework	7
3.1	Introduction.....	7
3.2	Statutory Protection for Heritage Assets.....	7
3.3	National Planning Policy.....	7
3.4	Regional & Local Planning Policy	8
4.	Archaeological Resource Baseline.....	9
4.1	Study Area.....	9
4.2	Statutory Designated Features	9
4.3	Historic Environment Record Data.....	9
4.4	Previous Archaeological Works in the Study Area.....	9
4.5	Unrecorded Features.....	10
4.6	Archaeology & History Background	10
4.7	Historic Map Sources.....	12
4.8	Site Visit.....	13
5.	Archaeological Potential & Mitigation	18
5.1	Known Heritage Resource.....	18
5.2	Past Impacts within the Site Boundary	18
5.3	Potential Archaeological Resource	19
5.4	Predicted Impact of Proposed Development	19
5.5	Outline Recommendations	19
6.	References.....	20
6.1	Documentary Sources & Cartographic Sources	20
6.2	Electronic References.....	20

6.3 Other References 20

FIGURES

Figure 1: Site Location
Figure 2: Existing Development Plan
Figure 3: Proposed Development Plan
Figure 4: Map of Cultural Heritage Features
Figure 5: Map of Cultural Heritage Features: Boughton Quarry Camp & Associated Features
Figure 6: Map of Past Impacts
Figure 7: Site Visit Photograph Positions and Orientations

PLATES

Plate 1: Extract from the 1872 6" OS Map of Kent Sheet LII, showing the area of the proposed development site in red

PHOTOS

Photo 1: The view towards the south-east of the proposed development site, from the north adjacent to the site entrance, showing the area of the proposed bungalow
Photo 2: The view towards the west of Area 1 from the east, showing a slight bank and ditch earthwork running from the bottom right of the frame, towards the trees
Photo 3: The view towards the east from Area 2, showing the earthwork bank
Photo 4: The view from the eastern edge of Area 2 towards the west, showing where the earthwork bank was formerly cut and levelled
Photo 5: The view to the south-west of Area 1, showing the pond
Photo 6: The south-western corner of Area 1, showing the location of the proposed double garage

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Gazetteer of Cultural Heritage Features 22

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

AB Heritage Limited have been commissioned by ABBYAD Architect to produce an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment covering proposed development consisting of a new bungalow, driveway and garage at Amberfield Cottage, Amber Lane, Chart Sutton, Maidstone Kent.

This assessment has reviewed all of the known cultural heritage features within 500m of the proposed development site in order to gain an understanding of the potential for the presence of archaeological features within the site boundary, and the potential impact of the proposed development upon these. A limited number of monuments beyond the 500m study area have been included in the study to understand the Iron Age use of the landscape, in association with the possible Oppidum of Boughton Quarry Camp. This addition was requested by the Senior Archaeological Officer; Kent County Council

During the site visit, previously unknown earthwork remains of a bank and ditch [AB 5] were noted within the approximate area of the proposed bungalow, requiring mitigation in advance of the proposed development.

Based on the known historical development of the site and study area, along with predicted past impacts within the limits of proposed development, it has also been concluded that there is a high potential for the recovery of previously unknown buried archaeological features, likely to be of Iron Age date, in association with the earthworks within the site boundary [AB 5]. In addition, there is considered to be a low – medium potential for the recovery of archaeological material of Roman date, relating to the close proximity of a Roman Road [AB 6] at c. 30m to the south of the proposed development site boundary. Finally, there is likely to be a low potential for the recovery of archaeological features of all other periods.

It is therefore recommended that the surviving earthworks [AB 5] potentially subject to impact during the groundworks of the proposed development should be recorded by Earthwork Survey, followed by an intrusive Archaeological Investigation to determine the form and/or the significance of the site. As a result any features interpreted to be of Iron Age date are recommended to be preserved in situ, as per the initial recommendation of the Kent Senior Archaeological Officer, through a programme of mitigation by design. These recommendations are subject to the approval of the Kent County Council Planning Archaeologist.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

- 1.1.1 AB Heritage Limited (hereinafter AB Heritage) has been commissioned by ABBYAD Architect to produce an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment covering the proposed development at Amberfield Cottage, Amber Lane, Chart Sutton, Maidstone Kent.
- 1.1.2 This report includes a description of the baseline conditions; an examination of available documentary, cartographic and known archaeological evidence; and identifies any known and potential cultural heritage receptor(s) within the application site or its immediate vicinity. It proposes a suitable mitigation strategy for archaeology, where such works are deemed appropriate.

1.2 Site Location & Description

- 1.2.1 The proposed development site covers an area of c. 0.3 hectares, consisting primarily of grassland and a dwelling, surrounded by arable land. It is centred at approximately TQ 79211 50276, at c.5.5km to the south-east of central Maidstone.
- 1.2.2 The proposed development site is bound to the north by Amber Road, by woodland to the east and partially to the south, while the remaining boundaries are formed of tree and hedgerow field boundaries. The boundary of the Kent Downs AONB is situated c. 6km to the north-east.
- 1.2.3 With the exception of a small residential development to the north and east, the area surrounding the proposed development site is arable land.

1.3 Geology & Topography

- 1.3.1 The proposed development site is situated within an area of Hythe Formation geology, consisting of sandstone and limestone. This was formed in a local environment dominated by shallow seas, in which siliciclastic sediments were deposited as mud, silt, sand, and gravel.
- 1.3.2 A Head superficial deposit of clay, silt, sand, and gravel is present within this area, which was formed from the material accumulated from downslope movements (BGS 2015).
- 1.3.3 The area of the proposed development is relatively flat at c. 108m above OD, while areas adjacent to it undulate due to the presence of archaeological earthwork features.

1.4 Proposed Development

- 1.4.1 The proposed development consists of plans to redevelop the land to the east of the present Amberfield Cottage, to include a new-build bungalow with a double garage, and an extension to the driveway toward the new building (see Figures 2 – 3).

2. AIMS & METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims of Works

- 2.1.1 Early consultation on the results of archaeological research and consideration of the implications of proposed development are the key to informing reasonable planning decisions.
- 2.1.2 The aim of this report is to facilitate such a process by understanding the historical development of the application site and the likely impact upon any surviving archaeological resource resulting from the proposed development, devising appropriate mitigation responses where necessary.

2.2 Methodology of Works

- 2.2.1 The assessment has been carried out, in regard to the collation of baseline information, in line with the Institute for Archaeologists' Standard and Guidance for Desk-Based Assessment (1994, latest revision November 2012).
- 2.2.2 This assessment includes relevant information contained in various statutory requirements, national, regional and local planning policies and professional good practice guidance, including:
- Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act, 1979
 - Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990
 - The National Planning Policy Framework, 2012
- 2.2.3 The Kent Historic Environment Record (HER) is the primary source of information concerning the current state of archaeological and architectural knowledge in this area. For reporting purposes the HER information has been re-numbered with AB numbers, which can be viewed in Appendix A. The information contained within this database was supported by examination of data from a wide range of other sources, principally:
- The Heritage Gateway (www.heritagegateway.org.uk) for information from English Heritage National Monuments Record, Pastscape and other research resources, including the Access to Archives (A2A)
 - The English Heritage website professional pages, particularly the National Heritage List For England
 - A site-walk over on the 12th May 2015
 - Additional relevant documentary and online historic sources
- 2.2.4 Information from these sources was used to understand:
- Information on statutory and non-statutory designated sites
 - Information on heritage assets recorded on the Kent HER
 - Readily accessible information on the site's history from readily available historic maps and photographs

- Any information on the site contained in published and unpublished archaeological and historical sources, including any previous archaeological investigations undertaken within the study area
- A greater understanding of key cultural heritage issues of the site and surrounding area, developed through the onsite walkover, including information on areas of past truncation within the site boundary
- The impact of proposed development on the known and potential archaeological resource, resulting in the formulation of a mitigation strategy, where required, which appropriately targets any future works to those required to gain planning consent.

2.2.5 During consultation between Zoe Edwards (Archaeological Technician; AB Heritage) and Wendy Rogers (Senior Archaeological Officer; Kent County Council) on the 5th of May 2015 it was agreed that the Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment would comprise a targeted search of records within 500m of the proposed development site centre-point, with additional consideration for the earthwork features associated with the Iron Age Oppidum [AB 4] at c. 2.7km to the north-west of the proposed development site.

2.2.6 On 8th May 2015, Ms Rogers provided details of the current planning policy in place covering Maidstone at the time of writing. Please see the planning section for details.

2.3 Assessment of the Cultural Heritage Resource

2.3.1 This desk-based assessment contains a record of the known and potential cultural heritage resource of an area. In relation to buried archaeological remains, where there is a potential for encountering a particular resource within the application site this is assessed according to the following scale:

Low	-	Very unlikely to be encountered on site
Medium	-	Possibility that features may occur / be encountered on site
High	-	Remains almost certain to survive on site

2.3.2 There is currently no standard adopted statutory or government guidance for assessing the importance of an archaeological feature and this is instead judged upon factors such as statutory and non-statutory designations, architectural, archaeological or historical significance, and the contribution to local research agendas. Considering these criteria each identified feature can be assigned to a level of importance in accordance with a five point scale (Table 1, below).

Table 1: Assessing the Importance of a Cultural Heritage Site

SCALE OF SITE IMPORTANCE	
NATIONAL	The highest status of site, e.g. Scheduled Monuments (or undesignated assets of schedulable quality and importance). Grade I and Grade II* Listed Buildings. Other listed buildings that can be shown to have exceptional qualities in their fabric or historical associations not adequately reflected in the listing grade. Conservation Areas containing very important buildings. Undesignated structures of clear national importance. Extremely well preserved historic landscape, whether inscribed or not, with exceptional coherence, time depth, or other critical factor(s).
REGIONAL	Grade II Listed Buildings or other designated or undesignated archaeological sites (in addition to those listed above), or assets of a reasonably defined extent and significance, or reasonable evidence of occupation / settlement, ritual, industrial activity etc. Examples may include areas containing buildings that contribute significantly to its historic character, burial sites, deserted medieval villages, Roman roads and dense scatter of finds.
LOCAL	Evidence of human activity more limited in historic value than the examples above, or compromised by poor preservation and/or survival of context associations, though which still have the potential to contribute to local research objectives. Examples include sites such as 'locally designated' buildings or undesignated structures / buildings of limited historic merit, out-of-situ archaeological findspots / ephemeral archaeological evidence and historic field systems and boundaries etc.
NEGLIGIBLE	Assets with very little or no surviving archaeological interest. Examples include destroyed antiquities, structures of almost no architectural / historic merit, buildings of an intrusive character or relatively modern / common landscape features such as quarries, drains and ponds etc.
UNKNOWN	Insufficient information exists to assess the importance of a feature (e.g. unidentified features on aerial photographs).

2.3.3 The importance of already identified cultural heritage resources is determined by reference to existing designations. Where classification of a receptor's value covered a range of the above possibilities or for previously unidentified features where no designation has been assigned, the value of the receptor was based on professional knowledge and judgement.

2.3.4 For some types of finds or remains there is no consistent value and the importance may vary, for example Grade II Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas. For this reason, adjustments are occasionally made, where appropriate, based on professional judgement.

2.4 Limitations

2.4.1 It should be noted that the report has been prepared under the express instruction and solely for the use of ABBYAD Architect, and any associated parties they elect to share this information with. Measurements and distances referred to in the report should be taken as approximations only and should not be used for detailed design purposes.

2.4.2 All the work carried out in this report is based upon the professional knowledge and understanding of AB Heritage on current (May 2015) and relevant United Kingdom standards

and codes, technology and legislation. Changes in these areas may occur in the future and cause changes to the conclusions, advice, recommendations or design given. AB Heritage does not accept responsibility for advising the client's or associated parties of the facts or implications of any such changes in the future.

- 2.4.3 This report has been prepared utilising factual information obtained from third party sources. AB Heritage takes no responsibility for the accuracy of such information. It should also be noted that this report represents an early stage of a phased approach to assessing the archaeological and cultural heritage resource of the application site to allow the development of an appropriate mitigation strategy, should this be required. It does not comprise mitigation of impacts in itself.

3. PLANNING & LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 The following section highlights the key planning and legislative framework relevant to this project. Legislative framework, national planning policy and relevant sector guidance.

3.2 Statutory Protection for Heritage Assets

- 3.2.1 Current legislation, in the form of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979, provides for the legal protection of important and well-preserved archaeological sites and monuments through their addition to a list, or 'schedule' of archaeological monuments by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport. This necessitates the granting of formal Scheduled Monument Consent for any work undertaken within the designated area of a Scheduled Ancient Monument.
- 3.2.2 Likewise, structures are afforded legal protection in the form of their addition to 'lists' of buildings of special architectural or historical interest. The listing of buildings is carried out by the Department of Culture, Media and Sport under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990. The main purpose of the legislation is to protect buildings and their surroundings from changes that would materially alter the special historic or architectural value of the building or its setting. This necessitates the granting of formal Listed Building Consent for all works undertaken to or within the designated curtilage of a Listed Building. This legislation also allows for the creation and protection of Conservation Areas by local planning authorities to protect areas and groupings of historical significance.
- 3.2.3 The categories of assets with some form of legal protection have been extended in recent years, and now include Registered Parks and Gardens, and Historic Battlefields. While designation as a UNESCO World Heritage Site is not a statutory designation under English planning law, such a designation is regarded as a material consideration in planning decisions, and World Heritage Sites are in practice protected from development that could affect any aspect of their significance including settings within the Site and a buffer zone around it.

3.3 National Planning Policy

- 3.3.1 The NPPF sets out government policy on the historic environment, which covers all elements, whether designated or not, that are identified as 'having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest'.
- 3.3.2 One of the over-arching aims is to 'Conserve heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance, so that they can be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of this and future generations'. To achieve this, local planning authorities can request that the applicant describe "the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting". The level of detail required in the assessment should be "proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance". It goes on to say that "where a site on which development is proposed includes or has the potential to include heritage assets with archaeological interest,

local planning authorities should require developers to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation.”

- 3.3.3 A key policy within the NPPF is that “when considering the impact of a proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage asset, great weight should be given to the asset’s conservation. The more important the asset, the greater the weight should be.
- 3.3.4 With regard to non-designated heritage assets specific policy is provided in that a balanced judgement will be required having due regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset affected.

3.4 Regional & Local Planning Policy

- 3.4.1 The policies on archaeology from the Kent Structure Plan and Maidstone Local Plan (2000) were not saved, and at this time (May 2015) the new Maidstone Local Plan is still being drafted. Therefore, the policies in use for this area consist only of the National Planning Policies as outlined above.

4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE BASELINE

4.1 Study Area

- 4.1.1 A study of the heritage assets within 500m of the centre-point of the proposed development site has been made in order to gain an understanding of the level of potential for the presence of archaeological remains to be present within the proposed development site, and in what form they may take.
- 4.1.2 In addition to this study area, the Kent Senior Archaeological Officer has requested that the earthwork remains of a possible Iron Age Oppidum known as Boughton Quarry Camp [AB 4], c. 2.7km to the north-west of the proposed development site, should also be included in the study, with the inclusion of other related heritage assets (e.g. [AB 3]). This is due to the presence of likely related earthworks, [AB 1, 3, 5 & 16] close to, and within the proposed development site.

4.2 Statutory Designated Features

- 4.2.1 There are no designated features within the boundary of the proposed development site.
- 4.2.2 The five designated features within the study area consist of Grade II Listed Buildings [AB 8, 9 & 12 – 14], most of which are Post Medieval farmhouses.
- 4.2.3 Beyond the 500m study area, the earthwork remains of the possible Iron Age Oppidum of Boughton Camp [AB 4] at c. 2.7km north-west of the proposed development site is designated as a Scheduled Ancient Monument.
- 4.2.4 Please see 4.5 for details of the remaining asset, [AB 5], which consists of a previously unrecorded feature noted during the site visit.

4.3 Historic Environment Record Data

- 4.3.1 There are no Historic Environment Records recorded by the Kent Historic Environment Record (HER) within the bounds of the proposed development site.
- 4.3.2 Within the 500m study area surrounding the proposed development site, there are 13 heritage features recorded by the Kent HER [AB 1, 2 & 6 – 16].
- 4.3.3 There are two additional heritage assets [AB 3 & 16] recorded by the Kent HER in association with Boughton Camp [AB 4] beyond the 500m study area.

4.4 Previous Archaeological Works in the Study Area

- 4.4.1 There are three cases of previous work within 500m of the proposed development site.
- 4.4.2 This includes an evaluation at Amber Lane, c. 130m to the east of the proposed development site boundary, which revealed a large linear ditch [AB 1] with an east-west orientation, interpreted to be possible defensive earthworks in association with Boughton Camp [AB 4] (Kent HER number EKE 4935).

- 4.4.3 In addition, a further filled ditch [AB 16] thought to also be related to the earthworks Boughton Camp [AB 4] was recorded during an excavation at Boughton Orchard, c. 280m to the west-north-west of the proposed development site (Kent HER event number EKE 5095).
- 4.4.4 A watching brief during ground works at The Coach House, Amber Lane, revealed no archaeological features (Kent HER event number EKE 10891).

4.5 Unrecorded Features

- 4.5.1 A series of earthwork banks and ditches [AB 5] were identified during the site visit, which to some extent, are also shown on the current OS map (see Figure 4) to the west of the area of the proposed development. These are thought to be of Iron Age date in relation to the Iron Age Oppidum [AB 4] c. 2.7km to the north-west of the proposed development site.
- 4.5.2 Within the area of the proposed development works, there is a slight bank and ditch remaining in alignment with the more substantial earthworks to the west of the site, which had been previously cut and levelled, although they are considered to be part of the same monument [AB 5].

4.6 Archaeology & History Background

The Prehistoric Periods (c. 500,000 BC – AD 43)

- 4.6.1 There is one known cultural heritage feature of Prehistoric date within the boundary of the proposed development site [AB 5].
- 4.6.2 There is also one known heritage feature within the surrounding 500m study area [AB 1] and a further two heritage features beyond the 500m study area [AB 3 & 4]. These features relate to the possible Iron Age Oppidum of Boughton Camp [AB 4] c. 2.7km to the north-west of the proposed development site.
- 4.6.3 There is no known evidence of human activity pre-dating the Iron Age within the study area. However, the area appears to have been settled in during the Iron Age, when possible Iron Age Oppidum (town) known as Boughton Camp [AB 4] would have been an 'apex of social systems' and a centre of occupation for the local Cantiaci tribe (Ashbee 2005, 156).
- 4.6.4 Five Iron Age coins were found within Boughton Camp [AB 4] which provides evidence of trade in the area. The Kent HER also holds records of other Iron Age coins in the area of the Oppidum [AB 4], including one within the study area [AB 2] at c. 180m to the north-east of the proposed development site.
- 4.6.5 It is suggested that the Boughton Camp [AB 4] boundary earthworks are defensive in nature. Some of these defensive features extend beyond the immediate surroundings of the Oppidum [AB 4] site, including one linear earthwork [AB 1] within the study area at c. 60m to the north-east of the proposed development site.
- 4.6.6 An additional linear earthwork [AB 3] associated with Boughton Camp [AB 4] is situated beyond the 500m study area at c. 670m to the west-north-west of the proposed development site. These earthworks also appear [AB 5] within the proposed development site on the same alignment as [AB 3].

The Roman Period (AD 43 – AD 410)

- 4.6.7 There are no known cultural heritage features within the boundary of the proposed development site, and two within the surrounding study area [AB 6 & 7].
- 4.6.8 There is no evidence of Roman settlement within the study area, although there would have been substantial isolated activity surrounding the two Roman Roads [AB 6 & 7] as part of a route across the south-east of Britain, on which passes the proposed development site c.30m to the south. Settlement at this time appears to centre on Maidstone, at c. 5.5km north-west of the proposed development site, in the form of nucleated farming settlements and dispersed villas further north (Page 1932).

The Medieval Period (AD 410 – AD 1536)

- 4.6.9 There are no known cultural heritage features of Medieval date within the boundary of the proposed development site, and one within the surrounding study area [AB 8].
- 4.6.10 The first reference to a name of the area now known as Maidstone dates to the early Medieval Saxon period, in which the names 'Medwastane' (Medway's Town) and/or 'Maegwastane' (mighty or strong stone – a reference to the local hard stone quarries) are in use. It is later referred to in the Domesday Book of 1086 as 'Meddestane' meaning the town in the middle of Kent (Russell 1978, 9-10).
- 4.6.11 During the reign of Edward I, the new place name 'Maydenestan' is referred to, meaning 'town of maidens', which relates to an ancient Latin rhyme and the seal of Maidstone, showing a maiden standing on stone (Russell 1978, 10).
- 4.6.12 While occupation centred on central Maidstone in the Medieval period, Chart Sutton (the Parish in which the development is based), and the surrounding landscape is likely to have been settled in by dispersed farmsteads, which gradually increased in number towards the Post Medieval. One of the later Medieval farmsteads survives within the study area at Old Amber Green Farm [AB 8], c. 130m to the north-west of the proposed development site.

The Post Medieval Period (AD 1537 – AD 1800)

- 4.6.13 There are no known cultural heritage features of Post Medieval date within the boundary of the proposed development site, and six within the surrounding study area [AB 9 - 14].
- 4.6.14 After Maidstone was incorporated as a Borough in 1549, the population grew substantially despite the outbreaks of plague and the Battle of Maidstone during the Second Civil War (Bennett 2000).
- 4.6.15 Settlement within Chart Sutton was also growing at this time, and there are a number of surviving farmsteads and farmhouses of this date within the study area [AB 9 – 14]. This includes the multi-yard farmstead of Amberfield Farm, c. 120m to the south-west of the proposed development site, and the Grade II Listed farmhouse of Marshalls Place at c. 100m to the east-north-east of the proposed development site.

Modern Period (AD 1801 – present)

- 4.6.16 There are no known cultural heritage features of Modern date within the boundary of the proposed development site, and one within the surrounding study area [AB 15].

- 4.6.17 Development within the study area has continued to increase during the Modern period, in which several housing developments have been constructed to the north of the proposed development site along Amber Lane, and to the east along Chart Hill Road.
- 4.6.18 During the Second World War, a Supermarine Spitfire I crashed in the grounds of Amberfield Farm at c. 220m to the west-south-west of the proposed development site, in addition to a number of other crash sites in the wider area.

Undated

- 4.6.19 There are no cultural heritage features of unknown date within the boundary of the proposed development site, and one within the surrounding 500m study area [AB 16].
- This consists of a possible filled ditch [AB 16] at Boughton Orchard, c. 280m west-north-west of the proposed development site, which shares the alignment of other defensive earthworks which may be associated with the Oppidum [AB 4].

4.7 Historic Map Sources

- 4.7.1 The earliest available map showing the proposed development site is the 1842 Tithe Map of Chart Sutton.
- 4.7.2 This map shows a plan of the proposed development site in much the same form as it is currently, although there appear to be two structures within the site boundary which do not reflect those which are now present. The Tithe Apportionment shows that the area of the proposed development was at this time occupied by cottages and gardens.
- 4.7.3 It is possible that these represent the cottages and an associated building which was mentioned by the land owner, Mr Adams, during the site visit (see Section 4.7), as being present at the property when he acquired the land 40 years ago.
- 4.7.4 In addition, the road immediately to the north of the proposed development named Amber Lane, was at this time named 'Amber Green'.
- 4.7.5 Subsequent Ordnance Survey maps from 1872 to 1950 show little change to the land within the proposed development site. These maps show a plan of a single structure within the boundary of the proposed development site, which does not appear to change within this time frame, with the exception of a well adjacent to the structure. Plate 1 shows the plan of this structure, and the well which is present until at least the date of the 1909 OS map.

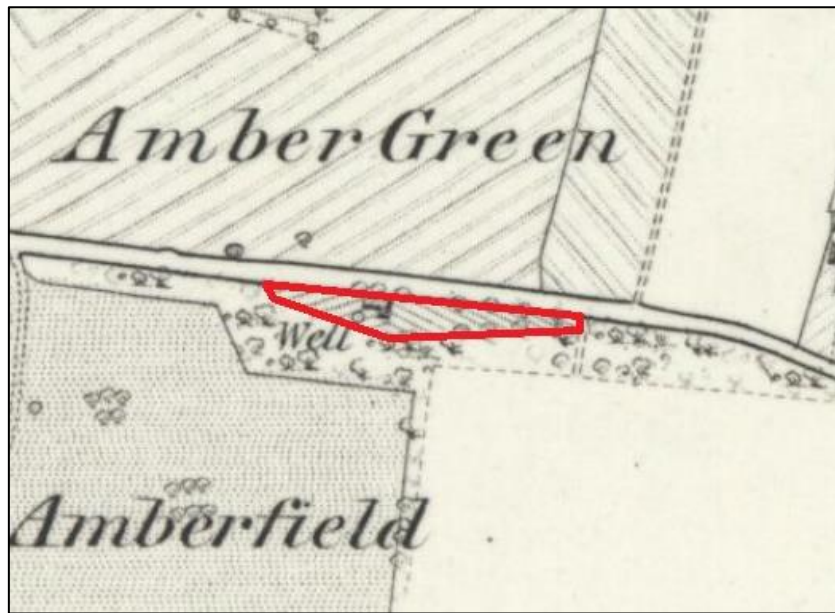


Plate 1: Extract from the 1872 6" OS Map of Kent Sheet LII, showing the area of the proposed development site in red (© Crown Copyright 2015. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100050237)

4.8 Site Visit

- 4.8.1 A site visit was undertaken by Zoe Edwards (Archaeological Technician; AB Heritage) on the 12th May 2015. The purpose of this visit was to gain a greater understanding of the existing land use and past impacts within the current site limits, along with an appreciation for the potential survival of below ground archaeological deposits.
- 4.8.2 The proposed development site has been divided into Areas 1 and 2 to provide some clarity in this section (see Figure 7). The area of the proposed development was assessed in detail during the site visit, and this area will be referred to as Area 1. The area of the existing house and exterior space to the west of the driveway were briefly observed to provide context to any archaeological features noted to the east. There is no development proposed for this area. This section of the site will be referred to as Area 2.
- 4.8.3 At the time of the site visit, the landowner, Mr Adams, had placed bamboo canes into the ground to show the extent of the proposed new building within Area 1. This area was primarily well-kept lawn, with short trees at the southern extent (Photo 1). These trees are to be removed as part of the proposed development.



Photo 1: The view towards the south-east of the proposed development site, from the north adjacent to the site entrance, showing the area of the proposed bungalow

- 4.8.4 It was within this area that a slight bank and ditch [AB 5] was noted (Photo 2), which shared the same alignment of more substantial earthworks [AB 5] (Photo 3) within Area 2. Much of the larger earthworks have become overgrown. It became clear that the former location of the earthwork bank which would have continued from the earthwork within Area 2 had been cut and levelled within Area 1.



Photo 2: The view towards the west of Area 1 from the east, showing a slight bank and ditch earthwork running from the bottom right of the frame, towards the trees



Photo 3: The view towards the east from Area 2, showing the earthwork bank

- 4.8.5 It became clear that the former location of the earthwork bank [AB 5] which would have continued from the earthwork within Area 2 had been cut and levelled within Area 1. Mr Adams stated that the earthworks in Area 2 ended at the location of a former coal bunker which was present when he had moved to the property 40 years ago. This area is now grassed (Photo 4), and there is still a rise in the ground surface where the bank once was once present. This continues to level further to the east, towards Area 1.



Photo 4: The view from the eastern edge of Area 2 towards the west, showing where the earthwork bank was formerly cut and levelled

- 4.8.6 There were no additional archaeological features noted within Area 1 during the site visit. The eastern extent of Area 1 was occupied by compost mounds, logs, and overgrown vegetation, while the area of the pond was fenced off with seating areas and trees (**Photo 5**).



Photo 5: The view to the south-west of Area 1, showing the pond

- 4.8.7 The location of the proposed double garage is currently occupied by a large greenhouse and a storage area, situated behind a parked caravan on a base of wood, thick plastic mesh, and gravel (**Photo 6**). Mr Adams stated that the present garage in Area 2 (adjacent to this corner of Area 1) was built upon the site of a former toilet block, which was associated with the cottages where the present house now stands.



Photo 6: The south-western corner of Area 1, showing the location of the proposed double garage

5. ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL & MITIGATION

5.1 Known Heritage Resource

- 5.1.1 The known heritage resource within the proposed development site consists of a system of earthwork banks and ditches [AB 5] which are thought to relate to the earthwork defences of the Iron Age Boughton Camp [AB 4], c. 2.7km to the north-west of the proposed development site.
- 5.1.2 These are primarily situated within the western side of the proposed development site, in which there is no development planned. However, it has been noted that there are remaining earthworks [AB 5] at the location of the proposed bungalow and driveway in the eastern side of the proposed development site. These are far less substantial than the earthworks adjacent to the west due to historic levelling, possibly relating to the construction of a former coal bunker and toilet block (Figure 6).
- 5.1.3 There are no additional heritage assets within the boundary of the proposed development site.
- 5.1.4 The heritage resource within the surrounding 500m study area primarily consists of Medieval – Post Medieval farm buildings [AB 8, 10 – 14], and additional features [AB 1 & 16] which are likely to relate to the earthwork defences of Boughton Camp [AB 4]. This includes a filled ditch [AB 16] recorded during excavation at c. 280m west-north-west of the proposed development site.

5.2 Past Impacts within the Site Boundary

- 5.2.1 Past impacts within the area of the proposed development (shown as Area 1, Figure 7) include the historic levelling of the earthwork bank throughout this area of the site, leaving just a slight earthwork bank and ditch at the approximate location of the proposed bungalow.
- 5.2.2 It is possible that the roots of the present trees and adjacent tall hedgerow may have made some impact on potential below-ground archaeological features in the area of the proposed development, although this remains uncertain. It is uncertain whether the pond is natural or man-made feature. This would also have caused some below ground impact.
- 5.2.3 The south-western corner of this area is presently occupied by storage space, a caravan, and a large greenhouse. The placement of the greenhouse may have required some impact below the ground surface, including the insertion of poles and pegs into the ground to stabilize the structure against harsh weather. These have the potential to impact on possible below-surface archaeological features.
- 5.2.4 It is also possible that there has been some ground disturbance in this corner due to the construction of the former toilet block, along with the demolition of this, and the more recent construction of the present garage.

5.3 Potential Archaeological Resource

- 5.3.1 Taking into consideration the known heritage resource and the past impacts within the site boundary, it is concluded that there is a high potential for the recovery of previously unknown below-surface archaeological features, which may date to the Iron Age.
- 5.3.2 This is based on the potential for additional buried features relating to the earthworks [AB 5] found within the site boundary.
- 5.3.3 The proximity of the Roman Road [AB 6] to the south of the proposed development site boundary imposes a low – medium potential for the recovery of archaeological material of Roman date.
- 5.3.4 The potential for recovery of archaeological features of all other periods is considered to be low.

5.4 Predicted Impact of Proposed Development

- 5.4.1 The proposed development consists of plans to redevelop the land to the east of the present Amberfield Cottage, to include a new-build bungalow, with double garage and extended driveway (Figure 3).
- 5.4.2 While no specific construction methods are currently known to AB Heritage, it is reasonable to assume that there will be intrusive groundworks associated with the construction of the foundations of the bungalow, and potentially the new double garage, along with possible levelling of ground for the driveway.
- 5.4.3 There will also be some below-ground impact caused by the removal of the fence which currently encloses the area of the pond, and the removal of the trees in the area of [AB 5].
- 5.4.4 Figure 8 shows a predicted plan of impact on potential archaeology.

5.5 Outline Recommendations

- 5.5.1 There are previously unrecorded archaeological features which are likely to be of Iron Age date within the proposed development site, as identified during the site visit.
- 5.5.2 These consist of the slight bank and ditch in the approximate area of the proposed bungalow. It is uncertain how much of the ditch remains buried beneath the ground surface.

It is therefore recommended that the surviving earthworks [AB 5] potentially subject to impact during the groundworks of the proposed development should be recorded by Earthwork Survey, followed by an intrusive Archaeological Investigation to determine the form and/or the significance of the site. As a result any features interpreted to be of Iron Age date are recommended to be preserved in situ, as per the initial recommendation of the Kent Senior Archaeological Officer, through a programme of mitigation by design. These recommendations are subject to the approval of the Kent County Council Planning Archaeologist.

6. REFERENCES

6.1 Documentary Sources & Cartographic Sources

Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG). 2012. National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

Kent Heritage Environment Record

Institute for Archaeologists 1994; rev.2001 & 2008 Standard and Guidance for Desk-Based Assessment

Ashbee P 2005. *Kent in Prehistoric Times*. Tempus: Gloucestershire

Page W (ed) 1932. *Victoria County History of Kent: Vol. 3 - Romano-British Kent*. St Catherine Press: London

Russell J M 1978. *The History of Maidstone*. John Hallewell Publications: Kent

Bennett M 2000. *The A to Z of the British and Irish Civil Wards 1637- 1660*. Scarecrow Press Inc.: Plymouth

OS 6 inch Map Sheet LII.NE of Kent, 1872

OS 6 inch Map Sheet LII.NE of Kent, 1898

OS 6 inch Map Sheet LII.NE of Kent, 1909

OS 6 inch Map Sheet LII.NE of Kent, 1950

Tithe Map of Chart Sutton, 1842

Tithe Apportionment of Chart Sutton, 1842

6.2 Electronic References

BGS (British Geological Society) 2015. Geology of Britain viewer
<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>

EH (English Heritage) 2013. The National Heritage List for England. <http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/professional/protection/process/national-heritage-list-for-england/>

6.3 Other References

Personal communication between Zoe Edwards (Archaeological Technician; AB Heritage) and Mr Adams (Landowner) during the site visit on 12th May 2015, regarding the form and recent past use of the proposed development site.

Personal communication between Zoe Edwards (Archaeological Technician; AB Heritage) and Wendy Rogers (Senior Archaeological Officer; Kent County Council) on the 5th of May 2015, regarding the approval of the proposed 500m study area, and on 8th May 2015 regarding the local planning policies.

Appendices

Appendix 1 Gazetteer of Cultural Heritage Features

This gazetteer incorporates all archaeological and historical sites identified on the Kent Historic Environment Record and other sources within a radius of 500m from the boundary of the proposed development site, with the addition of defensive earthwork monuments associated with the Boughton Quarry Camp.

Abbreviations

NGR	National Grid Reference	MKE / DKE	Kent HER number prefix
SAM	Scheduled Ancient Monument	NHLE	National Heritage List for England
LB	Listed Building	UID	Unique Identification number

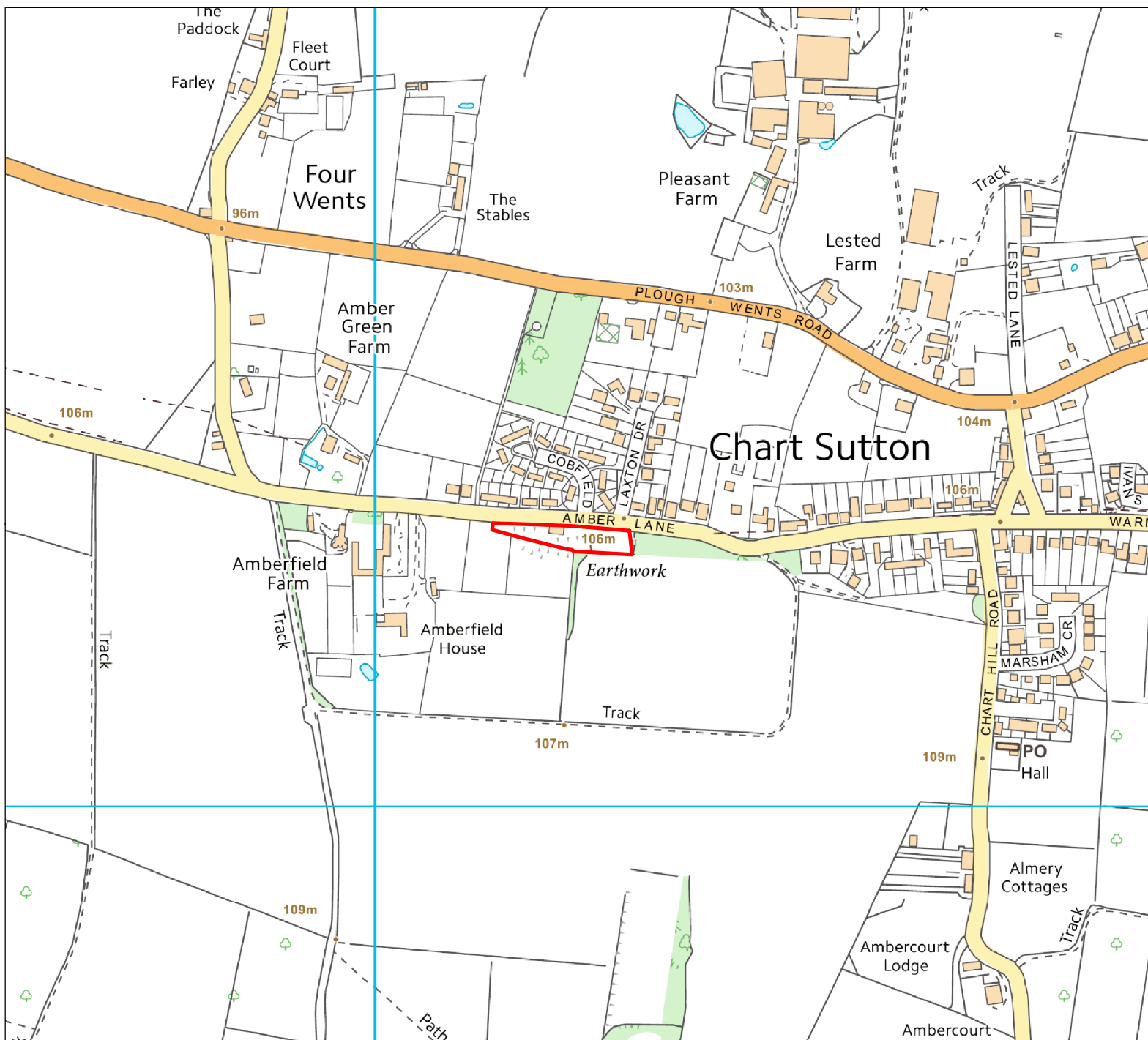
AB No.	PERIOD	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	NGR	HER/ID No.
1	Prehistoric	Linear	Linear earthwork on Amber Lane which is thought to be part of the linear earthwork defences of Boughton Camp [AB 4]	-	TQ 79310 50330	TQ 75 SE 125
2	Prehistoric	Findspot	The findspot of a late Iron Age silver coin	-	TQ 79400 50400	MKE71328
3	Prehistoric	Linear	Iron Age earthwork, with ditch at Amber Green Cottage, Boughton Monchelsea	-	TQ 78451 50476	MKE41624
4	Prehistoric	Earthwork	Earthwork remains of a possible Iron Age Oppidum known as 'Boughton Quarry Camp', including possible earthwork defences	SAM	TQ 7656 5158	TQ 75 SE 4, DKE19191, NHLE UID 1005139

AMBERFIELD COTTAGE, MAIDSTONE
ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

AB No.	PERIOD	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	NGR	HER/ID No.
5	Prehistoric	Earthwork	Earthwork banks and ditches adjacent to Amber Lane which are likely to relate to the defences of Boughton Camp [AB 4] (noted on site visit)	-	TQ 79211 50276	-
6	Roman	Road	Roman road	-	TR 0529 4261	MKE75998
7	Roman	Road	Rochester- Maidstone- Hastings Roman road	-	TQ 7836 4023	MKE44113
8	Medieval - Post Medieval	Building	The 16 th - 17 th century timber framed Old Amber Green Farmhouse, within Amber Green Farm	Grade II LB	TQ 78977 50355	TQ 75 SE 381, NHLE UID 1100333, MKE84818
9	Post Medieval	Building	A Late 18th century timber framed house, now shop and house	Grade II LB	TQ 79646 50347	TQ 75 SE 304, NHLE UID 1347900
10	Post Medieval	Farmstead	A regular L-plan farmstead known as Pleasant Farm, with outfarm to the north	-	TQ 79409 50627	MKE84927, MKE88605
11	Post Medieval	Farmstead	The regular multi-yard farmstead of Amberfield	-	TQ 78991 50252	MKE87131

AMBERFIELD COTTAGE, MAIDSTONE
ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

AB No.	PERIOD	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	NGR	HER/ID No.
12	Post Medieval	Building	A farmhouse named Lested Lodge, of 18th century origin with later alterations within Lested Farm	Grade II LB	TQ 79602 50436	TQ 75 SE 269, NHLE UID 1060913, MKE84928
13	Post Medieval	Building	A farmhouse named The Moorings, of 18 th century origin with later alterations	Grade II LB	TQ 79662 50436	TQ 75 SE 268, NHLE UID 1060916
14	Post Medieval	Building	A 17 th century house with later additions, named Marshalls Place, within Marshalls Place farmstead	Grade II LB	TQ 79369 50302	TQ 75 SE 267, NHLE UID 1060944, MKE84930
15	Modern	Monument	Crash site of Supermarine Spitfire I, which crashed and burned 4 th September 1940 on Amberfield Farm	-	TQ 78918 50239	TQ 75 SE 377
16	Undated	Linear	Undated possible filled ditch, Boughton Orchard. The alignment matches that of the ditches of Boughton Camp [AB 4]	-	TQ 78850 50390	TQ 75 SE 122



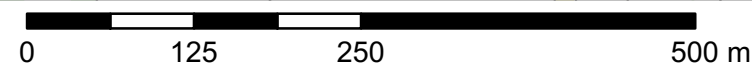
Legend

Site Boundary

Kent

Figure 1: Site Location Plan	
Project: Amberfield Cottage	
Date: 06/05/15	Job Number: 10566
Drawn by: ZE	Approved by: HS

© Crown Copyright 2015. Ordnance Survey
Licence Number 100050237





Legend
 Site Boundary

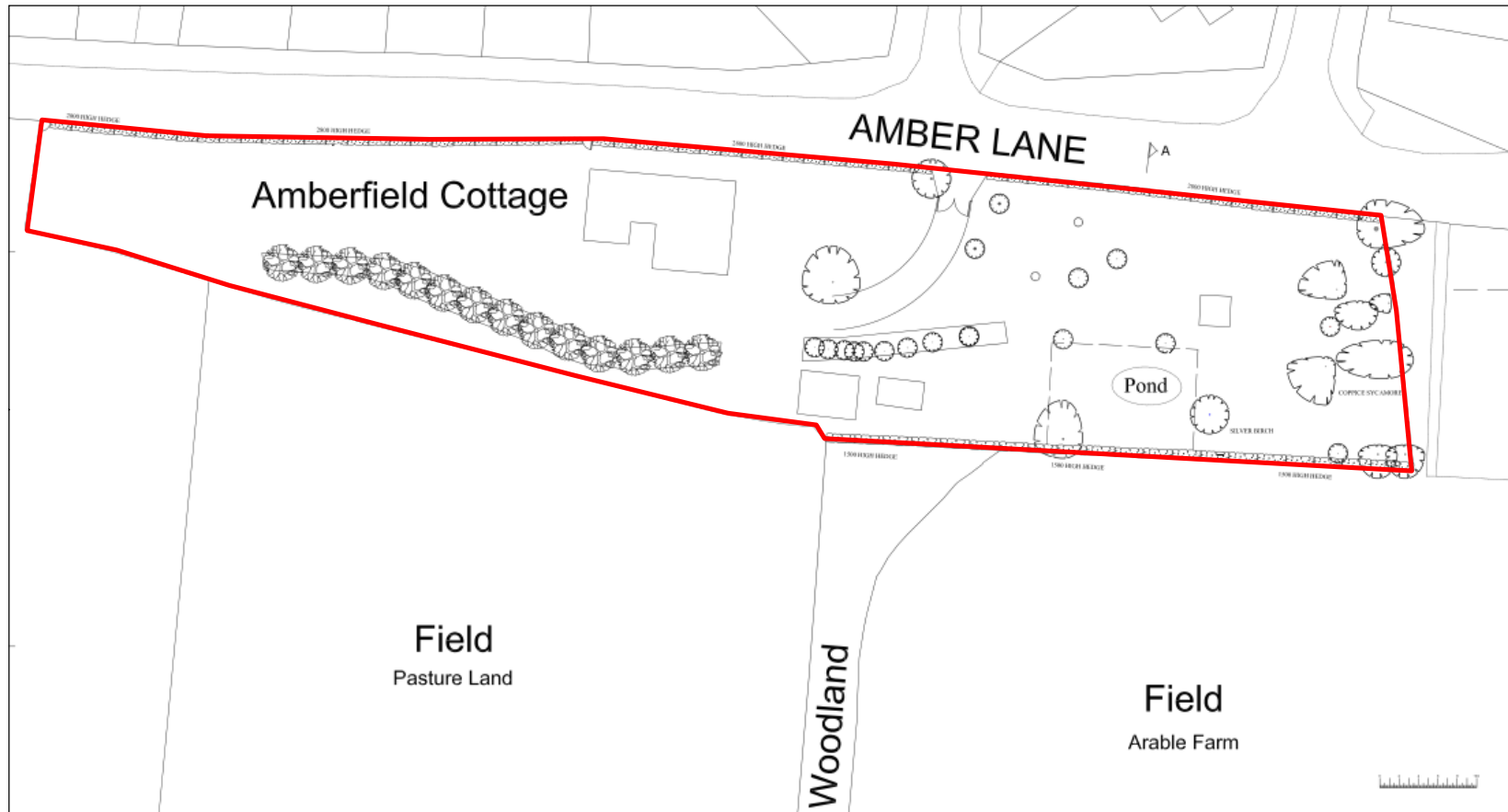


Figure 2: Existing Development Plan

Project: Amberfield Cottage

Date: Aug 2014 | Job Number: 10566

Drawn by: ABBYAD J - L RIBA





Legend

 Site Boundary

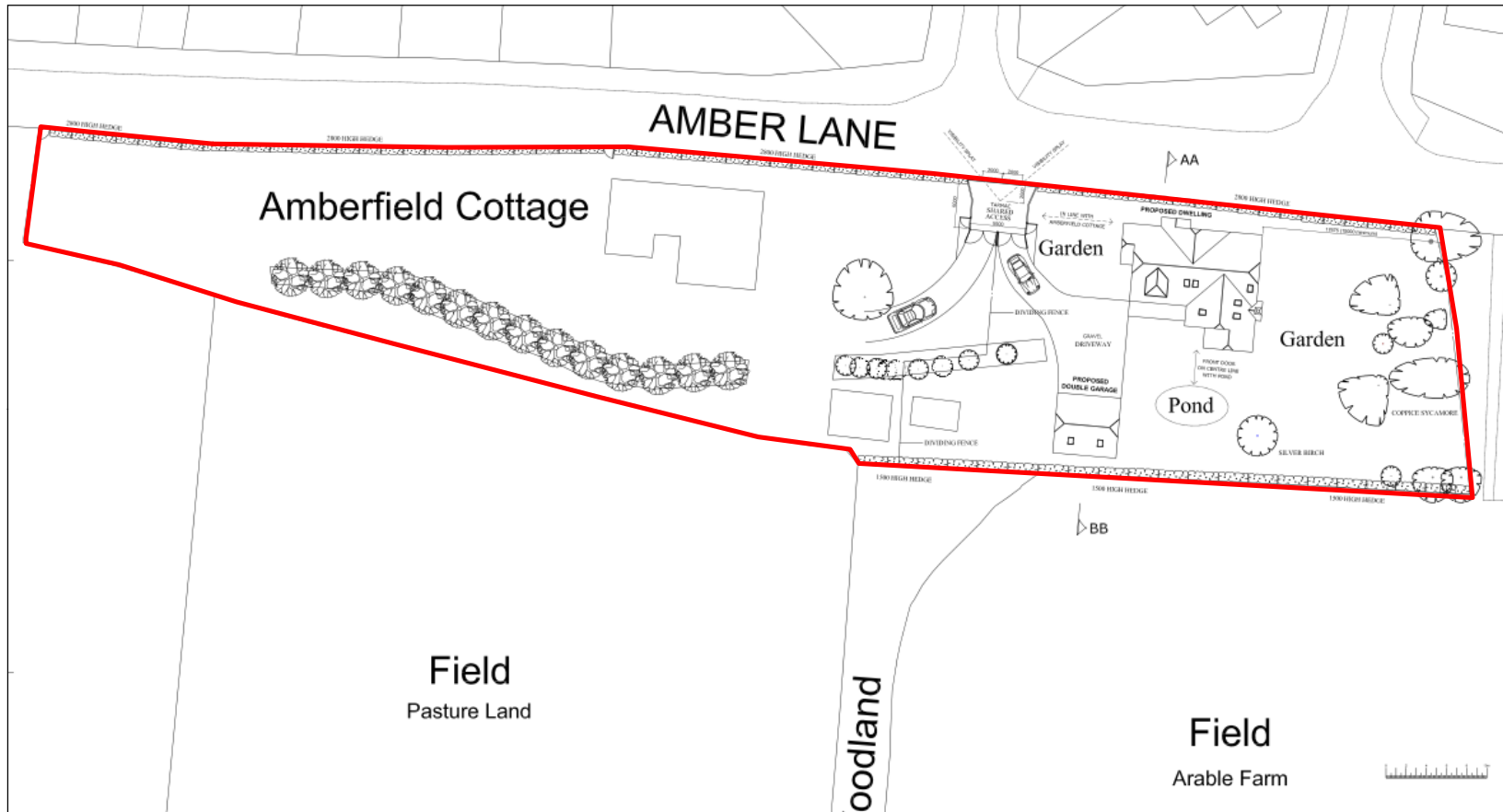


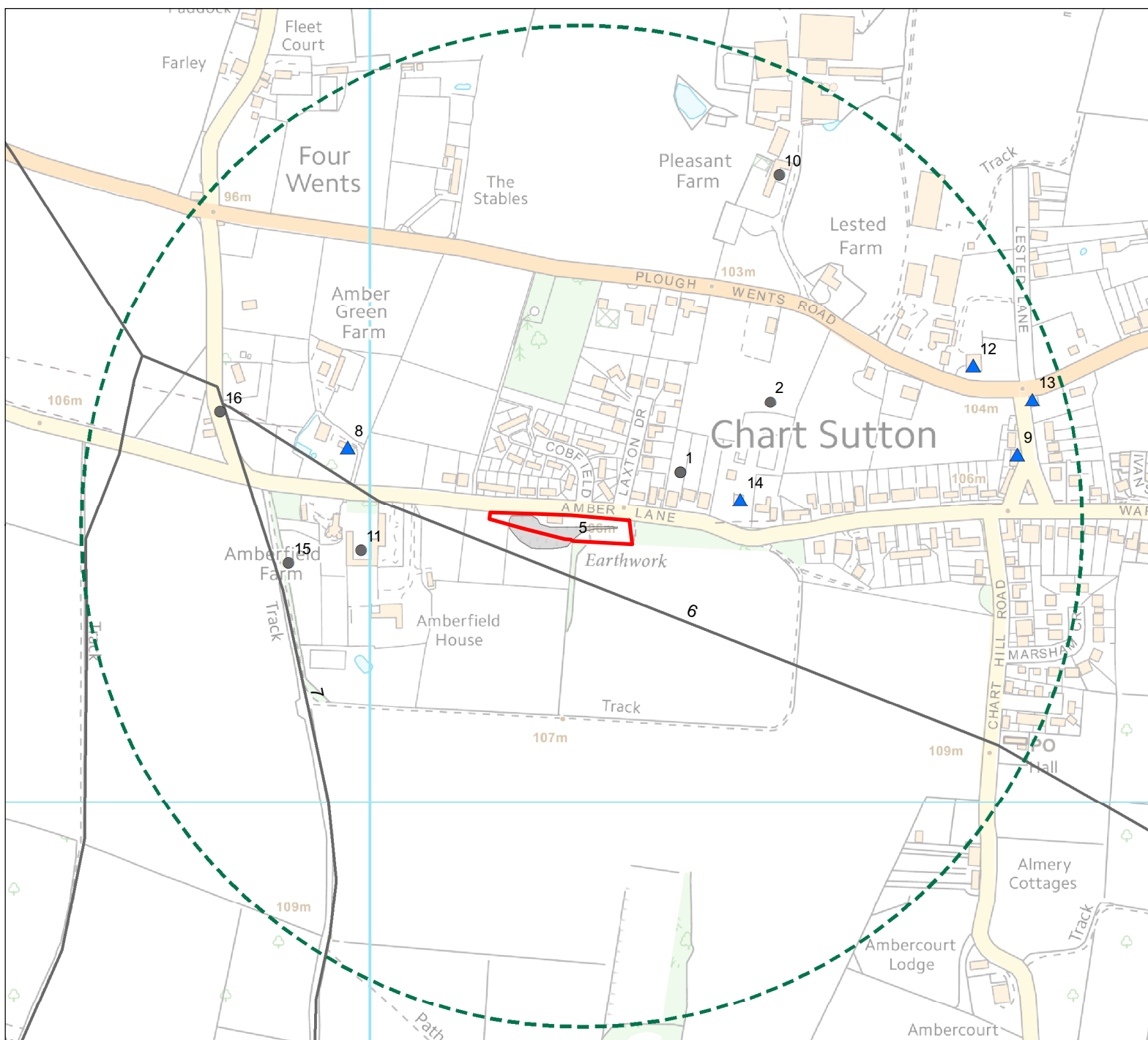
Figure 3: Proposed Development Plan

Project: Amberfield Cottage

Date: Aug 2014 | Job Number: 10566

Drawn by: ABBYAD J - L RIBA





- Legend**
- Monument Point
 - ▲ Listed Building
 - Monument Linear
 - Monument Area
 - Site Boundary
 - ⋯ 500m Study Area

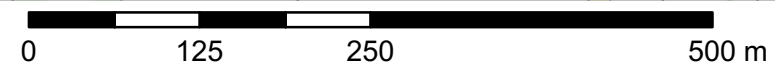
[AB4]: Boughton Quarry Camp

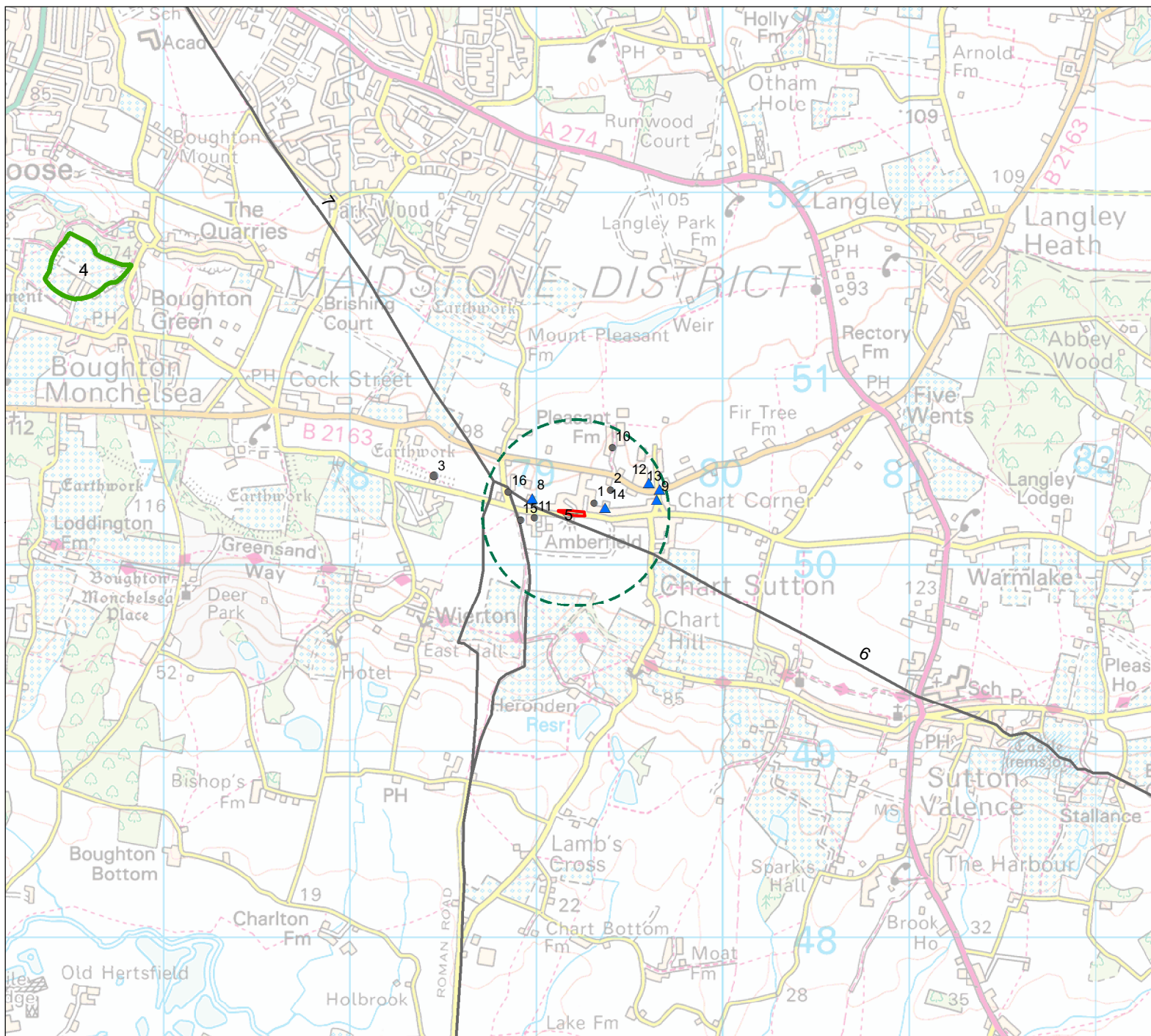
Figure 4: Map of Cultural Heritage Features

Project: Amberfield Cottage

Date: 15/05/15 Job Number: 10566

Drawn by: ZE Approved by: HS





Legend

- Monument Point
- ▲ Listed Building
- Monument Linear
- [AB4]
- Monument Area
- Site Boundary
- 500m Study Area

[AB4]: Boughton Camp Iron Age Oppidum

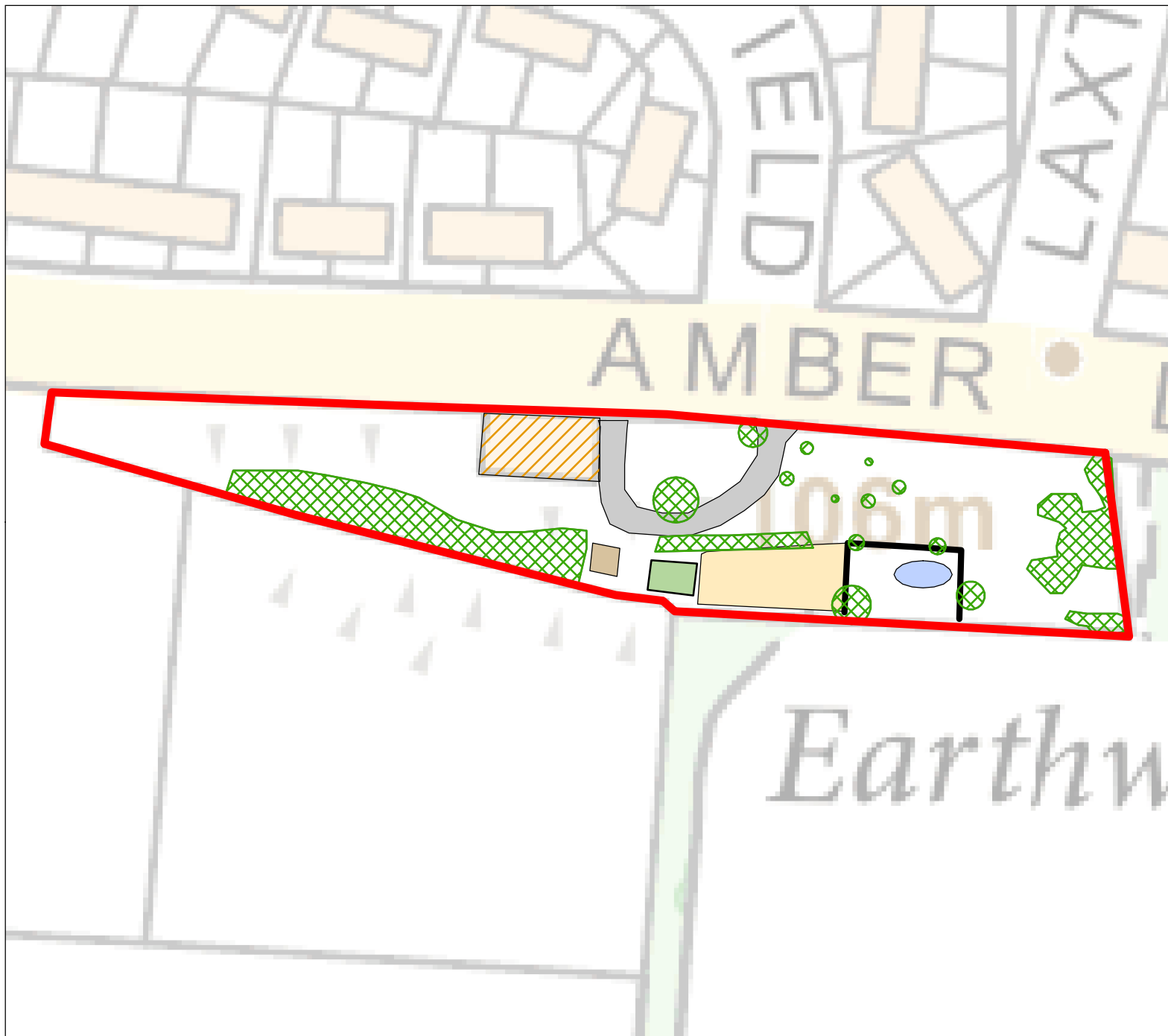
Figure 5: Map of Cultural Heritage Features: Boughton Quarry Camp & Associated Features

Project: Amberfield Cottage

Date: 15/05/15 Job Number: 10566

Drawn by: ZE Approved by: HS





Legend

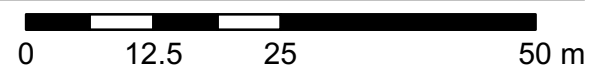
-  Former Coal Bunker
-  Former Toilet Block & Present Garage
-  Greenhouse/Caravan/Storage
-  Former Cottages & Present House
-  Driveway
-  Trees
-  Pond
-  Fence
-  Site Boundary

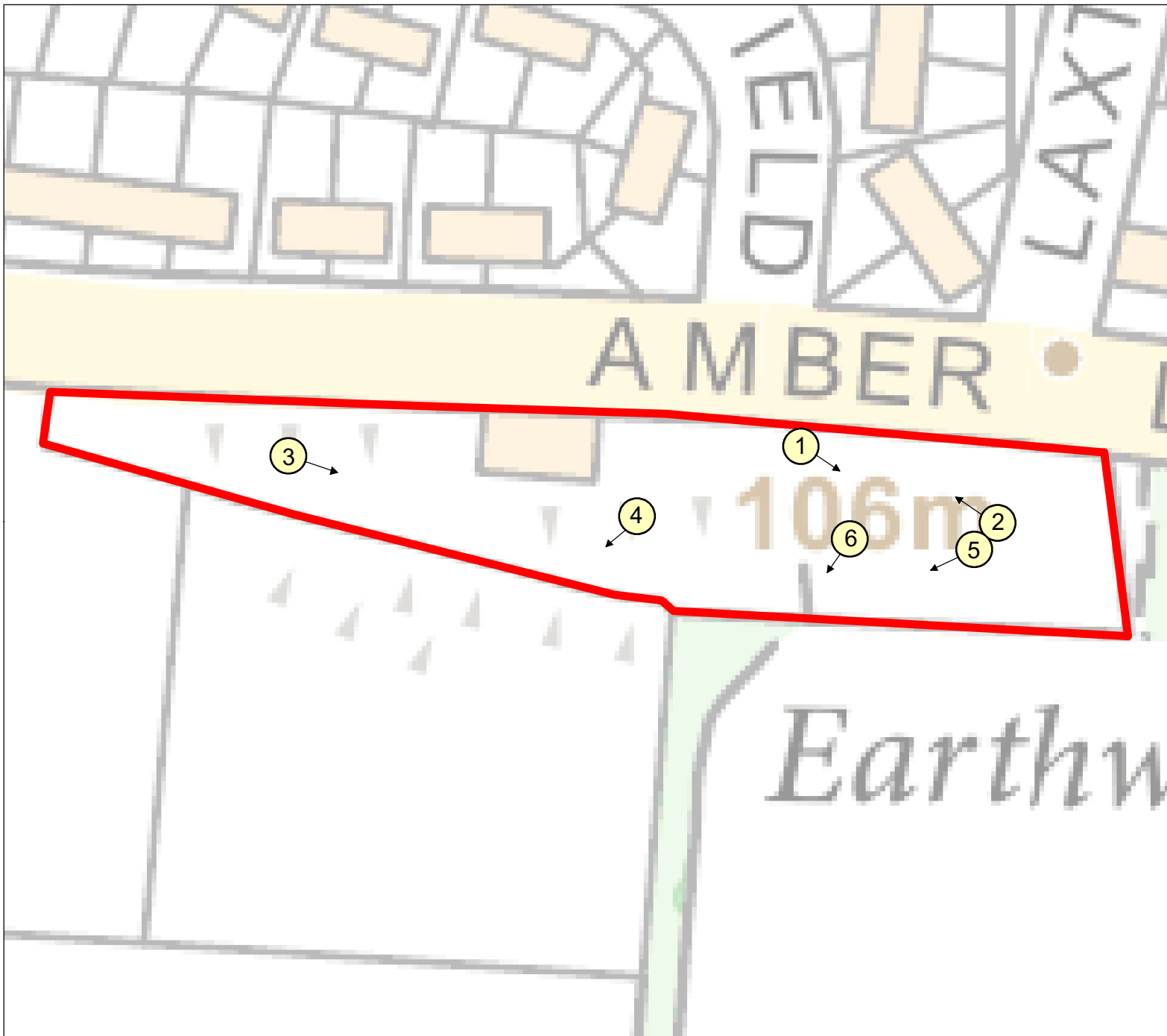
Figure 6: Map of Past Impacts

Project: Amberfield Cottage

Date: 15/05/15 Job Number: 10566

Drawn by: ZE Approved by: HS





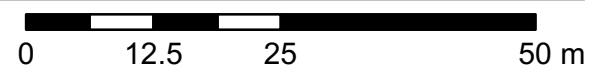
- Legend**
- Site Boundary
 - # Photograph number and orientation

Figure 7: Site Visit and Photograph Orientations and Positions

Project: Amberfield Cottage

Date: 15/05/15 Job Number: 10566

Drawn by: ZE Approved by: HS





AB Heritage Limited
Caerus Suite, 150 Priorswood Road
Taunton, Somerset, TA2 8DU
Tel: 03333 440 206
e-mail: info@abheritage.co.uk