



Archaeological desk-based heritage assessment of land at Fakenham Road, Great Ryburgh Norfolk

April 2017

Report No. 17/33

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OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		OASIS ID: molanort1-365320t1-
Project title	Archaeological desk-based heritage assessment of land at Fakenham Road, Great Ryburgh, Norfolk	
Short description	<p>MOLA conducted an archaeological desk-based heritage assessment of land at Fakenham Road, Great Ryburgh, Norfolk. The earliest archaeological evidence found dates from the Mesolithic period. Neolithic flint tools have been found close to the west and north-west of the site. A possible Bronze Age ring ditch has been identified to the north-east and finds dating to the period have been discovered through metal detecting surveys. Iron Age remains including pits and pottery have been found within the area of proposed development through trial trenching. The site lies between two Roman settlements on the south-western banks of the River Wensum. One lies nearby to the north-west of the site and numerous finds including coins have been discovered during a fieldwalking survey. A further Roman settlement lies to the south-east where two enclosures, two kilns and two burials have recently been excavated. A middle Saxon cemetery, drainage ditches, an enclosure, land divisions and a substantial boundary ditch have also recently been discovered to the south-east of the site. Metal finds dating to the period have also been found to the north-west and to the east of the site during metal detecting surveys. The site lies beyond the historic core of Great Ryburgh. The medieval settlement developed around the junction of Fakenham Road and Bridge Road to the west of the River Wensum, flanked by the medieval moated manor of Ryburgh at the northern end and by St Andrew's Church to the south. Cartographic evidence suggests that the site lay to the rear of properties fronting Fakenham Road during the post-medieval period and had remained as undeveloped farmland.</p>	
Project type	Heritage Assessment	
Previous work	None	
Future work	Unknown	
Monument type and period		
Significant finds		
PROJECT LOCATION		
County	Norfolk	
Site address	Fakenham Road, Great Ryburgh	
Easting and northing	TF 95405 27557	
Area		
Height OD	c37-49m aOD	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Organisation	MOLA	
Project brief originator		
Project Design originator	Bidwells	
Director/ Supervisor	Mary Ellen Crothers	
Project Manager	Mark Holmes	
Sponsor or funding body	Bidwells	
PROJECT DATE		
Start date	02/17	
End date	04/17	
ARCHIVES	Location (Accession no.)	Content (eg pottery, animal bone etc)
Physical		
Paper	MOLA Northampton	Map extracts
Digital	MOLA Northampton	Mapinfo Plans, Word Report
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
Journal/monograph, published or forthcoming, or unpublished client report (MOLA Northampton report)		
Title	Archaeological desk-based heritage assessment of land at Fakenham Road, Great Ryburgh, Norfolk	

GREAT RYBURGH, FAKENHAM ROAD

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Archaeological desk-based heritage assessment of land at Fakenham Road Great Ryburgh, Norfolk April 2017

Abstract

MOLA (Museum of London Archaeology) conducted an archaeological desk-based heritage assessment of land at Fakenham Road, Great Ryburgh, Norfolk.

The earliest archaeological evidence found dates from the Mesolithic period. Neolithic flint tools have been found close to the west and north-west of the site. A possible Bronze Age ring ditch has been identified to the north-east and finds dating to the period have been discovered through metal detecting surveys. Iron Age remains including pits and pottery have been found within the area of proposed development through trial trenching. The site lies between two Roman settlements on the south-western banks of the River Wensum. One lies nearby to the north-west of the site and numerous finds including coins have been discovered during a fieldwalking survey. A further Roman settlement lies to the south-east where two enclosures, two kilns and two burials have recently been excavated.

A middle Saxon cemetery, drainage ditches, an enclosure, land divisions and a substantial boundary ditch have also recently been discovered to the south-east of the site. Metal finds dating to the period have also been found to the north-west and to the east of the site during metal detecting surveys.

The site lies beyond the historic core of Great Ryburgh. The medieval settlement developed around the junction of Fakenham Road and Bridge Road to the west of the River Wensum, flanked by the medieval moated manor of Ryburgh at the northern end and by St Andrew's Church to the south.

Cartographic evidence suggests that the site lay to the rear of properties fronting Fakenham Road during the post-medieval period and had remained as undeveloped farmland.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

MOLA (Museum of London Archaeology) was commissioned by Bidwells to conduct an archaeological desk-based heritage assessment of land at Fakenham Road, Great Ryburgh, Norfolk. (NGR:TF 595405 327557; Fig 1).

The present report has considered the evidence of Norfolk Archives, Norfolk Historic Environment Record (HER) and that of relevant published and archived documentary and cartographic sources. Internet sources consulted included the Archaeology Data Service (ads.ahds.ac.uk) to check the National Monuments Record information.

The aim of the assessment was to collate information about the known or potential archaeological resource within the development area (including its presence or absence, character and extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and relative quality). The work has been undertaken in accordance with the Chartered Institute

for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment* (ClfA 2014). Historic England guidance documents concerning the setting of heritage assets were also consulted (HE 2015).

1.2 Policy background

National policy

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) provides national guidance on the preservation, management and investigation of the parts of the historic environment that are historically, archaeologically, architecturally or artistically significant and are known as heritage assets. The NPPF replaced PPS5 in March 2012, which in turn replaced Planning Policy Guidance Notes 15 and 16 (PPG 15 and 16) in March 2010.

The framework covers those heritage assets that possess a level of interest sufficient to justify designation as well as those that are not designated but which are of heritage interest and are thus a material planning consideration. Where nationally important archaeological remains are affected by development then there should be a presumption in favour for their conservation.

Paragraph 128 states that *Local Planning Authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the asset's importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance.*

Paragraph 129 states that *Local planning authorities should identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset that may be affected by a proposal (including by development affecting the setting of a heritage asset) taking account of the available evidence and any necessary expertise.*

Local Policy – North Norfolk Core Strategy

Policy EN 8 - Protecting and Enhancing the Historic Environment

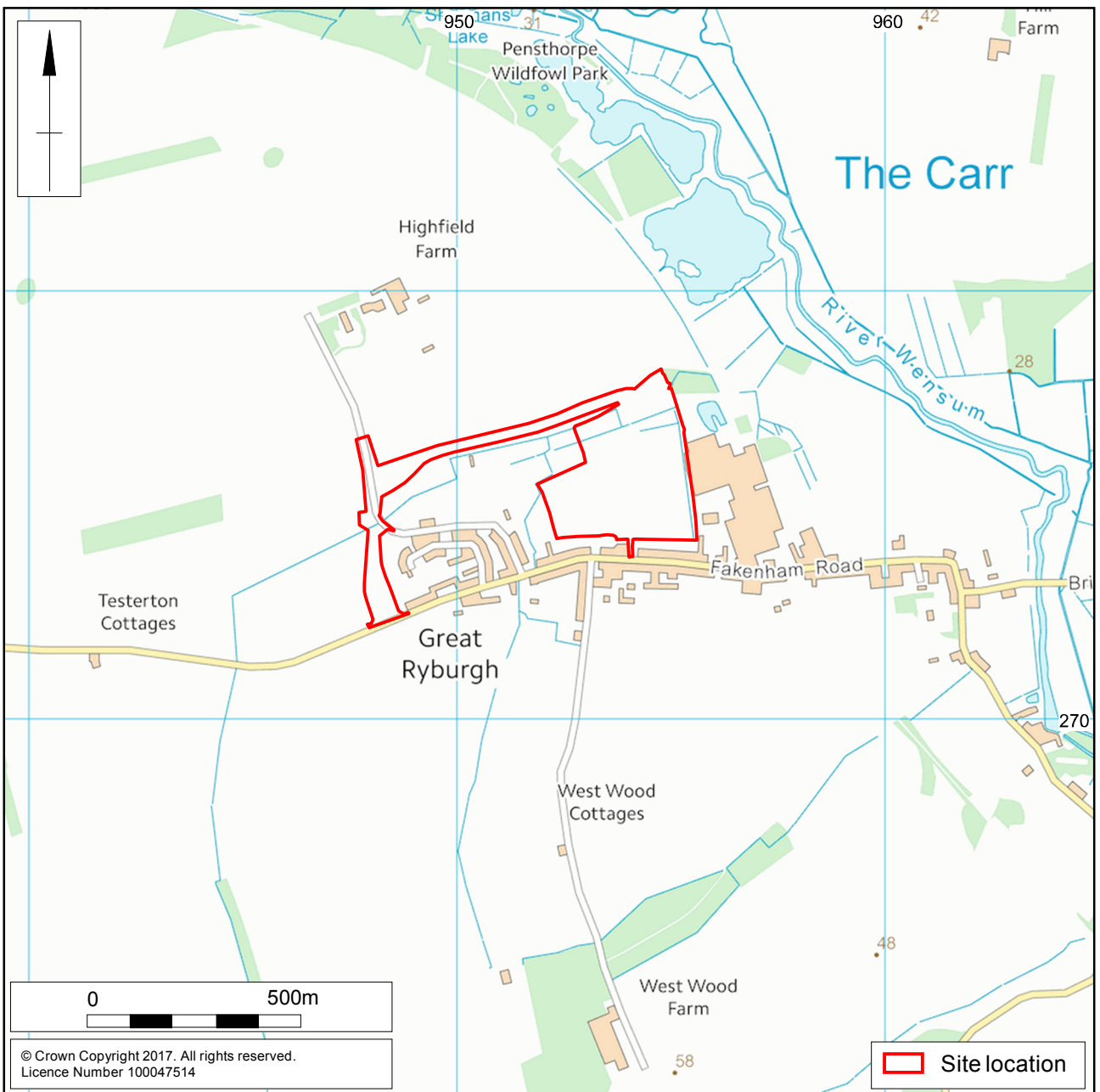
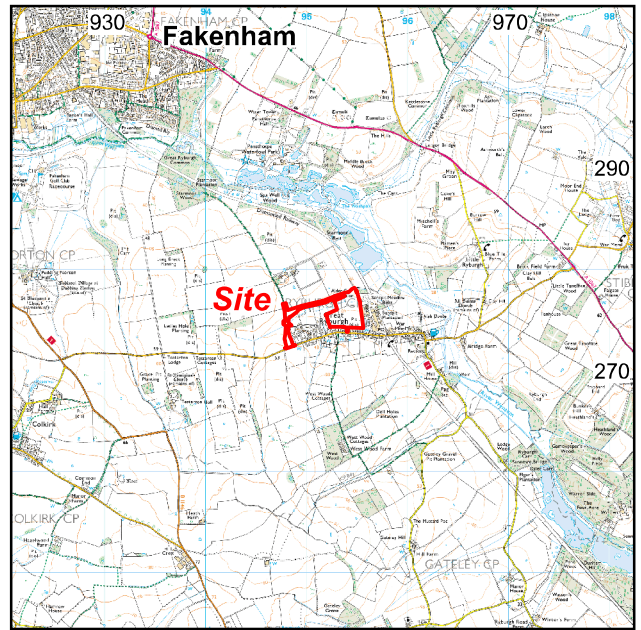
Development proposals, including alterations and extensions, should preserve or enhance the character and appearance of designated assets, other important historic buildings, structures, monuments and landscapes and their settings through high quality, sensitive design. Development that would have an adverse impact on their special historic or architectural interest will not be permitted.

The re-use of Listed Buildings and buildings identified on a Local List will be encouraged and the optimum viable use that is compatible with the fabric, interior and setting of the building will be permitted. Evidence supporting this should be submitted with proposals. New uses which result in harm to their fabric, character, appearance or setting will not be permitted.

Demolition of Listed Buildings and those identified on a Local List will only be permitted in exceptional circumstances where it can be demonstrated that all reasonable efforts had been made to sustain existing uses or find viable new uses.

Proposals involving the demolition of non-listed buildings will be assessed against the contribution to the architectural or historic interest of the area made by that building. Buildings which make a positive contribution to the character or appearance of an area should be retained. Where a building makes little contribution to the area, consent for demolition will be given provided that, in appropriate cases, there are acceptable and detailed plans for any redevelopment or after-use.

Where required, development proposals affecting sites of known archaeological interest will include an assessment of their implications and ensure that provision is made for the preservation of important archaeological remains. The character and appearance of Conservation Areas will be preserved, and where possible enhanced, and, in consultation with all relevant stakeholders, area appraisals and management plans will be prepared and used to assist this aim and to encourage the highest quality building design, townscape creation and landscaping in keeping with the defined areas.



Scale 1:15,000

Site location Fig 1

1.3 Location, topography and geology

The proposed development site lies on the north side of Great Ryburgh, Norfolk (Fig 1). The site is bounded to the east by Crisp Maltings, to the south by properties fronting onto Fakenham Road and to the west and north by open fields.

The site comprises pasture land subdivided by deciduous hedges and semi-mature trees. The land descends to the north towards a stream flowing west to east and then rises towards the northern boundary of the site.

The superficial geology comprises diamicton of Lowestoft Formation which overlies Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation, Seaford Chalk Formation, Newhaven Chalk Formation and Culver Chalk Formation (BGS geindex – bgs.ac.uk). The site lies between c37m aOD at the stream in the northern fields and 49m aOD at the proposed junction with Fakenham Road at the west end of the village.



View from south-east corner of northern field, looking west Fig 2



View south-east corner of northern field and silos, looking north Fig 3



View from centre of northern field, looking north-west Fig 4



View from north-east corner of northern field, looking south-west Fig 5



View from north-west corner of northern field, looking east Fig 6



View from north-west corner of south-west field, looking south-east Fig 7



View from south-west corner of central field, looking north-east Fig 8



View from northern boundary of bowling green, looking south Fig 9



View down Common Lane, looking south Fig 10



View of proposed route of access road from Fakenham Road, looking north Fig 11



View of proposed access road from Highfield Lane, looking east Fig 12

1.4 Sources consulted

The Norfolk Historic Environment Record (NHER) was consulted for documented sites and monuments within the proposed development area and a nominal 1km radius surrounding it (Fig 13). Visits to Norfolk Record Office and the Heritage Centre were undertaken in order to check historic maps of the area, as well as any other pertinent documents and local history books.

Books held within MOLA's library and further online sources (nationalarchives.gov.uk and archaeologydataservice.ac.uk) were also consulted in order to check for further information.

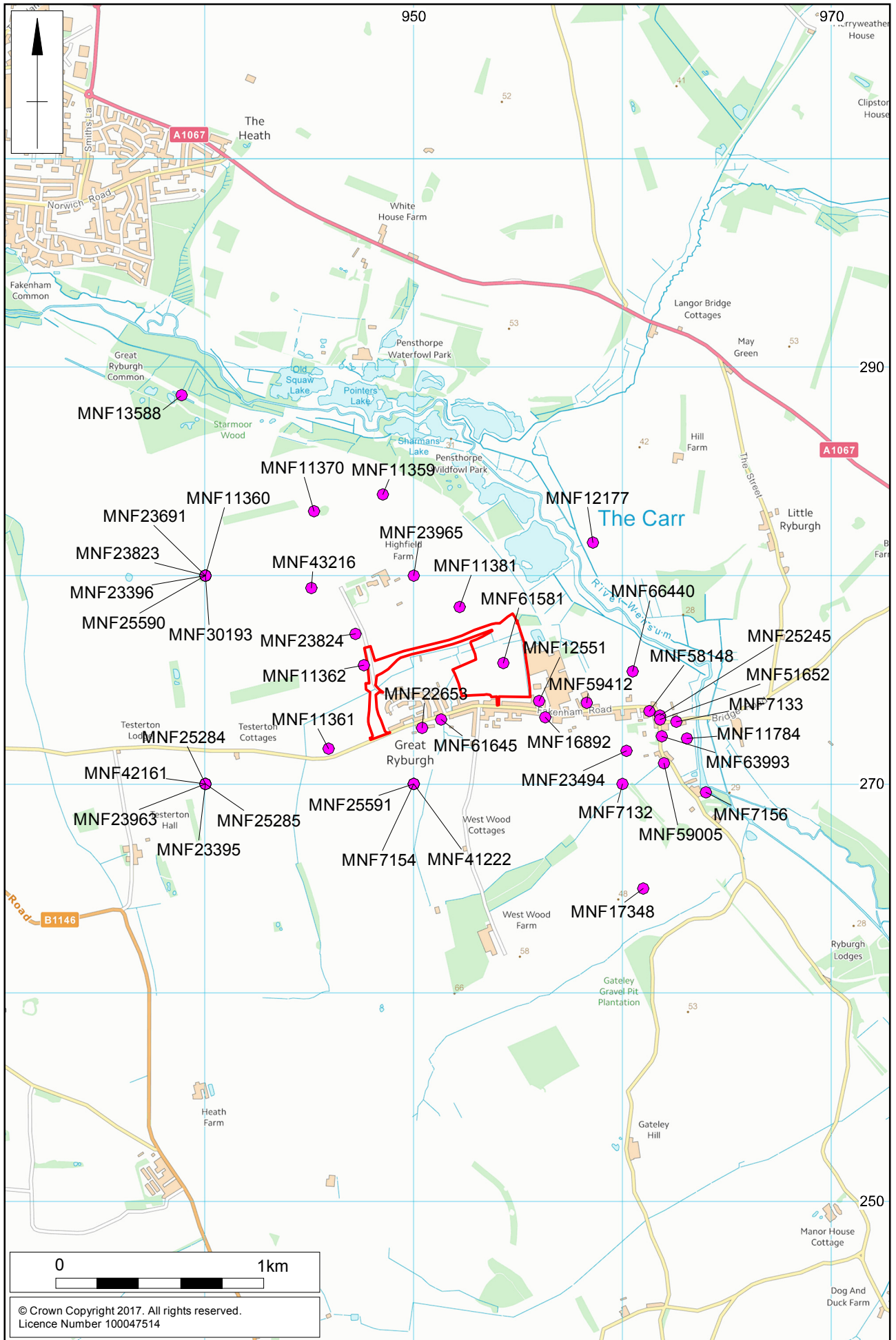
2 HERITAGE ASSET ASSESSMENT

There are no Scheduled Monuments, Registered Battlefields, Registered Parks and Gardens within the site or within the 1km search radius around the site. Three Grade II Listed Buildings and one Grade II* Listed Building lie within the historic core of Great Ryburgh. The Church of St Andrew lies to the south-east of the site and is a Grade II* Listed Building, elements of which may date to the Saxon period. Number 21, Fakenham Road lies close to the south-east corner of the site and dates to the 17th century. Numbers 25, 27 and 29 Station Road date to the 16th century and the 18th-century Boar Inn adjacent lie further to the south-east of the site within the historic core of Great Ryburgh.

Table 1: Historic Environment Record (HER) data

HER ref	Description	Location	
MNF7133	Undated animal and human remains	596260	327300
MNF7154	Multi-period finds	595000	327000
MNF7156	Site of post-medieval watermill	596400	326960
MNF11359	Neolithic axehead	594850	328390
MNF11360	Possible Roman buildings and multi-period finds	594000	328000
MNF11361	Neolithic axehead	594590	327170
MNF11362	Neolithic axehead	594760	327570
MNF11370	Prehistoric and Roman finds	594520	328310
MNF11381	Prehistoric flint scrapers	595220	327850
MNF11784	Possible medieval moated site	596310	327220
MNF12177	Possible Bronze Age ring ditch	595860	328160
MNF12551	Post-medieval maltings	595600	327400
MNF13588	Route of Wymondham to Wells Light Railway, including the Mid Norfolk and Walsingham Light Railways	601335	322115
MNF17348	Undated enclosure	596100	326500
MNF22653	Silver coin, medieval, 107 Fakenham Road	595040	327270
MNF23395	Roman copper alloy coin	594000	327000
MNF23396	Multi-period finds	594000	328000
MNF23494	Undated enclosure	596020	327160
MNF23691	Medieval coin	594000	328000
MNF23823	Six Roman coins	594000	328000
MNF23824	Two fragments of medieval pottery	594720	327720
MNF23963	Two medieval coins	594000	327000
MNF23965	Medieval coin	595000	328000
MNF25284	Medieval coin	594000	327000
MNF25285	Post-medieval lead cloth seal	594000	327000
MNF25590	Early Saxon brooch	594000	328000
MNF25591	Multi-period finds	595000	327000
MNF30193	Two medieval coins	594000	328000
MNF41222	Post-medieval copper alloy candlestick	595000	327000
MNF42161	Medieval copper alloy rim fragment	594000	327000

MNF43216	Neolithic arrowhead		594508	327940
MNF58148	All Saint's School, Station Road, 1872		596130	327350
MNF59005	Medieval/post-medieval jetton and key		596200	327100
MNF59412	Site of the Farmer's Foundry (St Andrew's Works), 1870		595830	327390
MNF61581	Prehistoric deposits and medieval fields		595430	327580
MNF61645	Medieval carved limestone reused in building		595130	327310
MNF63993	Gas house, 19th century		596190	327230
MNF66440	Site of Ryburgh Hall and medieval earthworks		596050	327540
MNF7132	St Andrew's Church, Great Ryburgh	Gr II*	596000	327000
MNF16892	21 Fakenham Road, 17th century	Gr II	595630	327320
MNF25245	25, 27 and 29 Station Road, 16th century	Gr II	596180	327330
MNF51652	The Boar Inn, mid to late 18th century	Gr II	596180	327310



Scale 1:25,000

HER (Historic Environment Record) data Fig 13

2.1 Previous archaeological work

An archaeological trial trench evaluation took place on part of the proposed development site in 2010, which provided limited evidence for prehistoric activity in the form of three pits containing probable Iron Age pottery (MNF55301; Hickling 2010). Recent excavations at Mill Lodge Farm revealed evidence of Roman occupation in the form of kilns and an unusual Saxon cemetery with oak tree trunk coffins.

A watching brief took place in advance of the construction of a new tennis court at the Manor House, near the site of Ryburgh Hall, where an east-west earthwork bank was identified (Emery 2001).

Numerous metal detecting and fieldwalking surveys have taken place in Great Ryburgh, particularly on land between the site and the River Wensum to the north. Surveys have also been carried out on the site of Ryburgh Hall (MNF66440).

2.2 Summary and significance of heritage assets

Palaeolithic

Remains dating to the Palaeolithic period are not known from the area around the site.

Mesolithic

Flints dating to the Mesolithic period were found during fieldwalking and metal detecting on the site of Ryburgh Hall near to the east of the site (MNF7154).

Neolithic

Part of a Neolithic polished stone axehead (MNF11359) was found to the north of the site and to the south of the River Wensum in 1976. Half an arrowhead (MNF43216) was found close to the north-west of the site at Highfield Farm. A further chipped axehead (MNF11361) was found close to the south-west of the site on Fakenham Road and another (MNF11362) has been found on the western boundary of the site. Flints dating to the late Neolithic period have been found during a fieldwalking and metal detecting survey on the site of Ryburgh Hall near to the east of the site (MNF7154).

The Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) hold records for a Neolithic scraper (NMS-BC69A0) found in 'Ryburgh' although the exact location is unknown.

Bronze Age

A possible Bronze Age ring ditch (MNF12177) has been identified to the north-east of the site on the north-east side of the River Wensum through aerial photography. A middle Bronze Age copper alloy spearhead (MNF23396) has been found to the north-west of the site through metal detecting in 1992. There are also records of prehistoric flint scrapers found close to the north of the site in 1974 (MNF11381) and a little further to the north-west (MNF11370). A struck flint was found on the site during trial trenching which is prehistoric but not closely datable (Hickling 2010). A sword hilt fragment was also found during metal detecting to the north-west of the site and flints dating to the period were found during a fieldwalking and metal detecting survey at the site of Ryburgh Hall near to the east of the site (MNF7154).

Iron Age

Three pits were found on the site through trial trenching, which are likely to be prehistoric in date. The pottery sherds found in the pits are probably Iron Age but too abraded to date accurately. Possible prehistoric burnt flint and struck flint, within a prehistoric pit were found together with hearth waste (MNF61581; Hickling 2010).

An Iron Age or Roman bronze pole tip or mount (MNF11360) was found through metal detecting to the north-west of the site. A silver Iron Age coin (MNF30861) dating to between 800 BC to 42 AD has also been found through metal detecting but the exact location is unknown.

Roman

A small group of buildings dating to the Roman period (MNF11360) has been identified to the north-west of the site through aerial photography. A large quantity of Roman objects, including coins, brooches, furniture box knobs, a bronze bowl, a bronze statuette, a bronze figurine, a spatula, pottery fragments and bricks were found during a fieldwalking exercise in the same area. Roman pottery and part of a quernstone (MNF11370) were found on the surface of a ploughed field near to the settlement (CBA 1976). A single copper alloy Roman coin (MNF23395) was discovered through metal detecting close to the west of the site and a further coin (MNF25591) was found very close to the north-west of the site. A further six coins (MNF23823) were found to the north-west of the proposed development around the River Wensum, between the road and the railway. Roman pottery and a copper alloy armlet were also found during a fieldwalking and metal detecting survey on the site of Ryburgh Hall near to the east of the site (MNF7154).

A Roman settlement lies to the south-east of the site at Mill Lodge Farm, adjacent to the River Wensum. Two enclosures were excavated; the first was formed by both internal and external enclosure ditches and the second was a rectangular enclosure at the south-west of the excavation area. Two pottery kilns were also recorded, both of which contained stone kiln supports and a large number of pottery sherds. Two burials were also excavated, which may date to the period (Fairclough and Holmes 2016)

The Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) holds records for a copper alloy Headstud Roman brooch (NMS-52DB1F) and a copper alloy Continental Plate brooch (NMS-5290F8) found in the Ryburgh area, although the exact location is unknown.

Saxon

St Andrew's Church (MNF7132) lies to the south-east of the site and is a Grade II* Listed Building. Although the majority of the building dates to the medieval period and has undergone successive alterations, the carstone used in the base of the tower suggests that it has Saxon origins.

A number of middle Saxon features were discovered during recent excavations at Mill Lodge Farm to the south-east of the proposed development site, the most significant of which was a cemetery located in the north-east corner of the excavation area. Linear features were found throughout the site and are thought to be drainage ditches and land divisions dating from between the middle Saxon through to the medieval period. The most substantial of these appears to have been a middle Saxon boundary ditch, which contained large quantities of pottery sherds, butchered animal bone and preserved wood, comprising unworked timber and wooden stakes. An enclosure was also discovered which was made up of a single ditch containing Saxon pottery with possible entranceway and four postholes within the base of the feature (Fairclough and Holmes 2016).

The middle Saxon cemetery found at Mill Lodge Farm was formed of eighty-nine burials, two of which were found to be earlier Roman skeletons. The vast majority of the skeletons had been buried within coffins made from oak tree trunks, which is highly unusual. The burials were not accompanied by grave goods and were laid out in a defined pattern. A rectangular cemetery building was also discovered which was respected by the burials, apart from one which truncated the north-west corner. The southern and western extents of the cemetery were clearly evident although the position of the northern boundary was not established (Fairclough and Holmes 2016).

Part of an early Saxon brooch (MNF25590) was found during metal detecting to the north-west of the site in 1989 and a second early Saxon brooch (MNF25591) was found close to the site, although the exact location is unknown. Middle and late Saxon pottery, a mid-late Saxon strap end (MNF7154) and a late Saxon coin (MNF48666) were found during a fieldwalking and metal detecting survey on the site of Ryburgh Hall to the east of the proposed development and to the north-west of the cemetery site.

Medieval

The Domesday Book of 1086 records Great Ryburgh as having one villager, 15 smallholders and four slaves. It had land for 4 ½ ploughs, six acres of meadow, woodland for forty pigs and a mill. At the time of the Norman Conquest, two cobs, forty pigs and seven sheep are listed in Great Ryburgh but at the time of the survey, this had increased to include nine cattle and sixty sheep. The village passed from Earl Gyrrh at the Conquest to Ralph Faeto at the time of the survey and was kept by Peter of Valognes (opendomesday.org).

The site of Ryburgh Hall (MNF66440) lies to the east of the proposed development and is the site of the medieval moated manor of Ryburgh. It fell out of use after the Dissolution of the monasteries and a new house was built to the north, which was demolished in around 1870 and parts of the original moats and fishponds survive as earthworks. An east-west aligned earthwork bank capped with a thin layer of mortar fragments was discovered during an archaeological watching brief in advance of the construction of a new tennis court (Emery 2001).

A large quantity of medieval finds were discovered during a fieldwalking and metal detecting survey on the site of Ryburgh Hall and include pottery, coins, a pilgrim ampulla, harness pendants, mounts and stud, buckles, a key, glazed floor tiles, brick fragments and a knife-handle terminal (MNF7154).

An archaeological evaluation within the proposed development site identified two land use types during the medieval period, demonstrated by a ditch which divided the southern arable land from the wetter meadowland on the northern side. Two abraded sherds of unglazed medieval pottery were also found (Hickling 2010).

Several coins dating to the medieval period have been found in the village, including a voided long cross silver penny of Henry III (MNF22653) which was found in Fakenham Road opposite the site. A coin of Edward I (MNF23691) and two further coins (MNF30193) have been found through metal detecting to the north-west of the site and two long cross halfpennies of Henry III (MNF23963) and a shortcross penny of John or Henry III (MNF25284) have been discovered to the south-west of Highfield farm, also to the north-west of the site. A further coin was found to the north of the site adjacent to the railway (MNF23965). The rim of a medieval vessel (MNF42161) was also found to the west of the site and medieval pottery (MNF23824) was found during fieldwalking immediately to the north-west of the site. A medieval or post-medieval jetton and key (MNF53950) were recovered from the footings of a building to the south-east of the site near the

church. Two carved limestone blocks (MNF61645) dating to the medieval period have been reused in a domestic building to the west of Highfield Lane.

The Historic Environment Record (HER) holds records for a possible medieval moated site (MNF11784) to the south-east of the proposed development, due to quantities of Saxon and medieval pottery found on the surface. However, it later proved to be a middle Saxon cemetery site.

The Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) hold records for a medieval spindle whorl (NMS-6811C6), buckles (NMS-636EFC, NMS-54433C, NMS-541C4A), harness fittings (NMS-62FF60, NMS), strap ends (NMS-62D9BA, NMS-551A23), strap fittings (NMS-557515, NMS-53FBD7, NMS118), a copper alloy annular framed brooch (NMS-554E42) and a coin (NMS24) found in the Ryburgh area, although the exact location is unknown.

Post-medieval

A post-medieval maltings (MNF12551), now used by the Crisp Malting Group, lies adjacent to the south-east corner of the site. The earliest date from which malting took place on the maltings site is not known but White's Directory of 1836 is the first record of the business. The current buildings date from 1896 and were used as a barracks during the First World War. An incendiary attack destroyed No. 5 malthouse and the floors of No. 4. Malthouse and No. 19 Malthouse also suffered severe bomb damage. After World War Two, the buildings were repaired and the equipment was modernised (Manning 1977). Two sherds of post-medieval glazed red earthenware dating to between the 16th and 18th centuries were found during trial trenching on the proposed development site in 2010 (Hickling 2010).

The route of the Wymondham to Wells Railway and the Mid Norfolk and Walsingham Light Railways (MNF13588) passes the site to the east and north. The Dereham to Wells line was opened by the Norfolk Railway in 1849, and the Dereham to Wymondham line for freight in 1846 and passengers in 1847. The Dereham to Wells line closed in 1964 and the Dereham to Wymondham closed in 1969.

All Saint's School in Station Road (MNF58148) to the east of the site was constructed in 1872, originally comprising only two rooms in the plain Board School Style. It was extended in 1903 and again in the 1960s.

A 19th-century gas house (MNF63993) was constructed to the south-east of the site, although it is not illustrated on the First Edition Ordnance Survey maps of 1885. A watermill (MNF7156) stood to the south-east of the site on the River Wensum. It is shown on Faden's map of 1797 (Fig 15) and as Ryburgh Mill on Bryant's map of 1826 (Fig 17).

The Farmer's Foundry (MNF59412) was established by Isaac Everitt in 1870 but took on that name later in 1890. It was owned by local businessmen and by farmers and specialised in the manufacture of agricultural machinery. However, the firm also made ice skates, the blades of which were supplied from Sheffield and Germany. The foundry was almost completely demolished by 1976.

Post-medieval pottery sherds, brick fragments, coins, a coin weight, dress accessories and a mount were found during fieldwalking and metal detecting at the site of Ryburgh Hall (MNF7154). A lead cloth seal (MNF25285) was also found through metal detecting close to the west of the site, to the south of Highfield Farm and a post-medieval candlestick (MNF41222) was found in Great Ryburgh although the exact location is unknown.

Post-medieval drainage ditches (MNF23494) lie close to the south-east of the site and were found in connection with an undated enclosure (Cushion 1997).

Three post-medieval Grade II Listed Buildings lie in Great Ryburgh and include 21 Fakenham Road (MNF16892) which dates to the 17th century and was built as a group of four houses which now comprises two dwellings. Numbers 25, 27, and 29 Station Road (MNF25245) comprise a late-16th century row of timber framed cottages but may have been built as a guildhall and divided into tenements in 1656. A disused oven inside number 27 was found to contain a 19th century coin hoard and a post office occupied part of the building during the 20th century (Rose 1993, Heywood 2010). The Boar Inn (MNF51652) lies immediately to the south of 25-19 Station Road and dates to the mid to late 18th century.

The Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) holds records for a post-medieval cloth seal (NMS-67C0B9), a knife (NMS-664562), part of a musket (NMS-65CA2E), a bell (NMS-658F91), a rowel spur (NMS-65774C), a sword belt (NMS-648638), a finger ring (NMS-63C777), two possible curtain rings (NMS-63A3A6), a group of nine weights (NMS-678918) and a further group of twelve weights (NMS-66A8AD) that were found in Ryburgh, although the exact location is unknown.

Undated

Human remains and animal bones (MNF7133) were discovered to the south-east of the site near the church. Although the remains are undated, they may relate to the churchyard. However, the northern extent of the Saxon cemetery at Mill Lodge Farm has not been established and may extend northwards, which may date the remains to the Saxon period.

An undated enclosure (MNF23494) lies close to the south-east of the site and has been identified through aerial photography. A second undated enclosure (MNF17348) lies to the far south-east of the site and the cropmarks show part of a double ditched enclosure with an outer ditch forming a 90 degree square corner.

2.3 Cartographic evidence

Saxton's map of Norfolk, 1602 (Fig 14)

The earliest available cartographic evidence shows *Riburgh Magna* as a village to the south and west of the *Winsder Flux* or Wensum River in Brothercros hundred. Roads are not illustrated on the map but other topographical features such as rivers and hills are exaggerated. Little *Riburgh* is illustrated as a marginally smaller settlement to the north-east on the northern banks of the river.

Faden's Map of Norfolk, 1797 (Fig 15)

Faden's map is the first available map to show roads, tracks and buildings, although many may be representative rather than accurate. The map suggests that Great Ryburgh was split into two, with one area around the church and the bridge over the River Wensum to the east and smallholdings along Fakenham Road to the west. Some roads and tracks illustrated on the map are no longer in use today and include the southern end of Highfield Lane at the junction with Fakenham Road which has since moved to the east. Common Lane today (Fig 10) forms the western boundary of the maltings and is shown as a wide road leading northwards from The Crown Inn towards a drainage ditch across the marshy floodplain to the edge of the River Wensum. Common Lane is bisected by a track which is also no longer in use today, leading north-eastwards from a T-junction with Highfield Lane, then turning south-east to meet Station Road and the historic core of Great Ryburgh. The route of the proposed HGV access road follows the course of the western part of this lane. The church (MNF7132) can be seen to the south-east of the site at the crossroads and a watermill is illustrated close by to the south. The single building illustrated to the north-west of the site adjacent to Highfield Lane may be Highfield Farm or an earlier farmstead. Highfield Farm is known to have stood to the east of the lane but the building is shown here to the west and a building is not shown in this location on any of the subsequent maps.

The site itself is depicted on the side of a knoll which descends towards the stream to the north. Three houses are illustrated on the north side of Fakenham Road which lie adjacent to the southern boundary of the site.

Great Ryburgh as allotted in 1810 (Fig 16)

This is the first available detailed map of Great Ryburgh and depicts the layout of the fields on the site which is recognisable today. By 1810, the two parts of the village had become one extended settlement through the construction of properties between the medieval village at the eastern end and the farmsteads to the west. The southern end of Highfield Lane had been rerouted and the junction with Fakenham Road had moved to the east. The lane that lay at the northern boundary of the site on Faden's map (Fig 15) is not illustrated here and the eastern side of the lane to the east of Common Lane had fallen out of use by this time. The land at the northern boundary of the site where the proposed access road will be located was under the ownership of Edmond Wodehouse. The western part of the access road was owned by the Reverend Charles Mordaunt, who also owned the land around the parsonage. John Francis owned the land occupied by the western field but the ownership of the remainder of the site is unclear. The earthworks at the site of Ryburgh Hall (MNF6640) are illustrated to the east of the site and 25, 27 and 29 Station Road (MNF25245) are also visible near the church (MNF7132).

Bryant's Map of Norfolk, 1826 (Fig 17)

Bryant's map is more simplified than Faden's map (Fig 15) or the 1810 map (Fig 16) and it does not suggest that the village had significantly expanded in the intervening years. Common Lane at the eastern boundary of the site is illustrated here as a short track that led out into the fields and the roads that lead southwards from Fakenham Road are not illustrated here. Ryburgh Mill (MSF7156) can be seen to the south-east of the village and the land around the rectory is clearly marked on the map but that is most likely due to patronage to cartographer. The site is marked on the map as lying within open ground.

Plan of the parish of Great Ryburgh (undated but post-1846) (Fig 18)

Although this map is undated, it depicts the route of the Wymondham Light Railway (MNF13588) which was opened in sections in the late 1840s, before it was built. The majority of the site (plots 37-39) was owned by John Green and the western field (plot 40) appears to have remained in the Francis family. The western part of the HGV access road was still under the ownership of the church but had passed to the Reverend Clayton and the northern part was part of Highfield Farm to the north-west of the site. The gardens at the rectory are illustrated in great detail and the moat at the site of Ryburgh Hall (MNF66440) is also clearly depicted here. The track to the east of Common Lane on Faden's map of 1797 (Fig 15) is shown here as being in use.

First Edition Ordnance Survey Map, 1886 (Fig 19)

The First Edition Ordnance Survey map shows that the route of the new railway through the village had been constructed almost as planned. A station had been constructed to the east of the line on the north side of Fakenham Road to the west of the railway line and Farmer's Foundry (MNF59412) had been built to the east. Another significant change was the new maltings (MNF12551) adjacent to the railway on the west side. The site of Ryburgh Hall (MNF66440) and associated moat are marked to the east of the site and many of the houses in the village had expanded to include outbuildings and extensions, whereas some had been demolished. Highfield Farm had increased in size considerably to include new buildings to the west. Within the site, additional field boundaries had been created at the north-west corner and along the northern edge. Alder Carr Plantation can also be seen adjacent to the north-east corner of the site and a new farm had been constructed to the south-west of the village with an access road leading south from Fakenham Road, adjacent to the proposed junction for lorry access to the site.

Plan of glebe land, Great Ryburgh, 20th century (Fig 20)

This map shows that the site did not fall within the glebe lands of the parish but does not provide a great deal of information. One of the field boundaries had been adjusted to allow access from the road to Highfield Farm to the northern part of the site. Very few domestic buildings are illustrated here and the maltings is labelled as 'Smith's Maltings'.

Second Edition Ordnance Survey First Edition map, 1906 (Fig 21)

By 1906, very few changes had taken place in Great Ryburgh but the maltings had expanded considerably to include a new L-shaped building at the south-west corner, outbuildings to the west and a terrace of four houses to the north-west. The site is shown as open farmland and the trees which had previously occupied the field boundaries are not illustrated here, so may have been felled.

Ordnance Survey map, 1956 (Fig 22)

This map shows that after the Second World War, new properties had begun to be built on the west side of the village adjacent to the east side of the proposed access road and the field in which they lie had been subdivided into four new plots. Two more are illustrated at the south-west corner of the site and six are shown to the south of Ryburgh Hall and Fakenham Road. A track which had previously led north-westwards from Alder Carr Plantation adjacent to the railway had fallen out of use by this time.



Saxton's Map of Norfolk, 1602 Fig 14



Faden's map of Norfolk, 1797 Fig 15



Great Ryburgh as allotted in 1810 Fig 16



Bryant's map of Norfolk, 1826 Fig 17



Plan of the parish of Great Ryburgh (undated) Fig 18



First Edition Ordnance Survey map, 1885 Fig 19



Plan of glebe land, Great Ryburgh, 20th century Fig 20



Second Edition Ordnance Survey map, 1906 Fig 21



Third Edition Ordnance Survey map, 1956 Fig 22

3 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

3.1 The proposed development

The proposed development is for expansion to the existing Crisp maltings site to include a 60,000sqft single storey warehouse a new 24-space lorry park, 3.57ha of commercial space, a 20 -space staff car park, eight new silos, 0.15ha of attenuation space at the northern boundary and 2.15ha residential development including access to it from Fakenham Road with the loss of number 62. There is also a planned HGV access road from the western end of Great Ryburgh although there are two options for the location of the eastern end. Option 1 is at the eastern boundary of the site and Option 2 is to the centre of the northern boundary of the warehouse and HGV park. It is planned to retain existing landscaping around the periphery of the site and strategic planting to mitigate views will be added along the southern boundary adjacent to property numbers 70 to 90 (even) fronting onto Fakenham Road.

3.2 Significance

Paragraph 132 of the National Planning Policy Framework recognises that those heritage assets with the highest level of significance comprise Scheduled Monuments, Registered Battlefields, Grade I and II* Listed Buildings, Grade I and II* Registered Parks and Gardens and World Heritage Sites. In paragraph 139 it states that non-designated heritage assets that are demonstrably of equivalent significance to scheduled monuments be considered subject to the same policies.

3.3 Archaeological potential

The potential for Palaeolithic remains to be found at the site is not known due to the lack of evidence found locally.

The potential for Mesolithic remains to be found at the site is low. Finds dating to the period were not discovered during the evaluation on the site in 2010 although they have been found during fieldwalking and metal detecting on the site of Ryburgh Hall.

The potential for Neolithic remains to be found at the site is likely to be high. Although no finds dating to the period were found during previous trial trenching at the site, two flint axeheads have been found either on or close to the western boundary of the site and two more have been found to the north-west and to the north. Further flints have been found during metal detecting and fieldwalking on the site of Ryburgh Hall to the east.

The potential for remains dating to the Bronze Age to be found on the site is high. Probable Bronze Age flint was found on the site during previous trial trenching and a spearhead and a sword hilt have been found to the north-west. Flints have also been found at the site of Ryburgh Hall to the east and a probable ring ditch lies to the north-east on the northern banks of the River Wensum.

The potential for remains dating to the Iron Age is high. Pits and pottery were found during an evaluation on the site and a mount was found to the north-west.

The potential for remains dating to the Roman period is not known but likely to be moderate, although Roman remains were not seen during the recent evaluation of the site. A Roman settlement lies to the north-west of the site near Highfield Farm and a large quantity of artefacts are known from the area. Several coins have also been found to the west and north-west of the site. A second settlement lies to the south-east at Mill Lodge Farm and includes two enclosures, two kilns and two burials. Roman brooches are also known from Great Ryburgh, although the exact location is unknown.

The potential for Saxon remains is not known but likely to be low. A Saxon cemetery was recently excavated at Mill Lodge Farm but the southern and western boundaries were clearly defined. This would imply that further burials relating to this cemetery would not be found to the west and south. However, a brooch has been found to the north-west of the site during metal detecting and a second brooch was found on the site of Ryburgh Hall. St Andrew's Church probably has Saxon origins and any settlement relating to the period is likely to be found to the south-east of the site near to the church.

The potential for remains dating to the medieval period is moderate, although the medieval village of Great Ryburgh lies to the south-east of the site and is focused around St Andrew's church and the site of Ryburgh Hall. Pottery from the period has been found on the site during trial trenching and several coins have been found around Great Ryburgh, some of which were discovered close to the southern and western boundaries of the site.

The potential for remains dating to the post-medieval period is high. The drainage ditches that lie east-west in the northern part of the site probably date from the period. Post-medieval finds have been discovered at the site of Ryburgh Hall to the east and close to the west

Cartographic evidence suggests that the site lay in open farmland on the north side of Great Ryburgh. The southern part lies above the floodplain of the River Wensum to the north-east but the northern part may have been subject to seasonal flooding.

Table 2: Criteria for assessing the relative importance of cultural heritage sites

Level of sensitivity	Definition
Very high - high	Sites of international importance: World Heritage Sites Sites of national importance include those that are designated as Scheduled Ancient Monuments or those that are considered to be suitable for scheduling, Grade I and Grade II* Listed Buildings, Registered Battlefields, Grade I and II* Registered Historic Gardens
Medium	Sites of regional importance include Grade II Listed Buildings, Grade II Registered Historic Gardens, Conservation Areas and those sites which are considered to be significant regional examples with well-preserved evidence of occupation, industry etc.
Low	Sites which are of less-defined extent, nature and date or which are in a poor or fragmentary state, but which are considered to be significant examples in a local context
Negligible	Areas in which investigative techniques have produced negative or minimal evidence of antiquity, or where large-scale destruction of the archaeological resource has taken place (e.g by mineral extraction)

The level of archaeological sensitivity can only be assessed against the known or likely presence of archaeological remains on or around the site.

The level of sensitivity for the Palaeolithic period is considered to be unknown as remains dating to the period have not been found locally.

The level of sensitivity for remains dating to the Mesolithic period is low, although flints dating to the period have been found to the east at Ryburgh Hall.

The level of sensitivity of remains dating to the Neolithic period is low, due to the nature of evidence found locally.

The level of sensitivity of remains dating to the Bronze Age is medium. A spearhead and sword have been found to the north-west of the site and a possible ring ditch lies to the north-east.

The level of sensitivity for the Iron Age is low. Fragmentary remains dating to the period have been found on the site through trial trenching which are considered no more than significant in a local context.

The level of sensitivity for the Roman period is also considered to be medium, owing to the quality of remains found nearby to the north-west. Buildings have been identified through aerial photography and a quantity of objects have been discovered through fieldwalking and metal detecting. Further remains including kilns and burials have been found to the south-east.

The level of sensitivity for the Saxon period is high owing to the recent discovery of a middle Saxon cemetery to the south-east of the site. However, it is not thought that these funerary remains would extend towards the site or would be present on the site.

The level of sensitivity for the medieval period would be low to medium, owing to the proximity of the medieval moated manor of Ryburgh Hall to the east of the site.

The level of sensitivity for the post-medieval period is low. Cartographic evidence suggests that the site lay within open farmland at this time.

4 CONCLUSIONS

No part of the site falls within, or lies adjacent to, a nationally designated site. The current assessment has demonstrated that the earliest archaeological evidence found in the vicinity dates from the Mesolithic period. Neolithic axeheads and an arrowhead have been found close to the west and north-west of the site. A possible Bronze Age ring ditch has been identified to the north-east through aerial photography and finds dating to the period have been discovered through metal detecting surveys. Iron Age remains including pits and pottery have been found within the area of proposed development through trial trenching. The site lies between two Roman settlements on the southern banks of the River Wensum. It is thought that a Roman settlement lies nearby to the north-west of the site and numerous finds including coins have been discovered during a fieldwalking survey. A further Roman settlement lies to the south-east at Mill Lodge farm, where two enclosures, two kilns and two burials have recently been excavated.

A middle Saxon cemetery of 89 skeletons and oak tree trunk coffins, drainage ditches, an enclosure, land divisions and a substantial boundary ditch have also recently been discovered to the south-east of the site. However, it is not thought that funerary remains dating to the period will be found within the proposed development area. Metal finds dating to the period have also been found to the north-west and to the east of the site during metal detecting surveys.

The site lies beyond the historic core of Great Ryburgh. The medieval settlement developed around the junction of Fakenham Road and Bridge Road to the west of the River Wensum, flanked by the medieval moated manor of Ryburgh at the northern end and by St Andrew's Church to the south. Two sherds of medieval pottery have been found on the site but this is likely to have derived from a manuring scatter.

Cartographic evidence suggests that the site lay to the rear of properties fronting Fakenham Road during the post-medieval period and had remained as undeveloped farmland.

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