

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AT
8 PARK LANE, EASTBOURNE, EAST SUSSEX.**

N. G. R. TQ 59430 01730

Project Number 09 / 13

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ABSTRACT.

An archaeological field evaluation of land proposed for development at 8 Park Lane, Eastbourne was undertaken by C. G. Archaeology.

The excavation of three c.1.3m. – wide trenches with a total length of c.28m. revealed a linear ditch / gulley, three possible pits and two interlinked cuts of uncertain character.

Only a small number of artefacts were gleaned from the fieldwork. These include a single sherd of early Romano-British pottery (second half of 1st century AD) found at the base of the exposed linear ditch / gulley. Six humanly – struck flints of Late Mesolithic / Early Neolithic origin (believed to be residual) were also identified.

The precise size, form and function of the observed archaeological features could not be ascertained within the limited confines of the trenches. Indeed, appalling weather and accompanying flooding provided less than ideal conditions for the intrusive investigation of the discoveries. Nevertheless, it would appear that the intended development at the site will impact upon archaeological remains of local significance / interest.

1.0. INTRODUCTION.

1.1. Eastbourne Borough Council has granted planning permission for the erection of a detached two – storey dwelling and garage with access from Weatherby Close, on land within the curtilage of 8 Park Lane, Eastbourne, East Sussex (N. G. R. TQ 59430 01730) (figures 1 and 2).

1.2. However, the proposed development site lies on the westernmost edge of a designated Archaeologically Sensitive Area (ASA) rich in features and artefacts of prehistoric, Roman-British, Anglo-Saxon and medieval origin (see Section 3.0.). On the advice of Casper Johnson the East Sussex County Council Archaeologist, the following condition was thus attached to the planning approval (Eastbourne Borough Council Planning Application Number: EB/2008/0416 and Appeal Reference Number: APP/T1410/A/08/2083068/WF).

‘No development shall take place within the site until the applicants, or their agents or successors in title, have secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation and a timetable thereof, which has been submitted by the applicants to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The work shall be carried out in accordance with the approved programme’.

1.3. In response to the planning condition outlined above, C. G. Archaeology was commissioned by Mr. John Crane the current landowner, to carry – out the archaeological evaluation of the site described within this document.

1.4. The archaeological methodology employed during the evaluation was based upon a targeted Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by Christopher Greatorex of C. G. Archaeology (Greatestorex 2009) and approved by Greg Chuter the East Sussex County Council Assistant Archaeologist.

- 1.5. The archaeological fieldwork was undertaken by Christopher Greateorex and Mike Seager Thomas of C. G. Archaeology on the 26th and 27th November 2009. The historic cartographic evidence presented in Section 4.0. was collated by David Dunkin.

2.0. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND.

- 2.1. The proposed development site comprises a quadrangular – shaped plot of land / back garden located at the rear of 8 Park Lane, Eastbourne (figures 1, 2 and 14). The area of intrusive excavation was essentially flat / level and predominantly laid to lawn.
- 2.2. The 1: 50,000 British Geological Survey (Sheet 334: Eastbourne) records the ‘natural’ geology at the site as Head.

3.0. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND.

3.1. The Historical Environment Record.

3.1.1. An inspection of the East Sussex County Historical Environment Record has produced 15 entries of archaeological significance within a c.1km. radius of 8 Park Lane, Eastbourne. These are listed in numerical order and described briefly below.

3.1.2. SMR No: MES529
Grid Ref: TQ 58 01
Date: Lower Palaeolithic

A Lower Palaeolithic handaxe found at Ratton. No further details.

3.1.3. SMR No: MES533
Grid Ref: TQ 5879 0153
Date: Medieval - modern

A timber – framed, two – storey gatehouse to the medieval manor of Ratton (manor house long - since vanished: area now a 20th century housing estate). This gatehouse dates from the 15th century, but has been converted into a modern private dwelling. A Grade II Listed Building.

3.1.4. SMR No: MES538
Grid Ref: TQ 599 016
Date: Anglo-Saxon

A small Anglo-Saxon cinerary urn discovered (1920s?) in the garden of ‘Holly Grange’, near the south-west entrance of Hampden Park (Budgen 1925). This urn was found to contain ‘small bones’ and possessed an unusual rounded base. Other vessels were also apparently found at the time. No further details.

3.1.5. SMR No: MES539
Grid Ref: TQ 599 163
Date: Bronze Age (?)

The site of a possible Bronze Age barrow recorded at 'Holly Grange' in 1930 (given the discoveries noted in Section 3.1.4. this feature may in fact have been of Anglo-Saxon origin). No further details.

3.1.6. SMR No: MES542
Grid Ref: TQ 5945 0183
Date: Neolithic

Two partly polished greensand axes of Neolithic origin found at 290 Kings Drive (Musson 1953).

3.1.7. SMR No: MES768
Grid Ref: TQ 59 02
Date: Medieval

Medieval pottery found at 272 Willingdon Road (Stevens, L. 1980).

3.1.8. SMR No: MES770
Grid Ref: TQ 5952 0070
Date: Medieval and Post – medieval

The site of two windmills excavated in 1970 (Stevens, L. 1982). The earlier 13th century post mill was recognised by the presence of a cruciform trench cut into the 'natural' chalk bedrock. The surviving remains of an 18th century horizontal mill comprised a 15.85m. – diameter chalk block foundation enclosing evidence of a burnt floor.

3.1.9. SMR No: MES4524
Grid Ref: TQ 5894 0245
Date: Medieval to Post – medieval

The parish church of St. Mary the Virgin. The tower located at the west end of the aisle has no internal communication with the church and has been dated to the late 12th – early 13th century. The chancel, nave and aisle are all of 14th century date. A Grade II Listed Building.

3.1.10. SMR No: MES5059
Grid Ref: TQ 5889 0240
Date: Modern

‘The Hoo’ at 1- 11 Church Street. A house designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens in 1902; now converted into 11 flats. The structure comprises a central portion of three storeys and projecting wings of two storeys. A Grade I Listed Building.

3.1.11. SMR No: MES5079
Grid Ref: TQ 5890 0240
Date: Modern

Early 20th century formal garden terraces at ‘The Hoo’, 1 – 11 Church Street. Designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens and planted by Gertrude Jekyll.

3.1.12. SMR No: MES5094
Grid Ref: TQ 588 024
Date: Post – medieval to modern

‘The Barn’, Church Street. An 18th century barn altered by Sir Edwin Lutyens in 1902 and converted into two dwellings. The structure is of three storeys, faced with knapped flints with red brick or stone quoins and has a tiled roof. A Grade II Listed Building.

3.1.13. SMR No: MES6907
Grid Ref: TQ 5968 0185
Date: Prehistoric and medieval

A significant assemblage of prehistoric flintwork and pottery retrieved from the garden of 9 Decoy Drive (1980s). A large collection of 12th – 14th century pottery, oven tiles and bone fragments indicative of medieval settlement activity was also recovered.

3.1.14. SMR No: MES7211
Grid Ref: TQ 5970 0170
Date: Medieval

Four ditches and one post-hole discovered during an archaeological evaluation undertaken at the former Clifton Nursery and 252 Kings Drive (Stevens, S. 2004). Two of the ditches were found to contain 12th – 14th century pottery.

3.1.15. SMR No: MES7288
Grid Ref: TQ 60110 00980
Date: Romano-British

‘Word – of – mouth’ sources suggest that a Romano-British building with flint walls was destroyed during the construction of Eastbourne District General Hospital. However, no archaeological recording was undertaken.

3.1.16. SMR No: MES7984
Grid Ref: TQ 59470 01210
Date: Modern

A domestic site associated with the Beachy Head ROTOR station (1950 – 1960). One building still extant (Butler 2007).

- 3.2. In addition to the Historical Environment Record entries listed above, a single north-east to south-west aligned ditch of possible Bronze Age date was discovered during a recent archaeological watching brief undertaken at Sussex Downs College, Cross Levels Way (N. G. R. TQ 56006 10132). This feature “may form a continuation to the previously identified field systems at Pococks Field to the south” (Hunnisett and Sulikowska 2008) (also see Section 3.3.). The presence of ‘The Old Manor House’ just c.90m. to the south – west of the proposed development site at N. G. R. TQ 5951 0167 should also be noted. This Grade II Listed Building is believed to date from the late 17th century.
- 3.3. Important sites / find – spots located just outside the current 1km. - radius study area include a late 7th century Anglo-Saxon cemetery on Ocklynge Hill (N. G. R. TQ 5950 0072) (eg. Stevens, P. 1980) and a probable Romano-British settlement and saltworking site recorded during the construction of Cross Levels Way (N. G. R. TQ 60309 00768). A Mesolithic transept axe, Roman coins (Horsfield 1824) and a Venetian coin of early 16th century origin (Rudling 1989) have also been found ‘at Willingdon’. Furthermore, relatively recent archaeological investigations undertaken at Pococks Field (N. G. R. TQ 6025 0050) have revealed evidence for Bronze Age pits and enclosure boundary ditches, clear signs of significant Late Iron Age and Romano-British activity and a later medieval agricultural complex (eg. Milward 2008).

4.0. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND.

4.1. Cartographic evidence.

4.1.1. The following historic maps have been examined at the East Sussex Record Office, Lewes.

- Map of the lands of Sir William Thomas of Ratton in Willingdon (E. S. R. O. ref: ACC 5786.31) 1760 (Figure 3)
- An eye – draught of Ratton Estate c.1775 (Figure 4)
- Tithe map and Apportionment for the parish of Willingdon (E. S. R. O. ref: TD/E 056) c.1840 (Figure 5)
- 25” Ordnance Survey (Sheet 80 / 1) 1873 (Figure 6)
- 6” Ordnance Survey (Sheet 80 NW) 1899 (Figure 7)
- 25” Ordnance Survey (Sheet 80 / 1) 1899 (Figure 8)
- 25” Ordnance Survey (Sheet 80 / 1) 1910 (Figure 9)
- 6” Ordnance Survey (Sheet 80 NW) 1911 (Figure 10)
- 25” Ordnance Survey (Sheet 80 / 1) 1925 (Figure 11)
- 6” Ordnance Survey (Sheet 80 NW) 1930 (Figure 12)
- 25” Ordnance Survey (Sheet 80 / 1) 1937 (Figure 13)

4.1.2. The two earliest maps examined at the East Sussex Record Office (figures 3 and 4) both locate the area of proposed development within a paddock / field that during the later 18th century comprised part of Ratton Estate. The tithe map and Apportionment of c.1840 (Figure 5) record this land (plot number 236) as ‘pasture’ owned by Mary Ann Gilbert and occupied by Robert Boys. It should be noted that the ‘Georgian style’ manor house of Ratton Estate was destroyed by fire in 1891 (Vine 1978).

4.1.3. The Ordnance Surveys of 1873 (Figure 6) and 1899 (figures 7 and 8) confirm that in the later 19th century the area of proposed development was still located within a relatively small, essentially triangular – shaped field

bordered to the north / east by woodland then known as ‘The Coppice’. However, the years between 1899 and 1910 (Figure 9) saw the construction of Kings Drive (the road that today acts as the northernmost boundary of 8 Park Lane) and the building which now forms part of the house at 10 (and perhaps 12) Park Lane. The ‘new’ Ratton manor house and grounds, built to the north-west of the former ‘Georgian style’ structure (see Section 4.1.2.) and completed in 1901 (Vine 1978) can be seen on the Ordnance Survey of 1911 (Figure 10).

4.1.4. The clear difference between the 1910 and 1925 (Figure 11) Ordnance Survey sheets reflects the rapid urbanisation of this region of Eastbourne during the early years of the 20th century. Nevertheless, the area of proposed development remains as ‘open’ land until the map of 1930 (Figure 12) for the first time records the presence of 8 Park Lane. Both the 1930 and 1937 (Figure 13) Ordnance Surveys show the area of proposed development as described in Section 2.1. of this document (i.e. a back garden devoid of structural or obvious topographical features).

4.1.5. Strangely, the Victorian Ratton manor house suffered the same fate as its predecessor and was completely destroyed by fire in 1940 (Vine 1978).

5.0. PROJECT OBJECTIVES.

5.1. The approved Written Scheme of Investigation for the project (see Section 1.4.) defined the primary objectives of the archaeological evaluation as follows.

- Establish the presence / absence of archaeologically significant deposits, cut features and structures across the area of proposed development.
- Ensure that archaeological deposits, cut features and structures discovered during the fieldwork are excavated, sampled and recorded to an acceptable standard.
- Determine the extent, character, condition and date of revealed archaeologically significant deposits, cut features and structures.
- Ensure that all significant discoveries of artefactual and / or ecofactual evidence made during the fieldwork are recorded and analysed to an acceptable standard.
- Establish the palaeoenvironmental potential of located archaeologically significant deposits and cut features.
- Provide information on which to base future decisions concerning the treatment of any archaeologically significant deposits, cut features and structures found within the proposed development site.

6.0. FIELDWORK METHODOLOGY.

- 6.1. Two c.10m. – long and 1.3m. – wide trenches and one c.8m. - long and 1.3m. – wide trench were dug across the area of proposed development in the positions shown on Figure 14. These cuttings were located to avoid a number of garden trees. The trenching as shown encompasses an area of c.36.4m. and thus comprises a c.6% sample of the application site.
- 6.2. The trenches were dug under constant archaeological direction using a tracked mechanical digger fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. In this way spits of topsoil and subsoil were removed from the cuttings until the six archaeologically significant features described in sections 7.1. and 7.2. or undisturbed ‘natural’ geology had been exposed (whichever was uppermost).
- 6.3. The archaeologically significant features revealed within the trenches were first cleaned by hand as best as practicably possible. Four of the features were then subject to intrusive manual excavation (figures 15 and 16). It should be noted that torrential rain encountered during the fieldwork and the accompanying flooding of the trenches prevented any further examination of the identified features. Representative section drawings of the investigated cuts were drawn at a scale of 1: 20. Each archaeological context was also documented on an individual Context Record Sheet.
- 6.4. The archaeologically significant features discovered during the project were planned at a scale of 1: 50 and levelled with respect to Ordnance Datum. The location of the trenches was plotted on a 1: 100 scale site plan.
- 6.5. Each of the trenches was backfilled with the spoil derived from the excavation and compacted as best as possible by machine.
- 6.6. A 35mm. black – and – white film and digital photographic record of the fieldwork was maintained as appropriate.

- 6.7. The small assemblage of archaeological finds recovered from the fieldwork is described in sections 7.1. and 7.2. and retained within the Project Archive (see Section 9.0.).

7.0. FIELDWORK RESULTS.

7.1. Trench A.

- 7.1.1. A layer of loose, very dark grey silty clay topsoil (**Layer 1**) with a thickness of between c.0.20m. and 0.30m. was first stripped from Trench A. This procedure exposed a c.0.35m. - thick deposit of compact, mid orange – brown and grey – brown silty clay subsoil (**Layer 2**).
- 7.1.2. The subsequent excavation of Context 2 revealed the immediately underlying ‘natural’ chalk Head (**Layer 3**) (see Section 2.2.) which had itself been cut by two interlinked features of archaeological significance (**Cut 4 / Fill 5 and Cut 6 / Fill 7**) (figures 14 and 15).
- 7.1.3. As observed within the trench, Cut 4 possessed a maximum ‘width’ of c.1.5m. and a depth of c.0.32m. (exact ‘widths’ of individual but interlinked features 4 / 5 and 6 / 7 difficult to ascertain). Its single extant fill of compact, mid grey silty clay (**Fill 5**) contained numerous garden snail shells (*Helix aspersa*) and two fragments of jaw bone from a mature pig.
- 7.1.4. Cut 6 was clearly of somewhat earlier origin than Cut 4 (Figure 15). This feature had a maximum possible ‘width’ of c.3.10m. (see ‘proviso’ in Section 7.1.3.) and a depth of c.0.40m. No artefacts or ecofacts of any description were recovered from its single surviving fill of compact, mid orange - brown silty clay (**Fill 7**).
- 7.1.5. The true size and character of the two interlinked features described above (**Cut 4 / Fill 5 and Cut 6 / Fill 7**) could not be ascertained within the limited confines of the excavation. It should be noted that no obvious ‘continuation’ of these features was found in Trench B (see Section 7.2.).
- 7.1.6. No dateable artefacts were recovered from the investigation of either Cut 4 / Fill 5 or Cut 6 / Fill 7. However, it is believed that the type of garden snail

(*Helix aspersa*) identified within Fill 5 (see Section 7.1.3.) was not introduced into this country until perhaps the 1st Century AD (Evans 1972).

7.2. Trench B.

- 7.2.1. A c.0.30m. – 0.40m. – thick deposit of topsoil (**Layer 1**) and an underlying layer of subsoil (**Layer 2**) with an average thickness of c.0.40m. were first stripped from Trench B.
- 7.2.2. The ‘natural’ chalk Head (**Layer 3**) exposed as a result of this procedure had been cut by a linear ditch / gulley (**Cut 8 / Fill 9**) and three possible pits (**Cut 11 / Fill 12**, **Cut 13 / Fill 14** and **Cut 15 / Fill 10**) of archaeological significance (figures 14 and 16).
- 7.2.3. Cut 8 comprised a linear ditch / gulley that ran across the entire length of the trench in an approximate south – east to north-west direction. This seemingly steep – sided and relatively flat – based feature had clearly impacted upon Cut 11 / Fill 12, Cut 13 / Fill 14 and Cut 15 / Fill 10 (Figure 16). It possessed an average recorded width of c.0.70m. and a maximum depth of c.0.35m. The single observed fill of compact, mid brown - grey silty clay (**Fill 9**) yielded three pieces of fire – cracked flint weighing 10.3g., four humanly – struck flints of probable Late Mesolithic or Early Neolithic origin and one small sherd of pottery dated to the second half of the 1st century AD (i.e. the early Romano-British period). The pot sherd (found at the base of the cut) was characterised by its soft, grog – tempered fabric, burnished finish and pedestal.
- 7.2.4. Cut 11 had a maximum extant width / diameter of c.1.60m. and a recorded depth of c.0.18m. Despite being impacted upon by Cut 8 (see Section 7.2.3.) this possible rounded pit was shown to possess gently - sloping sides and a flattish base (Figure 16). The excavation of its only surviving fill of compact, mid grey – brown silty clay with occasional chalk inclusions (5mm. – 10mm.) (**Fill 12**) yielded two small humanly – struck flints of probable Late Mesolithic origin.

7.2.5. Cut 13 comprised an unexcavated, somewhat amorphous feature located towards the southernmost end of the trench. This possible pit had been impacted upon by Cut 8 (see Section 7.2.3.) and possessed a maximum extant width / diameter of c.0.85m. No archaeological artefacts were recovered from the surface of the exposed mid grey – brown silty clay fill (**Fill 14**).

7.2.6. Cut 15 was located in the north-east corner of the trench. Although not subject to excavation, this possible rounded pit of uncertain size had clearly been impacted upon by Cut 8 (see Section 7.2.3.). No artefacts of archaeological significance were retrieved from the feature's uppermost compact, mid grey – brown silty clay fill (**Fill 10**).

7.3. Trench C.

7.3.1. A layer of topsoil (**Layer 1**) ranging in thickness from c.0.20m. – 0.30m. and an underlying c.0.45m. – 0.70m. – thick deposit of subsoil (**Layer 2**) were removed from Trench C.

7.3.2. The chalk Head (**Layer 3**) revealed as a result of this exercise was characterised by the presence of 'natural' striations filled with compact but friable, orange - brown probable loess. However, no archaeologically significant deposits, cut features, structures, artefacts or ecofacts were discovered across this area of the proposed development site.

Table 1: Context Register.

CONTEXT NUMBER.	SUMMARY DESCRIPTION / VISIBLE PHYSICAL RELATIONSHIPS.	ASSOCIATED ARTEFACTS / ECOFACTS.
1.	Silty clay topsoil. Above 2.	
2.	Silty clay subsoil. Below 1. Above 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15.	
3.	Chalk Head. Below 2. Cut by 4, 6, 8, 11, 13, 15.	
4.	Cut of feature of uncertain character. Below 2. Filled by 5. Cuts 3, 6, 7.	
5.	Fill of feature of uncertain character. Below 2. Fill of 4.	Pig jaw bone. Garden snail shells (<i>Helix aspersa</i>).
6.	Cut of feature of uncertain character. Below 2. Filled by 7. Cuts 3. Cut by 4.	
7.	Fill of feature of uncertain character. Below 2. Fill of 6. Cut by 4.	

8.	<p>Cut of linear ditch / gulley.</p> <p>Below 2.</p> <p>Filled by 9.</p> <p>Cuts 3, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15.</p>	
9.	<p>Fill of linear ditch / gulley.</p> <p>Below 2.</p> <p>Fill of 8.</p>	<p>Fire-cracked flint.</p> <p>Humanly-struck flint (Late Mesolithic / Early Neolithic).</p> <p>One sherd of pottery (second half of 1st century AD).</p>
10.	<p>Fill of possible pit.</p> <p>Below 2.</p> <p>Fill of 15.</p> <p>Cut by 8.</p>	
11.	<p>Cut of possible pit.</p> <p>Below 2.</p> <p>Filled by 12.</p> <p>Cuts 3.</p> <p>Cut by 8.</p>	
12.	<p>Fill of possible pit.</p> <p>Below 2.</p> <p>Fill of 11.</p> <p>Cut by 8.</p>	<p>Humanly-struck flint (Late Mesolithic).</p>
13.	<p>Cut of possible pit.</p> <p>Below 2.</p> <p>Filled by 14.</p> <p>Cuts 3.</p> <p>Cut by 8.</p>	
14.	<p>Fill of possible pit</p> <p>Below 2.</p> <p>Fill of 13.</p> <p>Cut by 8.</p>	

15.	Cut of possible pit. Below 2. Filled by 10. Cuts 3. Cut by 8.	
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8.0. CONCLUSIONS.

- 8.1. A linear ditch / gulley (**Cut 8 / Fill 9**) three possible pits (**Cut 11 / Fill 12, Cut 13 / Fill 14 and Cut 15 / Fill 10**) and two interlinked cuts of uncertain character (**Cut 4 / Fill 5 and Cut 6 / Fill 7**) were recorded as a result of the field evaluation undertaken at 8 Park Lane, Eastbourne. Unfortunately, the precise size, form and function of these features could not be determined within the limited confines of the trenches. Nonetheless, their location below a c.0.35m. – 0.40m. – thick layer of subsoil (**Layer 2**) does denote a certain level of antiquity. No contexts of palaeoenvironmental significance were investigated.
- 8.2. A total of six humanly – struck flints dating to the Late Mesolithic or Early Neolithic period were discovered during the fieldwork (**Cut 8 / Fill 9 and Cut 11 / Fill 12**) (see sections 7.2.3. and 7.2.4.). It is believed that these artefacts may in fact be ‘residual’ (i.e. not located *in-situ*) and as such not indicative of the date of the two cut features in which they were found. Nevertheless, the prehistoric exploitation of this area of Eastbourne has again been demonstrated (see sections 3.1.2., 3.1.5., 3.1.6., 3.1.13., 3.2. and 3.3.).
- 8.3. A single sherd of pottery assigned to the second half of the 1st century AD was recovered from the linear ditch / gulley (**Cut 8 / Fill 9**) exposed in Trench B (see Section 7.2.3.). As this artefact was found at the base of the excavated feature (i.e. seemingly located *in-situ*) an early Romano-British date for Cut 8 / Fill 9 should not be discounted. In any case, it is clear from the observed physical relationships that the ditch / gulley under discussion (**Cut 8 / Fill 9**) represents a somewhat later phase of activity than the three possible (and otherwise undated) pits recorded at the site (**Cut 11 / Fill 12, Cut 13 / Fill 14 and Cut 15 / Fill 10**) (see sections 7.2.4., 7.2.5 and 7.2.6.).
- 8.4. The excavation of the two interlinked cuts of uncertain character discovered in Trench A (**Cut 4 / Fill 5 and Cut 6 / Fill 7**) failed to yield a single dateable artefact. However, the later in origin of these two features (**Cut 4 /**

Fill 5) did contain the shells of a type of garden snail (*Helix aspersa*) not present in this country until perhaps the 1st century AD. (see sections 7.1.3. and 7.1.6.).

- 8.5. The precise character of the archaeological activity represented by the features uncovered at 8 Park Lane has not been ascertained. It is clearly unfortunate that the appalling weather conditions and accompanying flooding of the open trenches prevented any further investigation of the revealed features from being undertaken. Nevertheless, it would appear that the proposed development at the site will impact upon archaeological remains of some local significance / interest. As such, the project has the potential to add to our current understanding of the past human exploitation and settlement of this archaeologically rich area of Sussex.

9.0. ARCHIVE.

- 9.1. It is intended that the full written, drawn, photographic and digital records arising from this project will be collated in accordance with '*Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long – term storage*' (UKICI 1990) and deposited with the retained sherd of pottery, humanly - struck flint, fire – cracked flint and animal bone at the 'Towner', Eastbourne.

10.0. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.

- 10.1. C. G. Archaeology would like to thank Casper Johnson and Greg Chuter of East Sussex County Council and the property owner Mr. John Crane for their assistance with the project. Figures 2 and 14 are based upon plans drawn - up by Michael D Hall Building Design Services and supplied to C. G. Archaeology by Mr. Crane.

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HISTORICAL ENVIRONMENT RECORD SUMMARY SHEET.

Site Code.	PLH 09					
Site identification and address.	8 Park Lane, Eastbourne					
County, district and / or borough.	East Sussex					
O.S. grid ref.	TQ 59430 01730					
Geology.	Head					
Project number.	09 / 13					
Fieldwork type.	Eval. X	Excav.	W.Brief.	Survey.	Other.	
Site type.	Rural.	Urban.	Other. Back garden of suburban property			
Date of fieldwork.	26 th and 27 th November 2009					
Client.	Mr. John Crane					
Project manager.	Christopher Greatorex					
Project supervisor	Christopher Greatorex					
Period summary.	Palaeo.	Meso. X	Neo. X	B. Age.	I. Age.	R – B. X
	A. S.	Med.	P. Med	Other. Undated cut features		
<p>Project Summary.</p> <p>An archaeological field evaluation of land proposed for development at 8 Park Lane, Eastbourne was undertaken. The excavation of three c.1.3m. – wide trenches with a total length of c.28m. revealed a linear ditch / gully, three possible pits and two interlinked cuts of uncertain character. Only a small number of artefacts were gleaned from the fieldwork. These include a single sherd of early Romano-British pottery (second half of 1st century AD) found at the base of the exposed linear ditch / gully. Six humanly – struck flints of Late Mesolithic / Early Neolithic origin (believed to be residual) were also identified. The precise size, form and function of the observed archaeological features could not be ascertained within the limited confines of the trenches. Indeed, appalling weather and accompanying flooding provided less than ideal conditions for the intrusive investigation of the discoveries. Nevertheless, it would appear that the intended development at the site will impact upon archaeological remains of some local significance / interest.</p>						

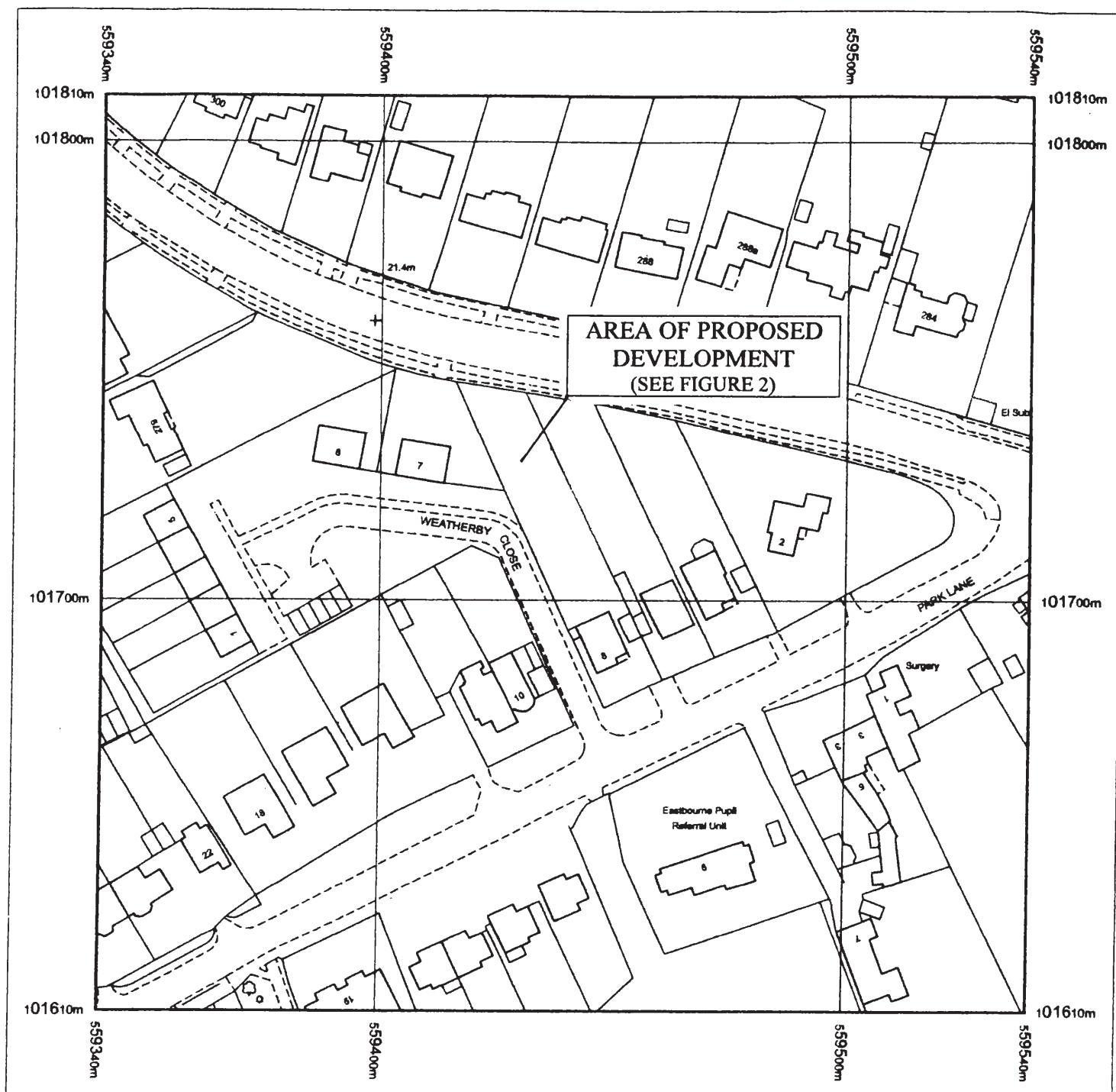


Figure 1: Site location plan
(Crown Copyright. All rights reserved. Licence number AL100034952)

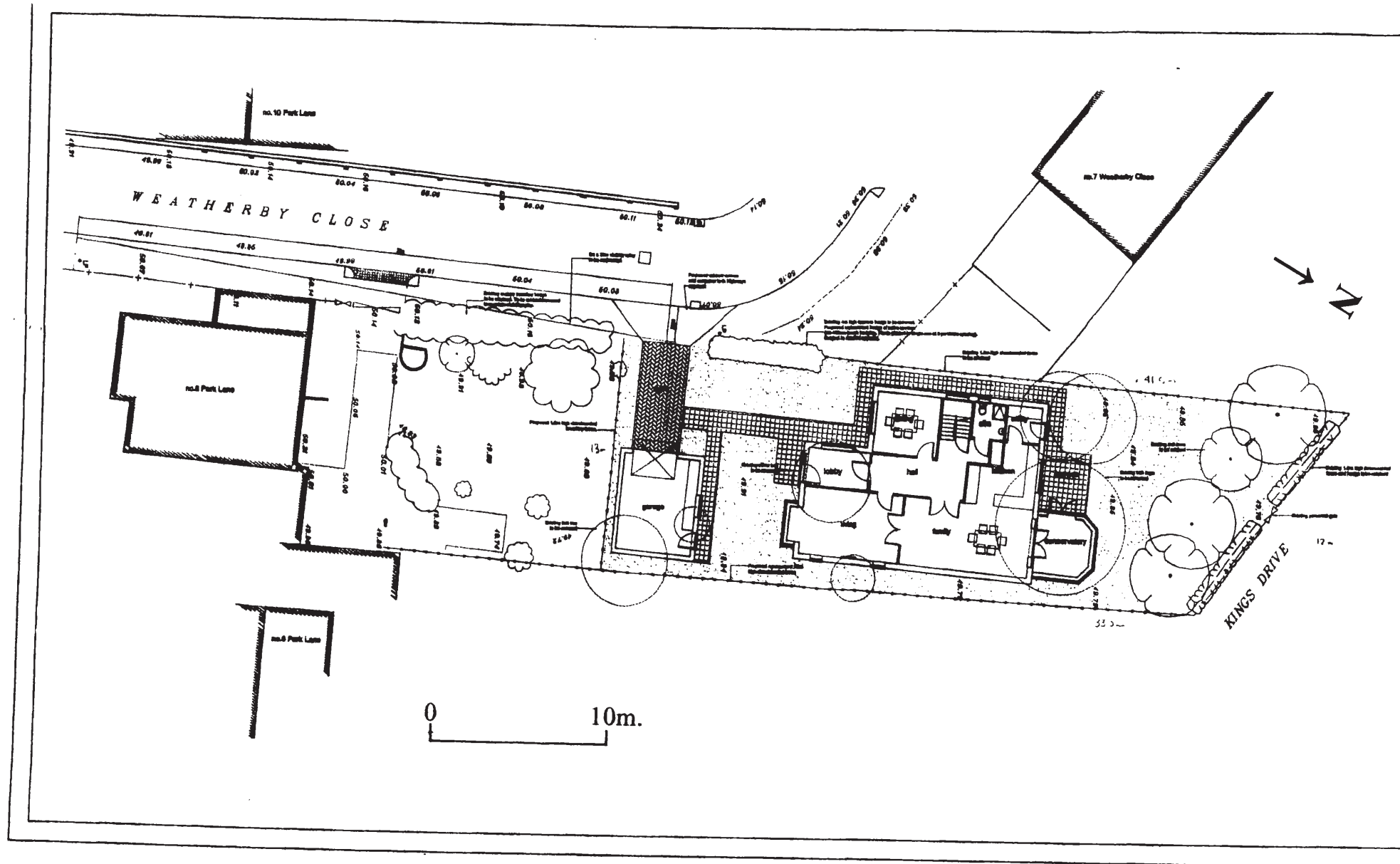


Figure 2: Proposed development



Figure 3: Map of the lands of Sir William Thomas of Ratton in Willingdon by Richard Budgan (E. S. R. O. ref: ACC 5786.31).1760



Figure 5: Tithe map for the parish of Willington (E. S. R. O. ref: TD/E 056) c.1840

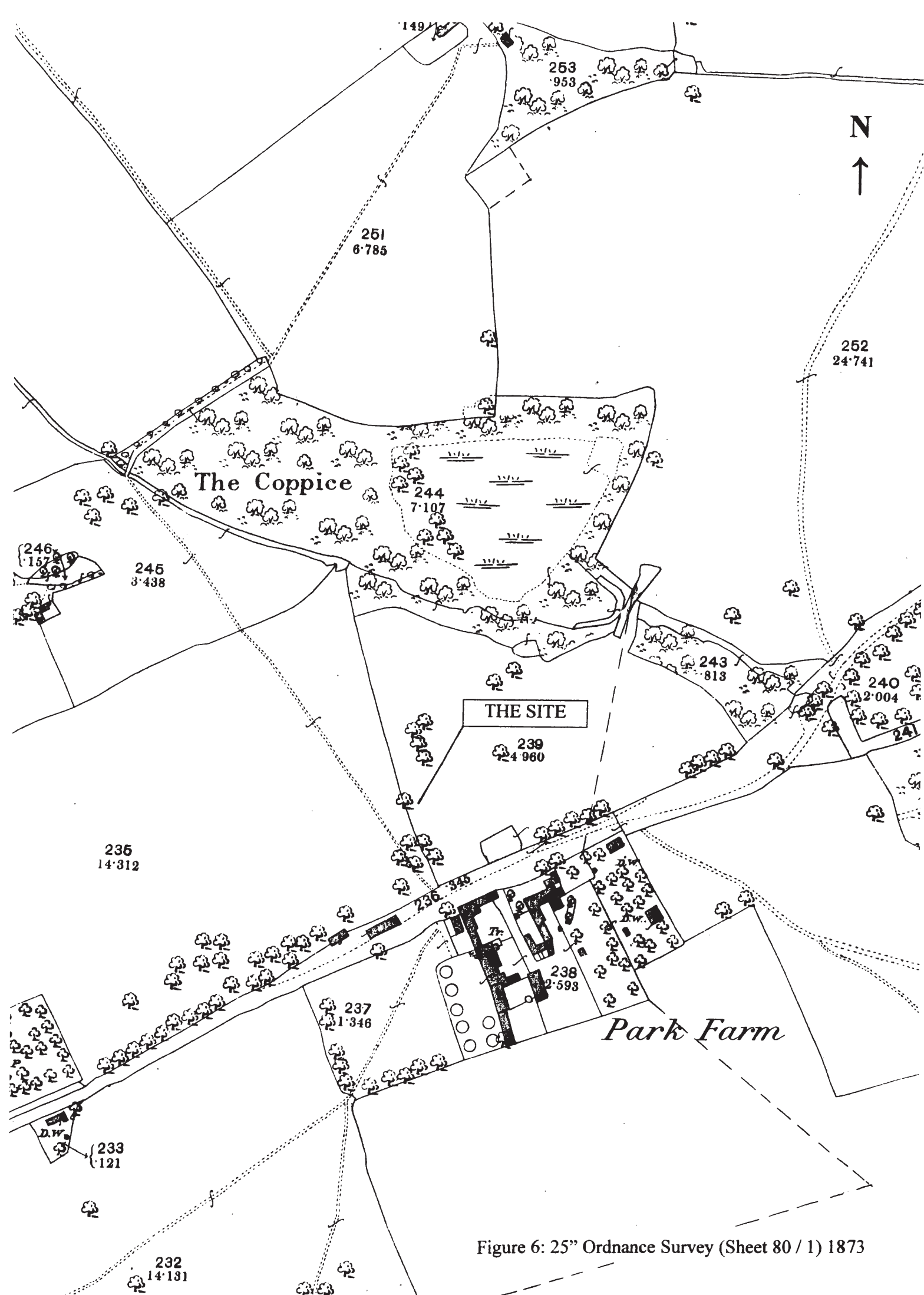


Figure 6: 25" Ordnance Survey (Sheet 80 / 1) 1873

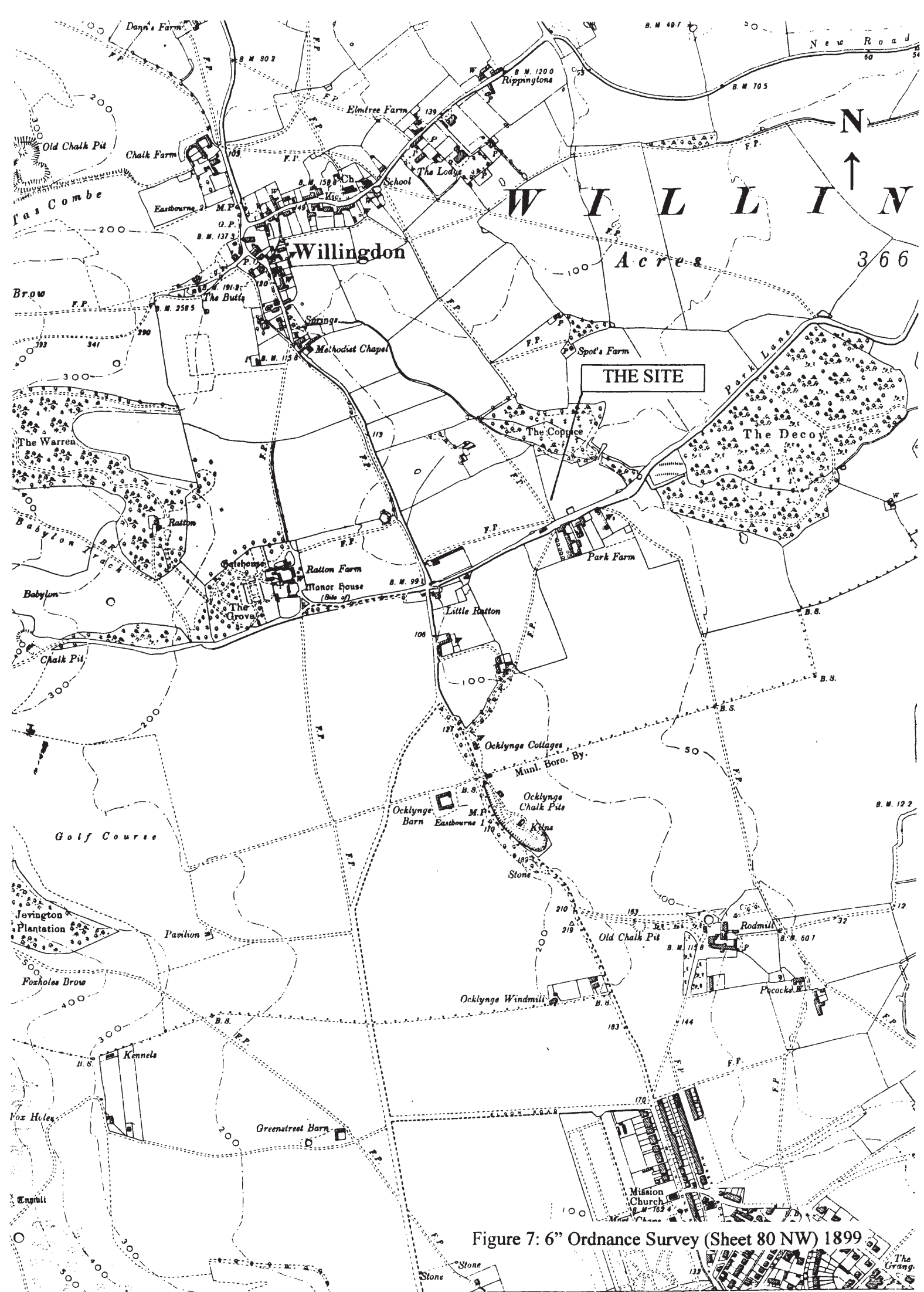


Figure 7: 6" Ordnance Survey (Sheet 80 NW) 1899

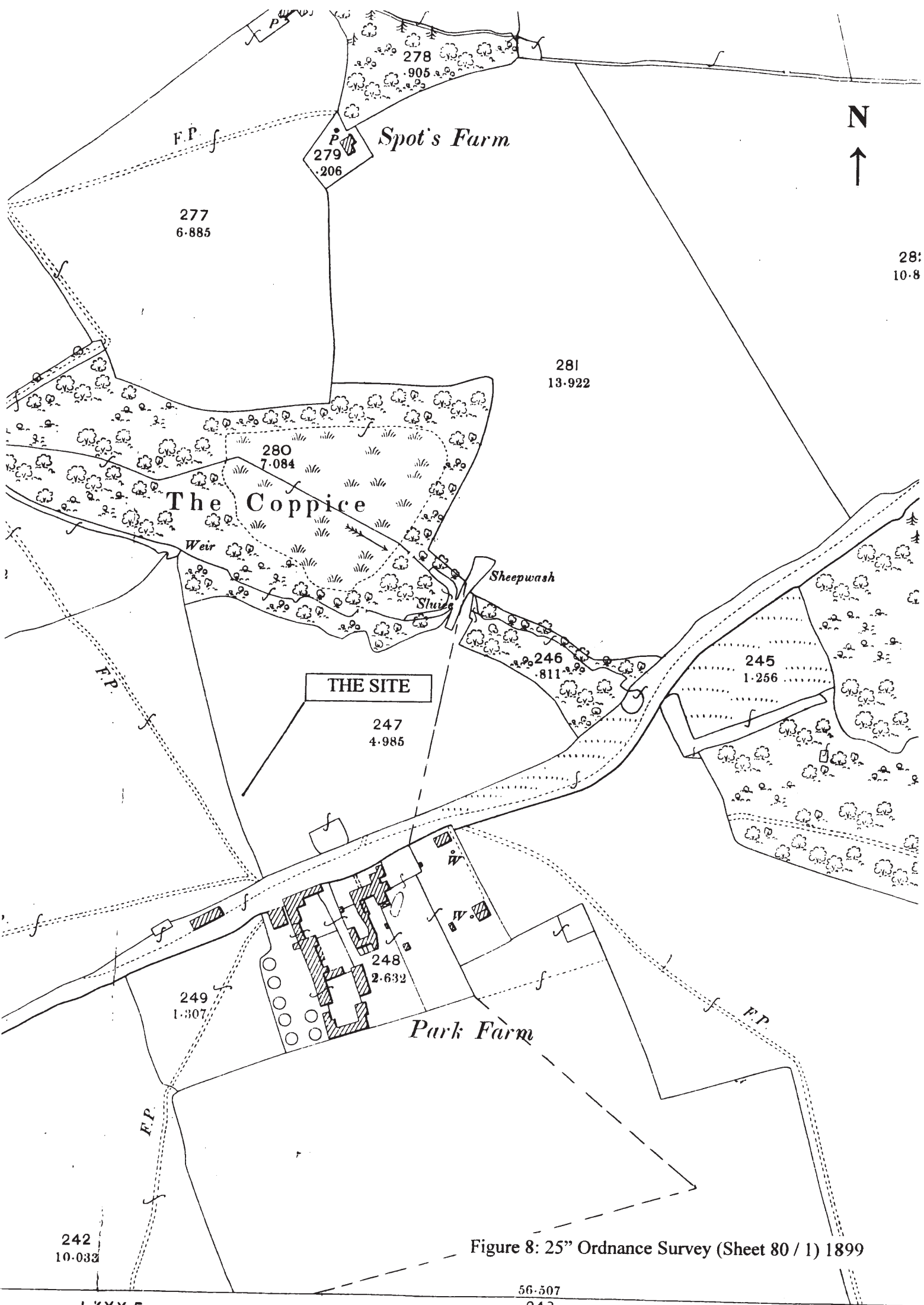


Figure 8: 25" Ordnance Survey (Sheet 80 / 1) 1899

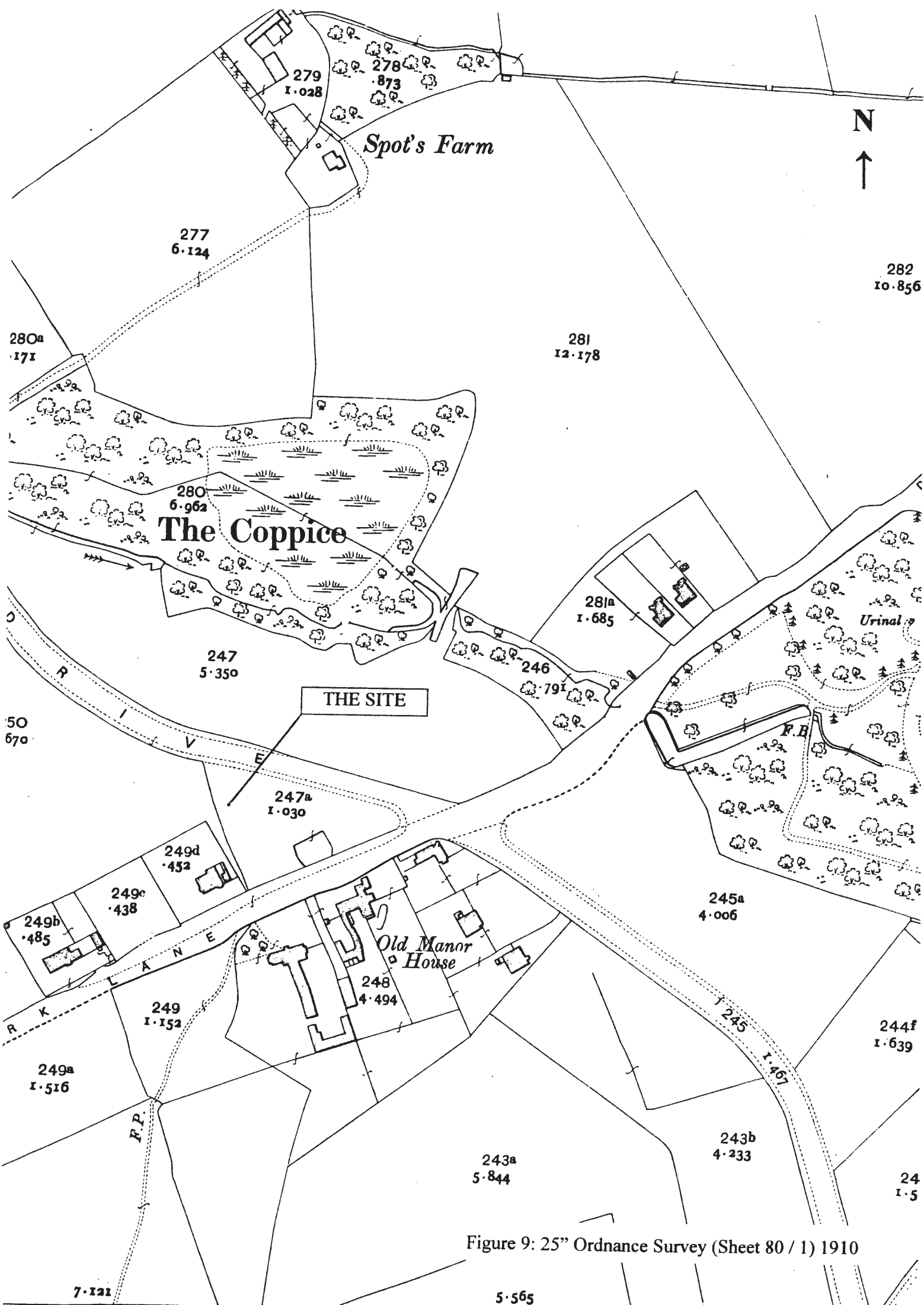


Figure 9: 25" Ordnance Survey (Sheet 80 / 1) 1910

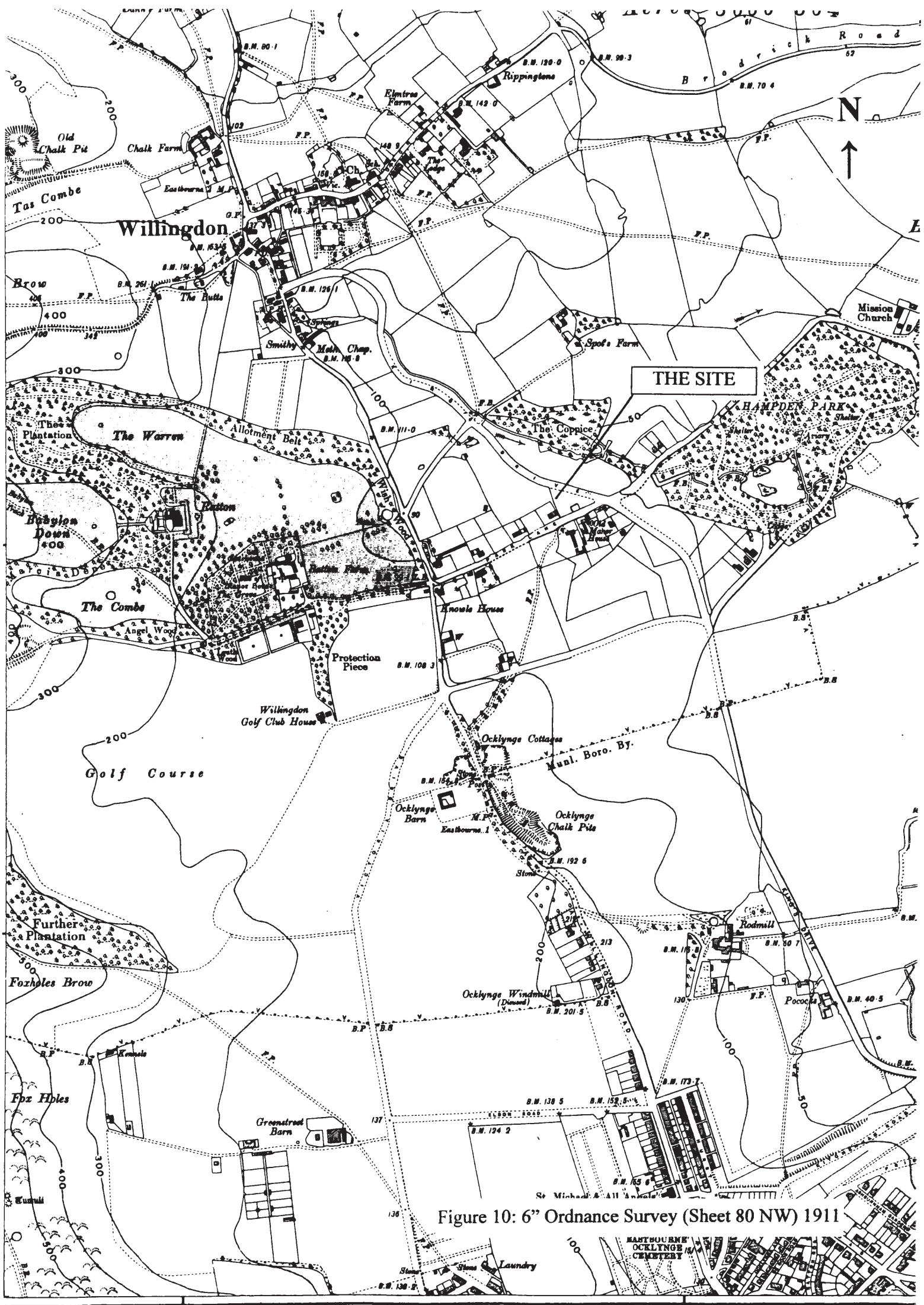


Figure 10: 6" Ordnance Survey (Sheet 80 NW) 1911

SANTHURNE
OCKLYNGS
CEMETERY

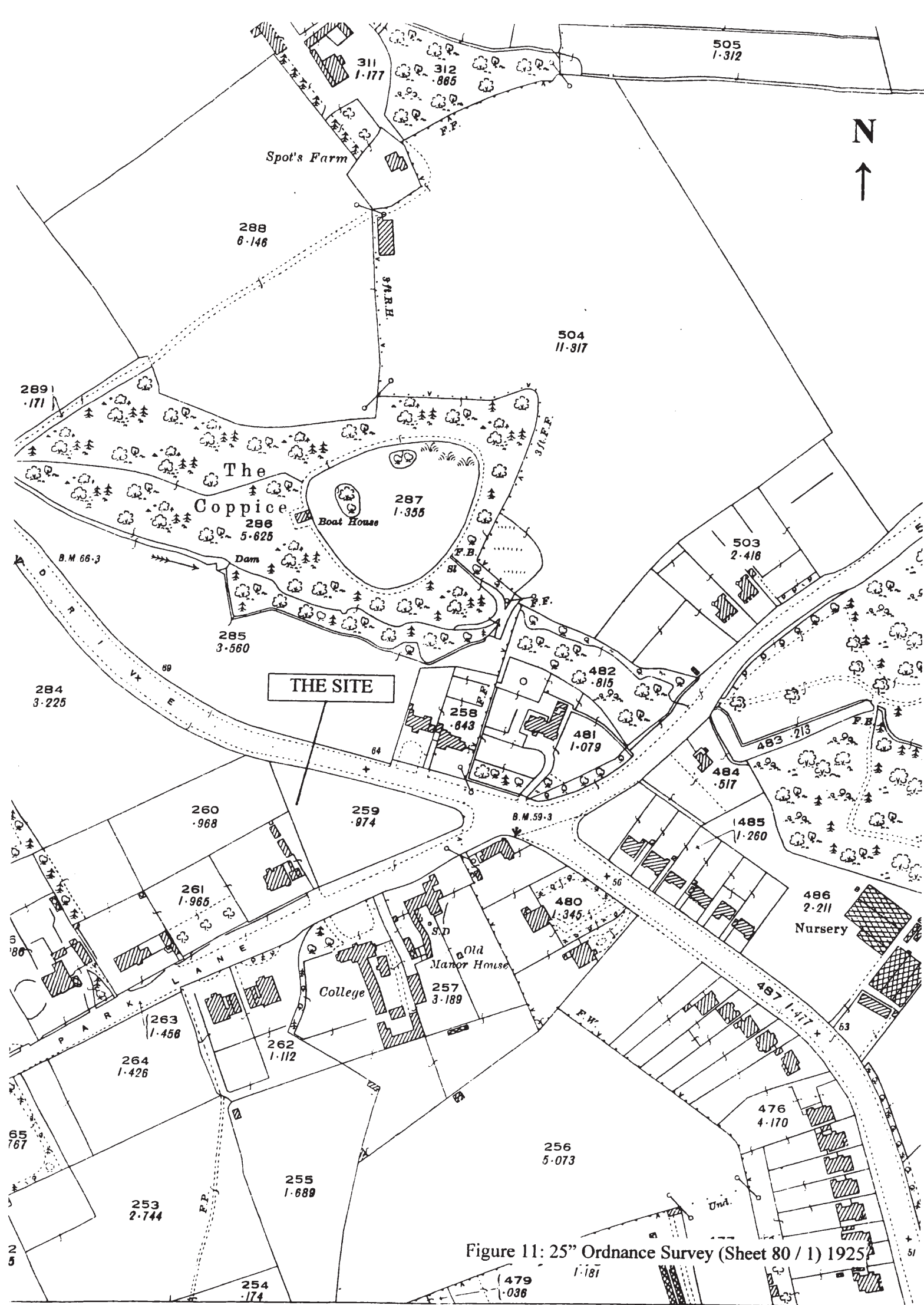




Figure 12: 6" Ordnance Survey (Sheet 80 NW) 1930

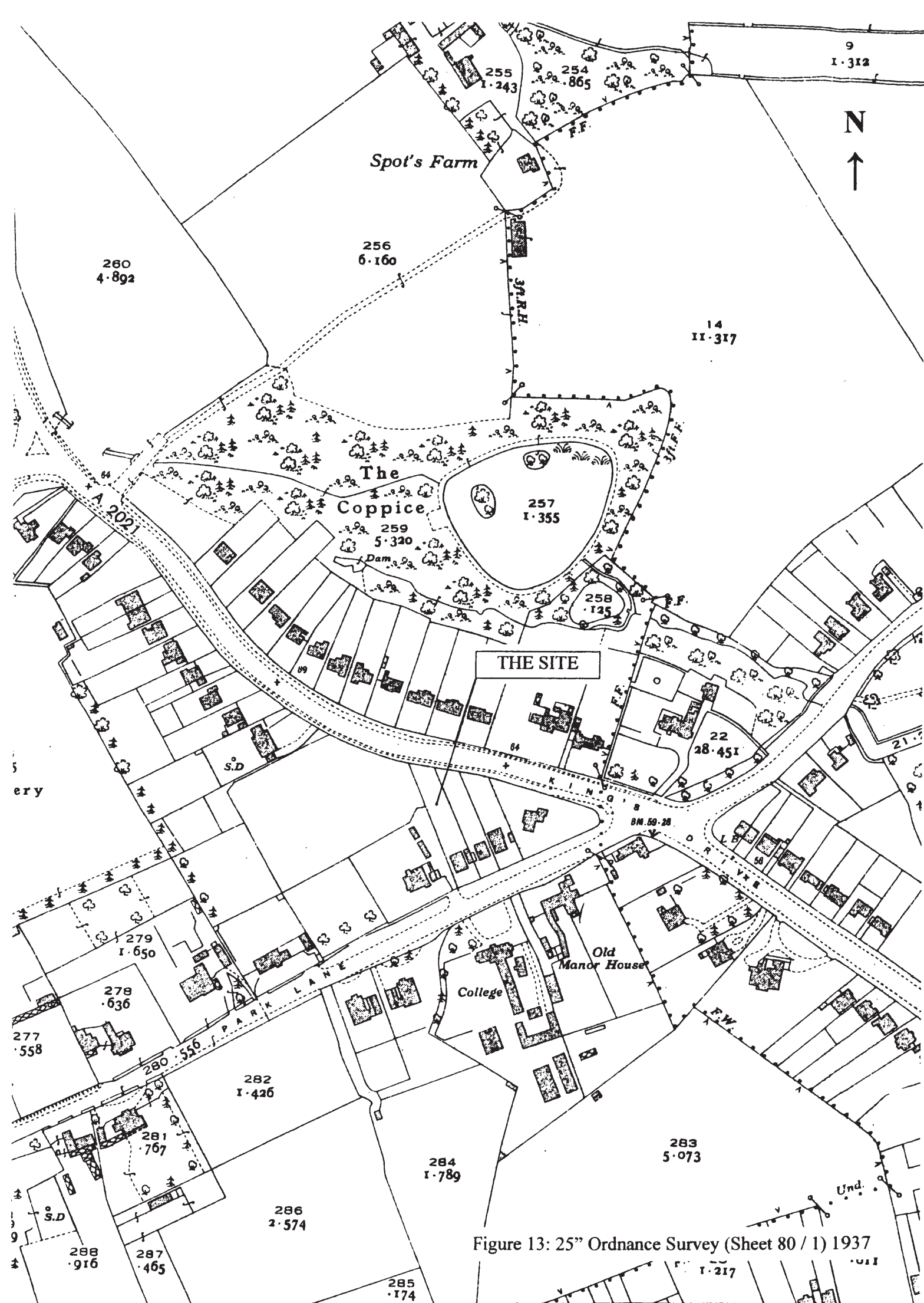


Figure 13: 25" Ordnance Survey (Sheet 80 / 1) 1937

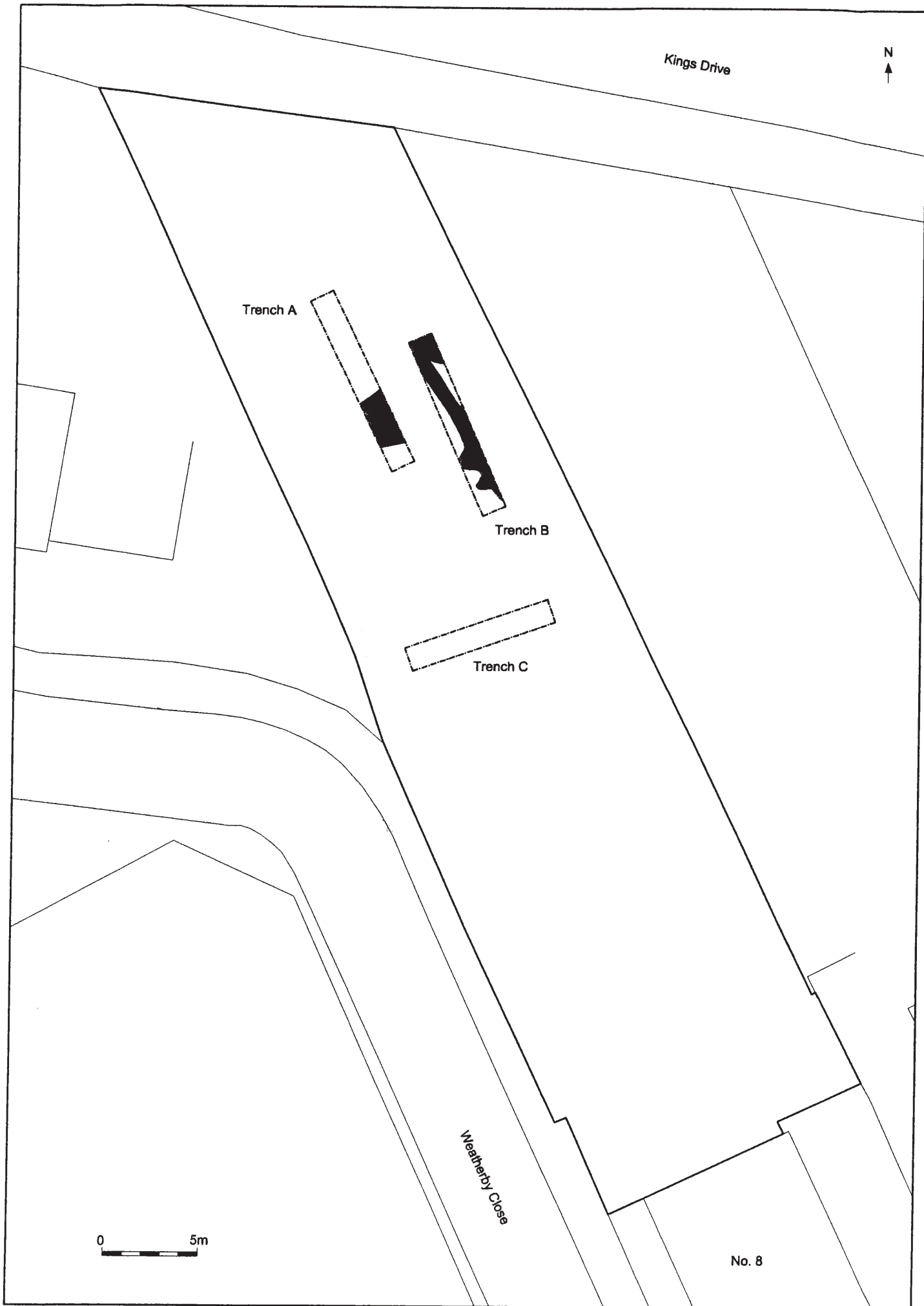


Figure 14: Trench location plan

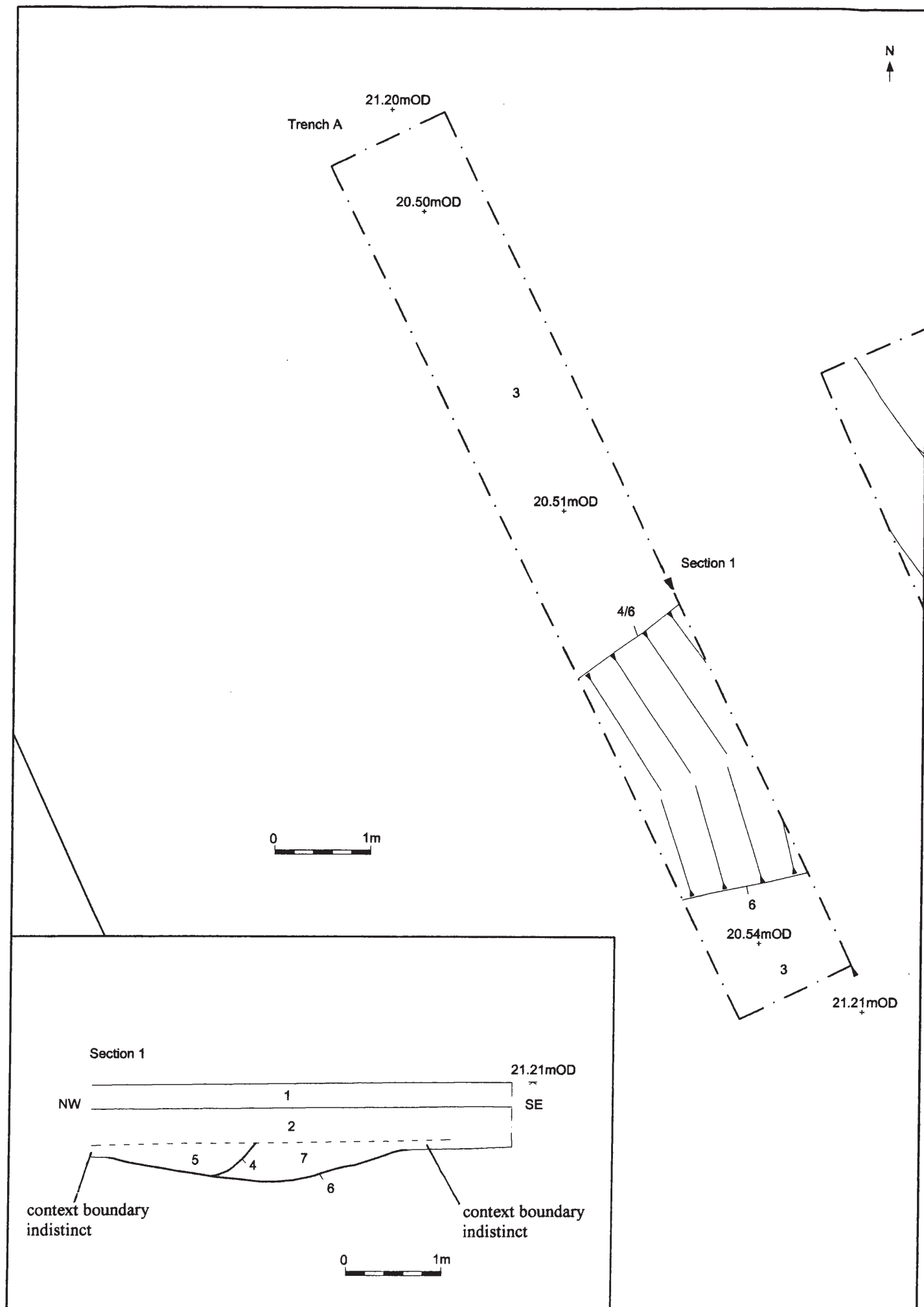


Figure 15: Trench A plan and section

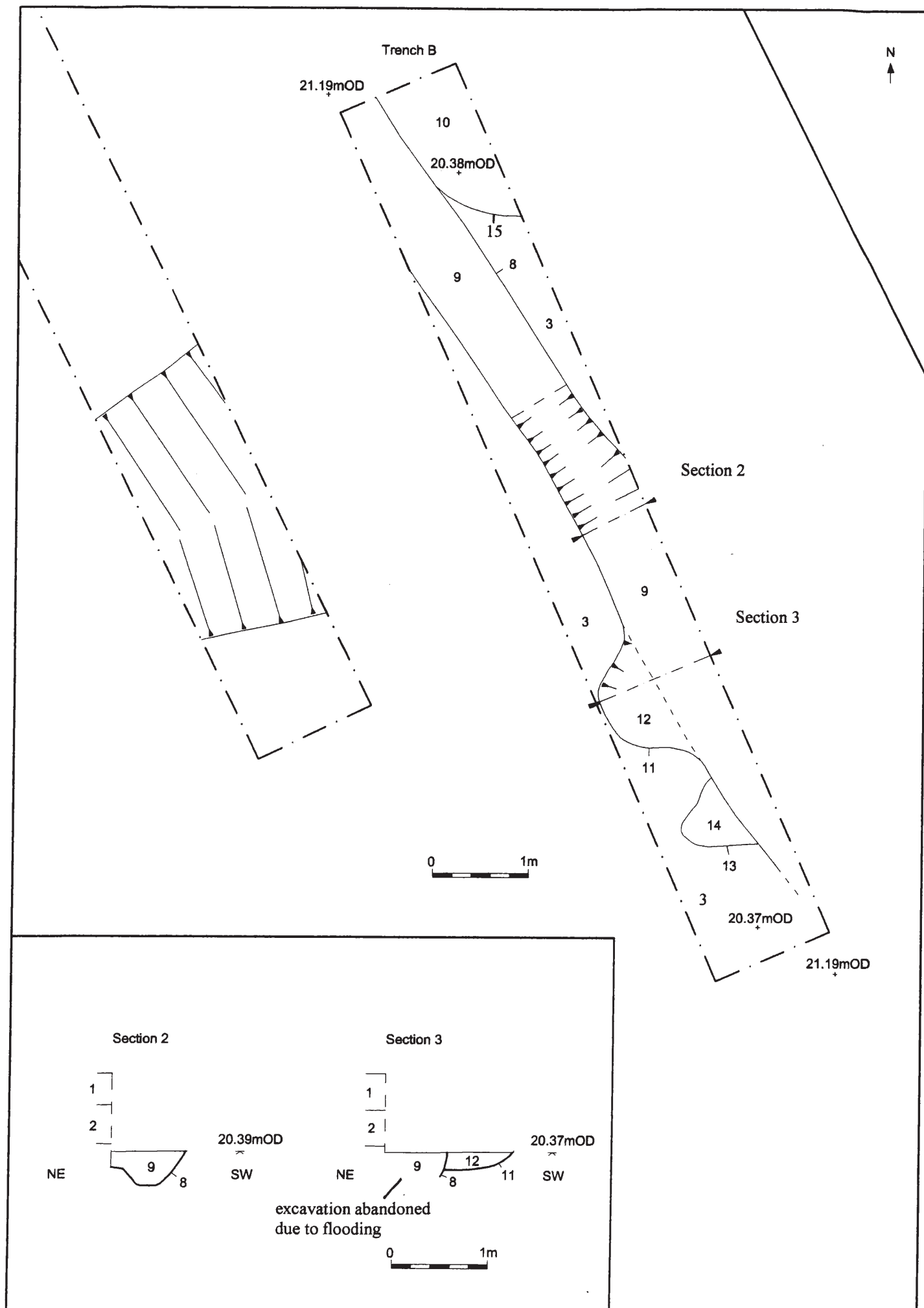


Figure 16: Trench B plan and sections

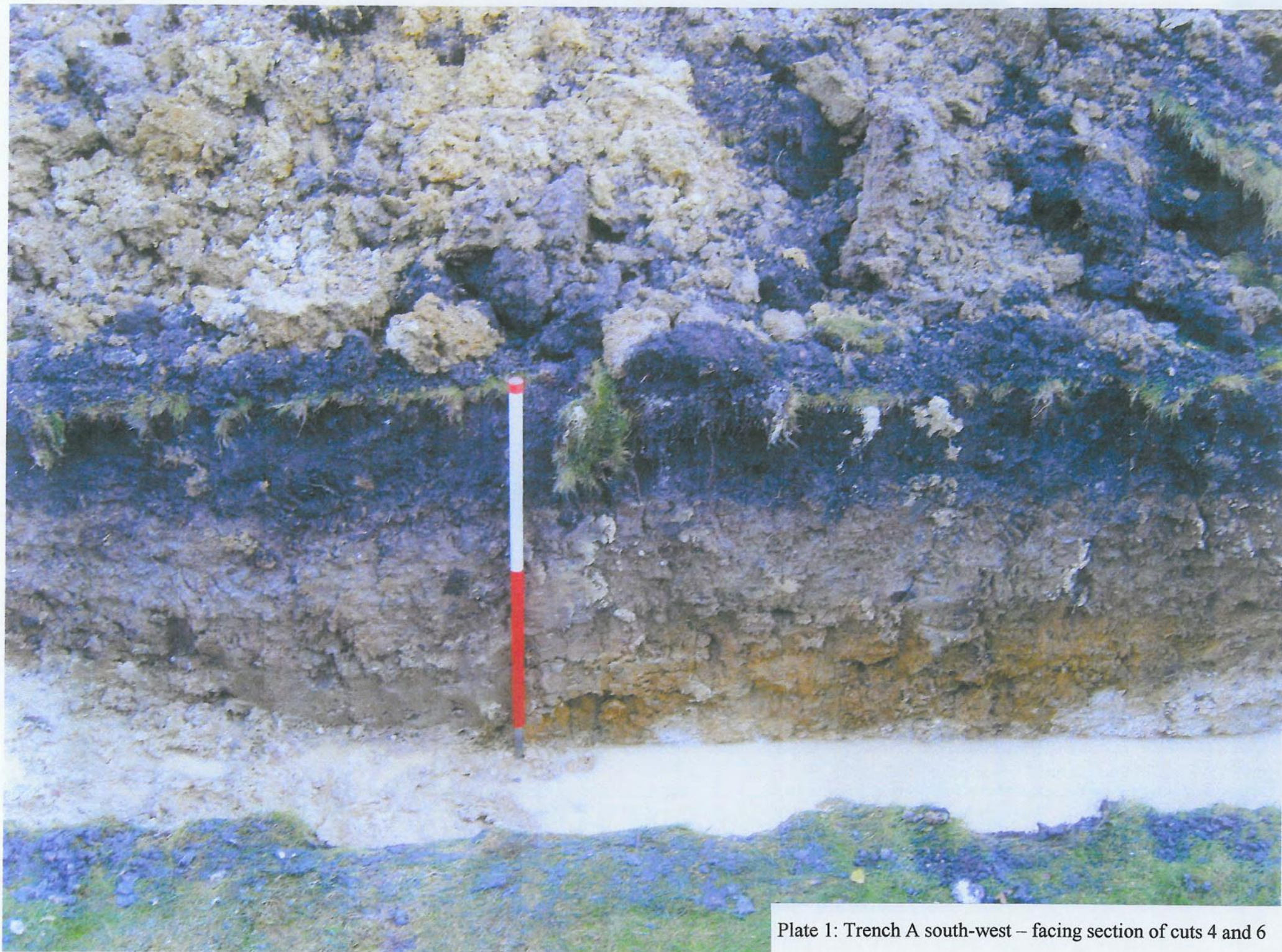


Plate 1: Trench A south-west – facing section of cuts 4 and 6



Plate 2: Trench B looking towards the south-east

Cut 8



Cuts 8 and 11

