




**ROBIN HOOD PUBLIC
HOUSE, BUXTON**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EVALUATION**

PN 15-26

Project No.15-26**March 2015****Robin Hood Public House**131 London Road
Buxton
Derbyshire
SK17 9NW**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION****By**
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Robin Hood Public House, Buxton

Archaeological Evaluation, [03/2015]

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<i>SUMMARY</i>	vi
1. INTRODUCTION	1
2. LOCATION AND GEOLOGY	1
3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND	1
4. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES	2
5. METHODOLOGY	3
6. RESULTS	3
6.1. Introduction	3
6.2. Trench 1	4
6.3. Trench 2	4
7. DISCUSSION	5
8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	5
9. REFERENCES	5

List of figures

- Figure 1: Site and trench location
Figure 2: Archaeological plans of trenches 1 and 2
Figure 3: Archaeological sections of trenches 1 and 2

List of plates

- Plate 1: Trench 1 facing West. Weathered rock outcrop (110) in foreground.
Plate 2: Trench 1 facing West. Easterly extension to trench and continuation of rock outcrop (110).
Plate 3: Trench 1 facing west. Rock outcrop 107, wall foundation 106 and drainage 105.
Plate 4: Trench 2 facing west. Rock outcrop 207.
Plate 5: Trench 2 facing Southeast. Foundation walls 208 and 210.
Plate 6: Date stone set into east facing elevation of the Robin Hood Public House cellaring.

List of appendices

- Appendix 1: Heritage Statement: Written Scheme of Investigation.

Robin Hood Public House, Buxton

Archaeological Evaluation, 03/2015

SUMMARY

The Centre of Archaeology was commissioned in February 2015 by the Historic Environment Consultancy to undertake an archaeological evaluation in respect of a proposed hotel at the former Robin Hood Public House, 131 London Road Buxton (NGR SK 060 725). Two evaluation trenches were excavated on the site between 24-27th February 2015.

The purpose of the evaluation was to investigate the existence of a Roman Road, thought to traverse the site in a northerly direction, as an amateur excavation, undertaken in the early part of the 20th century to the southeast of the pub building, revealed what was thought to be a section of the road. Two trenches were excavated, in part down to natural geology in an attempt to locate the supposed Roman road.

The evaluation found no evidence that predated the 18th century. Several substantial stone foundations which were likely to be 18th century in date were identified in both trenches. These were thought to have been demolished in the 19th century when the buildings on the site were remodelled. In both of the trenches there were layers of 19th century made ground which overlay significant natural rock outcrops.

The rock outcrops on the site took two forms; level weather fractured rock and weathered rock within layers of clay. What was thought to be a Roman road in the early 20th century could potentially have been mistaken for one of these natural outcrops of rock.

Robin Hood Public House, Buxton

Archaeological Evaluation February 2015

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1.1. The Centre of Archaeology was commissioned by the Historic Environment Consultancy to undertake a programme of trial trenching ahead of a proposed hotel development at the former Robin Hood Public House, 131 London Road, Buxton (NGR SK 060 725, hereinafter referred to as the site)
- 1.1.2. This report outlines the results of a field evaluation carried out between 24th–27th February, and has been prepared in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations (IFA 1999).
- 1.1.3. Prior to the evaluation a Heritage Statement: Written scheme of Investigation was completed by Dr Peter Wardle and Colin Lacey (Historic Environment Consultancy; See Appendix 1). This document outlines the documentary and cartographic information available for the site and should be read in conjunction with this report.
- 1.1.4. The evaluation conformed to a Written Scheme of Investigation (Historic Environment Consultancy; Appendix 1) which was approved by the Local Planning Authority (Derbyshire County Council) prior to implementation, in accordance with guidelines laid down in Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 (DoE 1990).

2. LOCATION AND GEOLOGY

- 2.1.1. The site is located at the former Robin Hood Public House, 131 London Road Buxton, and is centred on NGR SK 060 725 (Fig. 1).
- 2.1.2. The underlying geology consists of the Bee Low Limestone Formation.
- 2.1.3. The present character of the site is a mixture of hard standing and open ground. To the north of the site there are commercial premises, and there are residential properties lying to the South and East. To the West of the site is the A515 Ashbourne to Buxton Road (London Road).

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.1.1. The Derbyshire County Council Historic Environment Record includes various archaeological results in the vicinity of the site in its database dating back to the prehistoric period.

Prehistoric

- 3.1.2. A perforated hammerstone thought to be of Bronze Age date was found in Little Gib Yard, near to the site. The exact location is uncertain. A flint blade was found during cultivation works at an allotment at Cote Heath in around 2007, 400m NE of the site. It is dated to the early Neolithic to the Early Bronze Age.

Roman

- 3.1.3. The Roman road between Buxton and Derby is reported to run through the site. An amateur excavation in the early part of the 20th century to the southeast of the pub building revealed a section of the road.

A dip in a garden wall at Byron Street 300m NNW of the site is considered to indicate a continuation of the road.

- 3.1.4. The possible line of a second Roman road, running to the southwest, is located c. 45m to the west of the site. The line of this road is speculated from known locations established by excavation. Roman pottery and coins were found at an unspecified location in Bennett Street in the late 19th-early 20th century.

Medieval

- 3.1.5. No Medieval finds or sites are known from the vicinity, however, a number of post-medieval buildings survive on the site.

Undated Evidence

- 3.1.6. A bell-shaped piece of enamelled bronze was found during building work at the junction of London Road and Leek Road in 1894, c. 440m west of the site. Traces of a paved road which may or may not be Roman were found at a depth of 600mm below ground level in or before the late 1970s, 425m to the northwest.

Previous archaeological investigations in the development area

- 3.1.7. An amateur excavation was carried out in c. 1916 to investigate whether a slight ridge running through the paddock to the rear of Heath House (the former name of the Robin Hood public house) was the Roman road leading to Buxton from the southeast. A section of the road was uncovered during this exercise. The amateur excavation in the area to the rear of the Robin Hood pub, then known as Heath House, in c.1916 (HER entry reference 2864) is reproduced below:

The line in which the road to Little Chester left Buxton has not hitherto been defined [1916]. This road can, however, be clearly traced in the paddock at the back of Heath House, London Road, and especially at the south-easterly end of the paddock, and also in the field in front of 'The Highlands' stables, London Road. In order to prove that the slight ridge running through Heath House paddock former the site of the road, a section of this road was uncovered by Tristram and several other gentlemen interested in archaeology. Two further sections were uncovered just beyond, and on the opposite side of the present road to, the cemetery. All three sections were identical in character. Large stone surface stones were placed for support along the side of the road where the ground had a downward slope, and the remaining width of the road was formed of smaller surface stones. The road was very much disintegrated, and it seems probable that the traffic became gradually diverted to the present road, owing to the dilapidated condition in to which the Roman road had fallen.

4. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 4.1.1. The principal aim of the evaluation was to determine the character, state of preservation and the potential significance of any buried remains.
- 4.1.2. More specific aims were to:
- ascertain the presence or absence of archaeological remains in the development area, specifically the Roman road, which was believed to pass through the site.

Depended on the outcome of the findings from these evaluation trenches a further programme of archaeological work may have been required as described in the WSI.

5. METHODOLOGY

- 5.1.1. The proposed development area covers approximately 0.3 hectares. A total of 2 trenches were excavated across the site totalling 76m² which provided a 2.5% sample of the total area (Fig. 1).
- 5.1.2. One trench 1.8m in width (the width of a ditching bucket) by 28m in length was excavated at the northern end of the car park. This was located so as to coincide with the road as recorded in the Historic Environment Record and also with the projected line of the Roman road as taken from the air photographic evidence.

One trench of 1.8m x 15m was excavated to the north to examine the possible continuation of the road across the site. The trial-trenches were surveyed-in and located on the Ordnance Survey National Grid.

- 5.1.3. All topsoil and modern overburden was removed using a JCB mechanical excavator with a toothless ditching bucket, under direct archaeological supervision, down to the top of the uppermost archaeological horizon. Subsequent cleaning and excavation was by hand. A representative sample of archaeological and geological features and deposits were manually cleaned and sample excavated. This was done to sufficiently define their character and to obtain suitable dating evidence in order to determine a working sampling strategy for further archaeological works.
- 5.1.4. Archaeological deposits were not completely excavated unless it was deemed unavoidable. The depth of archaeological deposits across the site was assessed, although the full length of every trench was not necessarily excavated down to natural. Dating evidence was located wherever possible from each archaeological feature.
- 5.1.5. All stratigraphic sequences were recorded, even where no archaeology was present. Features were planned at a scale of 1:50, and sections drawn of all cut features and significant vertical stratigraphy at a scale of 1:50. A comprehensive written record was maintained using a continuous numbered context system on *pro-forma* cards. Written records and scale plans were supplemented by photographs using black and white monochrome, colour slide and digital photography.
- 5.1.6. The few recovered artefacts from excavated contexts were cleaned, marked and remedial conservation work undertaken as necessary. Treatment of all finds conformed to guidance contained within the The Centre of Archaeology Fieldwork Manual and *First Aid for Finds* (Watkinson and Neal 1998).
- 5.1.7. The full site archive includes all artefactual remains recovered from the site. The site archive will be prepared according to guidelines set down in Appendix 3 of the Management of Archaeology Projects (English Heritage, 1991), the Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-term Storage (UKIC, 1990), Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological collections (Museum and Art Galleries Commission, 1992) and the Derbyshire Archives guidelines and procedures. The paper archive will be deposited with Buxton Museum and Art Gallery. A copy of the report will also be submitted to OASIS (Online Access to the Index of archaeological investigations). The archive procedure will follow the Museums in Derbyshire Procedure for the Transfer of Archaeological Archives 2003 and Interim Note (Draft).

6. RESULTS

6.1. Introduction

- 6.1.1. Detailed summaries of the individual trenches are presented in this report and full details are available in the project archive. The following section is arranged in trench order and both feature (cut) and context numbers are highlighted in bold. A representative selection of trench plans and sections are illustrated (see Plates and Figures). This report will be deposited with the Derbyshire HER and uploaded to OASIS. No museum deposition will be required for the finds archive.

6.2. Trench 1

- 6.2.1. The natural bedrock and surrounding subsoil was reached at a height of 316.35m AOD. It was found in two separate locations within the trench and had been truncated by later development. The natural bedrock comprised the Bee Low Limestone Formation. This was seen as a level weathered rock outcrop at the western end of the trench (**107**) and a swathe of weathered rocks within layers of clay at the eastern end of the trench (**110**). This rock outcropping extended at least 9m in a westerly direction. The surrounding clay (**108**) was orange and was composed of very fine sand and virtually no inclusions

The weathering of this underlying bedrock had created clear fractures which had occurred in a Northwest – Southeast and a distinct ridge of bedrock situated at the western end of the trench. The natural formation and weathering of this bedrock could be easily mistaken for man-made structures. Two interventions were excavated through targeted sections of this natural ground to confirm its origins. Beneath the weathered rock layers were more substantial accumulations of bedrock.

- 6.2.2. A foundation wall (**106**) had been constructed upon one of these areas of level bedrock. This wall was 0.6m in width x 0.35m in depth and had been constructed by faced sandstone blocks 1.8m was visible within the trench but it extended in both a northerly and southerly direction. Two foundation walls identified in trench 2, were likely to have been built at the same date, likely to have been the 18th century.
- 6.2.3. Two salt glazed drainage pipes (**105**) were associated with this foundation wall, as they were built alongside it. A small section of stone flooring (**104**) was identified at the western end of the trench. This was made up of large limestone setts and was likely to have been an original external surface.
- 6.2.4. In the centre of the trench was a large 19th century cut (**109**) which had disturbed the underlying layers of natural bedrock and clay. This cut extended to a depth of 1.8m and may have been a cellar feature. This had been dismantled and filled with a mixed rubble and silt fill (**111**) at a later date.
- 6.2.5. Overlying all of these natural geological and archaeological features were dark brown sandy-silt levelling layers (**103**) which contained significant inclusions of limestone rubble. This was overlain and sealed at the western end by a gravel hardcore (**102**) and tarmac (**100**) and at the eastern end by topsoil (**101**).

6.3. Trench 2

- 6.3.1. As in Trench 1, the natural bedrock and surrounding subsoil was identified within this trench. It was reached at a height of 316.5m AOD and was excavated to a depth of 316m AOD. This natural bedrock comprised the Bee Low Limestone Formation and seen as significant level weathered rock outcrop at the western end of the trench (**211**). The outcrop was surrounded by layers of orange clay which was composed of very fine sand and virtually no inclusions (**207**).
- 6.3.2. The weathering of this underlying bedrock had created clear fractures which had occurred in a Northwest – Southeast and a distinct ridge of bedrock situated at the western end of the trench. Hand excavation was required to confirm this was indeed natural geology as on initial discovery is appeared man-made in origin. Although not confirmed through artefactual evidence, part of this outcrop may have been utilized as the foundation for a northwest – southeast orientated stone wall foundation, as there was subtle evidence to suggest this.
- 6.3.3. Two North – West orientated walls were located within the western half of the trench. These walls (**208** & **210**) were constructed of faced limestone and were contemporary with one another. Wall **208** survived to a depth of 0.4m and wall **210** survived to a depth of 1m. Both were 0.7m in width and were 1.8m in length but continued outside of the trench in a northerly and southerly direction. Approximately equidistant between these two walls was evidence of further contemporary walling which had become truncated at a later date (**209**).

- 6.3.4. These walls possibly represent cellaring and were likely to have been constructed during the 18th century. They were then altered and demolished during the 19th century, as the made-ground surrounding these walls contained artefactual evidence from this period (**203 & 204**). A date stone found in the cellaring, during demolition of the Robin Hood Inn, gives clear coincidental evidence of the date of construction of these walls. The stone, inscribed with 1717 was set into a wall, of similar construction, depth and orientation to that of the walls identified in these evaluation trenches.
- 6.3.5. The base of the walls were set into a mixed brown/ orange clay (**206**) which was possibly an interface layer to the natural clay beneath. This has also overlain the bedrock in the centre of the trench (**205**).
- 6.3.6. Overlying and sealing all of these natural geological and archaeological features at the western end was gravel hardcore (**202**) and tarmac (**200**) and at the eastern end, topsoil (**201**).

7. DISCUSSION

- 7.1.1. The evaluation investigated the existence of a Roman Road, thought to traverse the site in a northerly direction, as an amateur excavation, undertaken in the early part of the 20th century to the southeast of the pub building, revealed what was thought to be a section of the road. Two trenches were excavated, in part down to natural geology in an attempt to locate the supposed Roman road.
- 7.1.2. The evaluation found no evidence that predated the 18th century. Several substantial stone foundations which were likely to be 18th century in date were identified in both trenches. A date stone found in the cellaring, during demolition of the Robin Hood Inn, gives clear coincidental evidence of the date of construction of these walls. The stone, inscribed with 1717 was set into a wall, of similar construction, depth and orientation to that of the walls identified in these evaluation trenches. These walls were thought to have then been demolished in the 19th century when the buildings on the site were remodelled.
- 7.1.3. In both of the trenches there were layers of 19th century made ground which overlay significant natural rock outcrops. The rock outcrops on the site took two forms; level weather fractured rock and weathered rock within layers of clay, which could be easily confused with being man-made in origin. What was thought to be a Roman road in the early 20th century, could therefore have potentially have been mistaken for one of these natural outcrops of rock.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 8.1.2. The project was commissioned the Historic Environment Consultancy. Thanks are due to Dr Peter Wardle for his co-operation and assistance throughout the project. Thanks also go to Steve Baker, who monitored the project on behalf of Derbyshire County Council. Work on site was undertaken by William Mitchell and Esme Hookway. William Mitchell produced the written report which was illustrated and edited by Kevin Colls, who also managed the project for the Centre of Archaeology.

9. REFERENCES

Department of the Environment 1990 *Planning Policy Guidance Note 16: Archaeology and Planning*. HMSO: London

English Heritage 1991 *The Management of Archaeological Projects*. English Heritage: London

Institute of Field Archaeologists 1999 (revised 2013) *Standard and guidance for archaeological desk-based assessment; Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation; Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief; Standard and guidance for archaeological excavation; Standard and guidelines for finds work*, IFA blue folder of policy, standards and guidance. IFA

Museums and Galleries Commission. 1992 *Standards in the museum care of archaeological collections*. London: Museums and Galleries Commission

UKIC (Walker, K.) 1990 *Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage*, Archaeology Section of the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation

Watkinson, D, and Neal, V, 1998 *First Aid for Finds* (3rd edition), RESCUE and the Archaeology Section of the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation

Trench 1



Trench 2

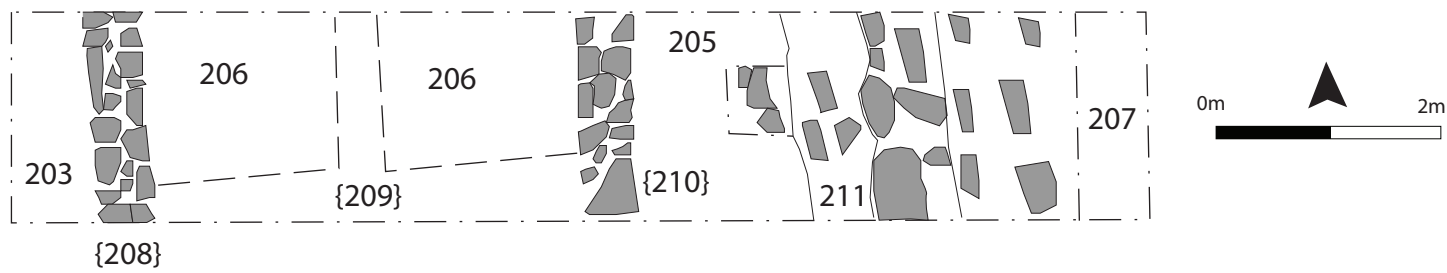
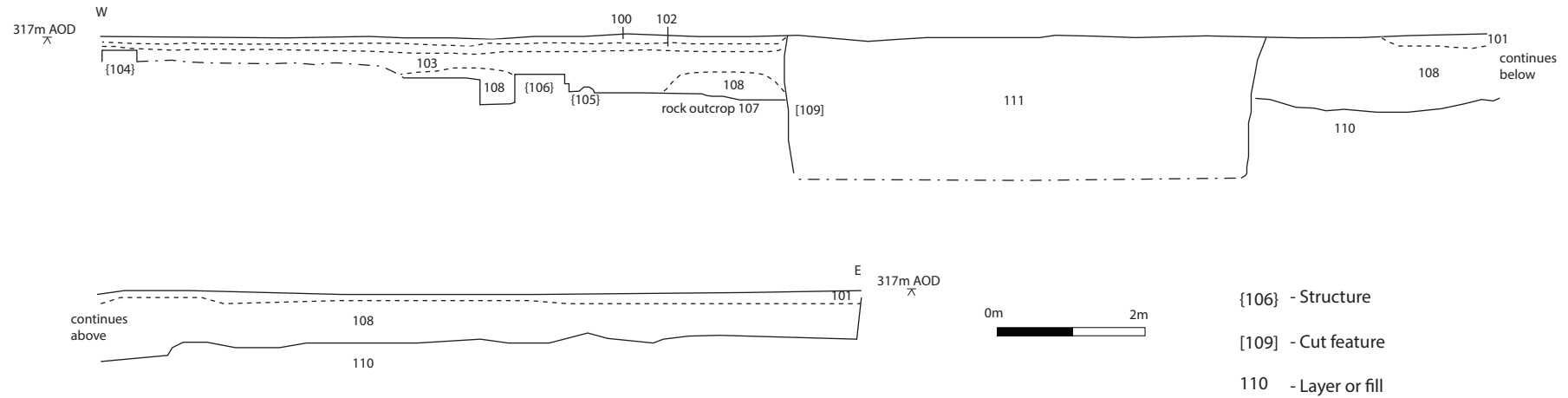


Figure 2 - Archaeological plans of trenches 1 and 2

Trench 1 - South facing



Trench 2 - South facing

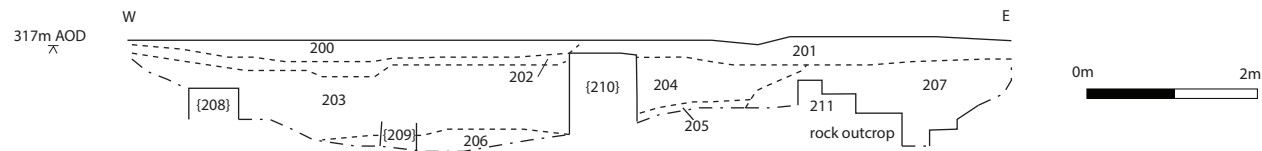




Plate 1: Trench 1 facing West. Weathered rock outcrop (110) in foreground



Plate 2: Trench 1 facing West. Easterly extension to trench and continuation of rock outcrop (110)



Plate 3: Trench 1 facing west. Rock outcrop 107, wall foundation 106 and drainage 105



Plate 4: Trench 2 facing west. Rock outcrop 207



Plate 5: Trench 2 facing Southeast. Foundation walls 208 and 210



Plate 6: Date stone set into east facing elevation of the Robin Hood Public House cellaring

Appendix 1

The Historic Environment Consultancy



Heritage Statement: Written
Scheme of Investigation **Robin
Hood Public House**
131 London Road
Buxton
Derbyshire
SK17 9NW

National Grid Reference: SK 060 725

Planning Reference HPK/2014/0456

Dr Peter Wardle & Colin Lacey
23/12/2014

Document Reference Number 2014/1224
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Heritage Statement: Archaeological Desk Based
Assessment Robin Hood Public House 131
London Road Buxton Derbyshire SK17 9NW
Dr Peter Wardle and Colin Lacey
23/12/2014

Table of Contents

1. Summary	v
2. Introduction.....	6
2.1 The Client	6
2.2 Confidentiality and Copyright.....	6
2.3 The Land	6
2.4 Site Visit	6
2.5 Current Land Use	9
2.6 Topography	9
2.7 Geology	9
3. Archaeological Significance.....	9
4. Historic Background.....	11
4.1 The History of the Settlement	11
5. Analysis of Historic Maps.....	12
5.1 Methodology.....	12
5.2 1848 Tithe Maps.....	13
5.3 1879 Ordnance Survey 1:500.....	14
5.4 1898 Ordnance Survey 1:2500.....	15
5.5 1922 Ordnance Survey 1:2500.....	16
5.6 1955 Ordnance Survey 1:10,000.....	17
5.7 1977 Ordnance Survey 1:10,000.....	18
5.8 Modern Ordnance Survey	19
6. Previous Archaeological Investigations on the Development Area.....	20
7. Archaeological Remains, Sites and Monuments in the Vicinity of the Area	20
7.1 Prehistoric.....	20
7.2 Roman.....	20
7.3 Early Medieval – Pre 1066	20
7.4 Medieval – Post 1066-1485.....	20
7.5 Post Medieval 1485-1700.....	20
7.6 Undated.....	20
8. On site Observations - Current Topography.....	21

9. Aerial Photographic Evidence.....	24
10. The Roman Road.....	26
11. Proposed Fieldwork	32
11.1 Fieldwork Methodology.....	32
11.2 Standard Methodologies.....	35
12. Appendix: Definitions	39

Table of Figures

Figure 1: General Location Plan, Scale 1:10,000	7
Figure 2: Detailed Location Plan. Scale 1:1000	8
Figure 3 The 1848 Tithe Map	13
Figure 4: 1879 Ordnance Survey 1:500 reduced to 1:1000	14
Figure 5: 1898 Ordnance Survey 1:2500, enlarged to 1:1000	15
Figure 6: 1922 Ordnance Survey 1:2500	16
Figure 7: 1954 Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 enlarged to 1:1000	17
Figure 8: 1977 Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 enlarged to 1:1000	18
Figure 9: Modern Ordnance Survey, 1:1000	19
Figure 10: Location of HER point for 1916 investigations, 1:1000 @ A4	27
Figure 11: Approximate route of Roman road on Google Earth air photography	29
Figure 12: Approximate projected route of Roman road from field boundaries, c. 1:1000 @ A4 (Google Earth air photography)	30
Figure 13: Projected line of road from air photos in relation to HER entries (1:2500 @A3)	31
Figure 14: Proposed trench locations, 1:500 @ A4	38

Table of Plates

Plate 1: Northeast part of site - beer garden	21
Plate 2: Northwest part of site - beer garden	21
Plate 3: Western aspect, beer garden	22
Plate 4: Eastern aspect, southern part of site (car park)	22
Plate 5: South aspect, car park	23
Plate 6: 1999 Google air photo	24
Plate 7: 6 th September 2005 Google air photo	24
Plate 8: 6 th September 2005 air photo	25
Plate 9: 2006 Google air photo	25
Plate 10: Dip in garden wall (Google Street View)	26

Version Control

Version No	Draft	Content Added/Omitted	Date
0.5	Client Draft		
0.7	LPA Draft	Client Comments	
1	Issued Report		

Heritage Statement: Written
Scheme of Investigation
Robin Hood Public House 131 London Road
Buxton Derbyshire SK17 9NW Dr
Peter Wardle and Colin Lacey

1. Summary

This Heritage Statement should be read in conjunction with the planning application.

The site is located to the south of the town of Buxton. A Roman road is known to cross the land from north to south, evidenced by an amateur archaeological investigation undertaken c. 1916.

Two trenches are proposed, spanning possible routes of the Roman road, to assess the preservation and exact location of the road.

2. Introduction

2.1 The Client

This report was commissioned by Paul Hurley of Aegis Architects for and on behalf of the landowner - Swanbank Properties Ltd.

2.2 Confidentiality and Copyright

This document is to remain confidential for a period of 12 months or until it forms part of a formal planning application or until otherwise indicated by the client. The copyright of this report belongs to the Historic Environment Consultancy. No liability to third parties is accepted for advice and statements made in this report.

2.3 The Land

This report is an archaeological written scheme of investigation on 0.3 Ha of land the location of which is as follows

Site Address:	Robin Hood Public House 131 London Road Buxton
County:	Derbyshire
Post Code	SK17 9NW
Grid Reference:	SK 060 725

The general location is shown in Figure 1 and the specific location in Figure 2.

2.4 Site Visit

The Site was visited by Dr Peter Wardle on 11th April 2014.

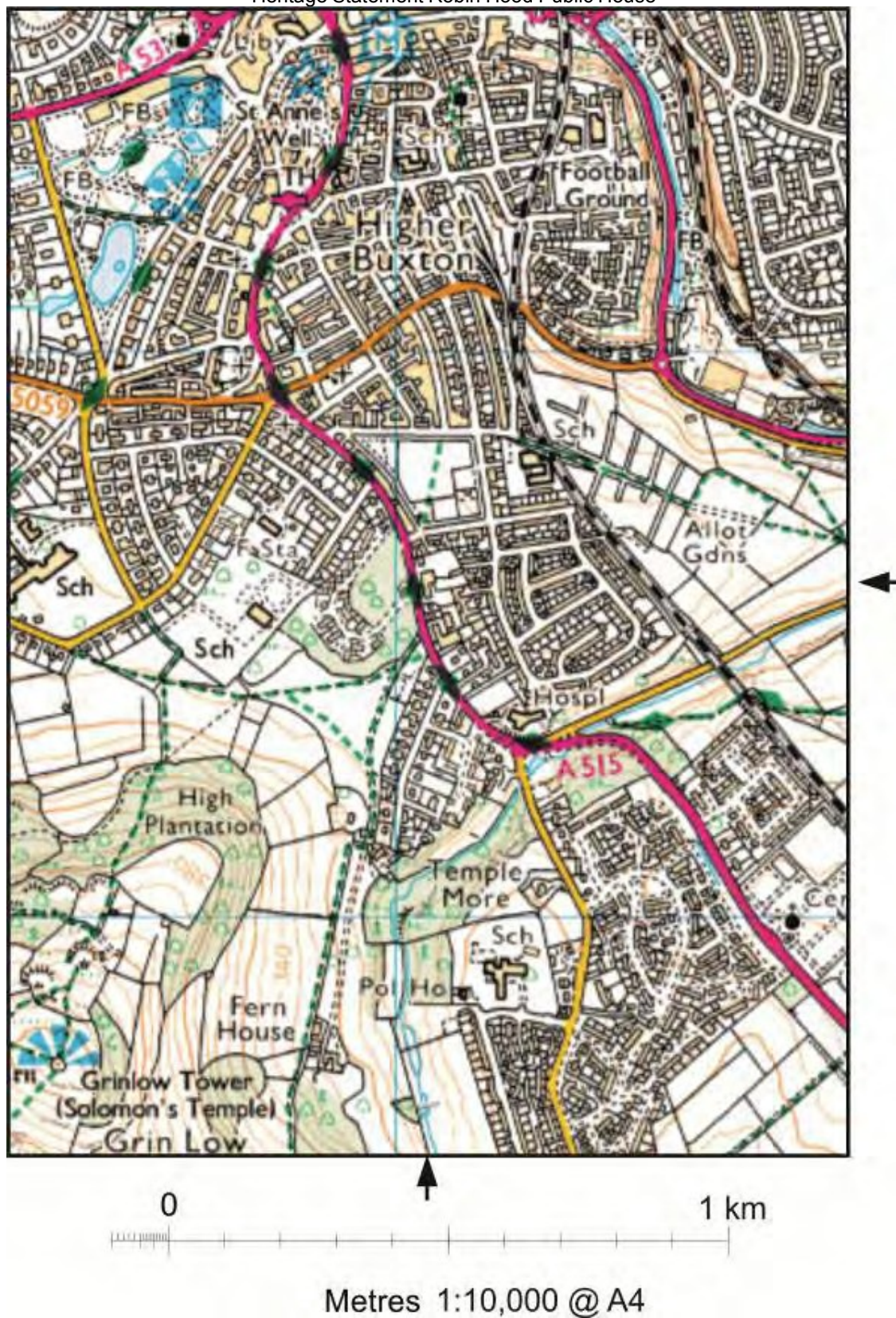


Figure 1: General Location Plan, Scale 1:10,000

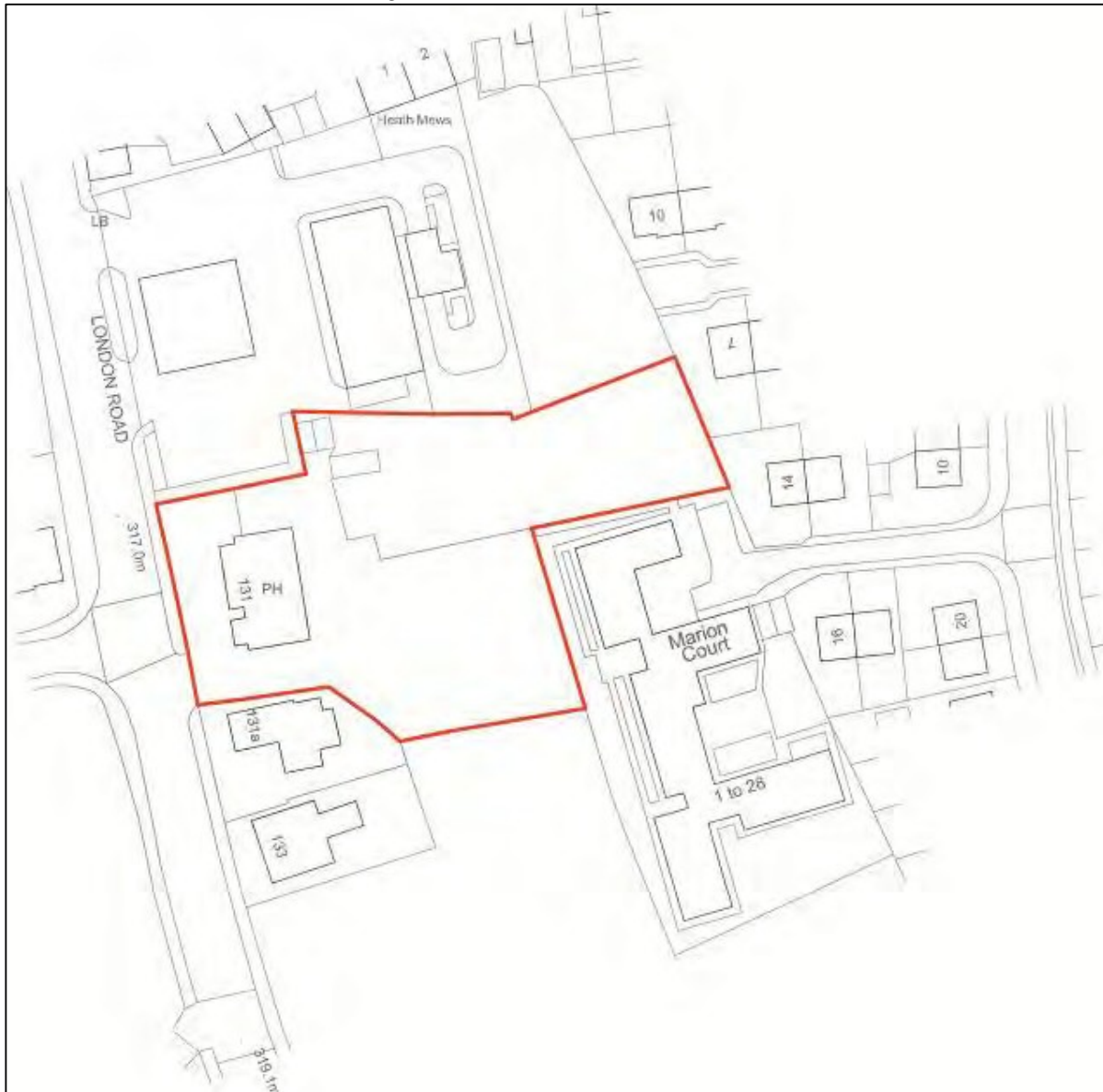


Figure 2: Detailed Location Plan. Scale 1:1000

2.5 Current Land Use

Vacant former public house with associated garden and car park to rear.

2.6 Topography

The land is at a height of 317 mAOD. It is gradually sloping down from southeast to northwest.

2.7 Geology

Bee Low Limestone Formation - Limestone

3. Archaeological Significance

The building is not located in an area of archaeological significance.

This has been confirmed in an email from Steve Baker, Derby and Derbyshire Development Control Archaeologist, who wrote:

The site is crossed by the probable line of the Buxton to Derby Roman road known as 'The Street' (HER 99030). A record from 1916 suggests that traces of the road were revealed during works to the rear of Heath House (now the Robin Hood Hotel), towards the southern end of the proposal area. Because of the subsequent landscaping and development of the site, however, I feel it is very unlikely that any archaeological remains now survive. I therefore recommend on balance that there is no need to place an archaeological requirement upon the applicant.

However in the formal comment on the application Steve Baker 8/10/14 stated

A postulated route of 'The Street' Roman road (HER 99030, 2854) between Buxton and Derby crosses the site. This is based on observations in 1916 of a slight ridge running through the 'paddock at the back of Heath House, London Road, and especially at the south-easterly end of the paddock, and also in the field in front of 'The Highlands' stables, London Road'. Heath House is now the Robin Hood Hotel; the location of 'Highlands' is unknown. The general alignment of this road on the HER is based on a straight line between this point and a slight hump in the wall north of Byron Street, which was suggested at the same time to represent the course of the road. Three sections were excavated through the ridge to the rear of Heath House, revealing a made road with large surface stones on the downslope side and smaller stones over the remaining width, and 'very much disintegrated'. This confirms the presence of a made road to the rear of Heath House – while not proven to be Roman in date by the reported 1916 excavations, it is certainly a distinct possibility given the presence of 'The Street' in this general area and on this rough alignment.

The south-eastern end of the paddock behind Heath House in 1916 is now outside the proposal boundary some 45m to the south, though the postulated line of the road crosses the Robin Hood site. The rear of the Robin Hood has been impacted to a large extent by landscaping, in particular the creation of a car park on the southern part of the former paddock. This is likely to have removed, or at best severely truncated remains of the possible Roman road. There is however a surviving area of garden to the rear of the northern part of the site which may retain some potential for archaeological remains, which would be impacted by foundations and hard landscaping associated with the new hotel development.

I recommend therefore that this archaeological interest is addressed through a conditioned programme of archaeological work in the surviving garden area, dependent on the proposed groundworks methodology but comprising either archaeologically controlled strip-and-record or trial trenching with further recording in the event of significant findings.

This WSI responds to this requirement.

4. Historic Background

4.1 The History of the Settlement

BUXTON is a celebrated watering place, on the river Wye, and 3 miles from the source of that river. The old road from Derby to Manchester passes through the town, which is 12 miles west-north-west from Bakewell, 22 north-west from Matlock, 24 south-south-east from Manchester, 38 north-north-west from Derby, 26 south-west from Sheffield and 159 from London by road; in 1895 it was formed into a civil parish from the parish of Bakewell, and is in the High Peak division of the county, High Peak hundred, union of Chapel-en-le-Frith, and county court district of Buxton, Chapel-en-le-Frith and New Mills, head of a petty sessional division, in the rural deanery of Buxton, archdeaconry of Derby and diocese of Southwell... One of the chief objects of interest here is the spring of tepid water, issuing in abundance from fissures in the mountain limestone at the temperature of 82° Fahrenheit, and never varying at any season of the year: this mineral water, the permanent character of which has been proved by successive analyses extending over a period of 300 years, is charged with nitrogen and carbonic acid gases in a pre-eminent degree, and is richer in the former than any other known spring.

Kelly's Directory of Derbyshire, 1912

Buxton is a spa town in Derbyshire and is the highest market town in England. It lies close to the Peak District National Park, however is outside its boundaries. A Mesolithic settlement is suggested in the area of Buxton dating to c. 5000BC, with indications that occupation continued through the Neolithic, Bronze and Iron Ages. The town has been continually occupied since the Roman period when a fort and settlement with spa were established.

Buxton is not mentioned in the Domesday Book, although this may be due to it being a cattle pasturing area, with sufficiently little revenue to be of interest to the crown.

The Roman name for Buxton was *Aquae Arnemetiae*, meaning *the spa of the goddess of the grove*. The name *Buxton* may derive from the Old English *būg-stān*, referring to a rocking stone or logan stone (a large stone balanced on another in such a way that it will rock under application of very little force), or from the Old English words *bucc* and *stān*, referring to a male deer and a stone.

Buxton has a geothermal spring which gives water at a constant temperature of 28°C. A medieval shrine was present at St Ann's Well, to where the water was piped. This became a location of pilgrimage in the middle ages. A shrine is still present on the site where the waters are taken by visitors.

During the Tudor period, Buxton was visited by the Earl of Leicester, Lord Burghley (the chief advisor to Queen Elizabeth I) and Mary Queen of Scots.

From the late 18th century, the construction of high-status buildings took place, affirming the town as a spa resort, recommended by the physician Dr Erasmus Darwin to the Wedgwood family of potters. In the early 1850s, thermal baths were built, and in 1863 the railway came to Buxton, giving widespread access to the town for spa tourists and those seeking water cures.

The railway also played a role in industry, with revenue from quarrying in the Buxton area comprising a large part of the area's income once stone could be shipped further afield.

Following the First World War, the town fell into decline.

5. Analysis of Historic Maps

5.1 Methodology

A variety of maps are presented in the map regression analysis which have been obtained, copied and digitised in a variety of ways and in addition certain conventions have been chosen. The following paragraphs list these conventions.

Map Date

The published map date is used.

Scale

The map has been rescaled to 1:1000 when the map is detailed enough to warrant this. This is achieved by applying a change of scale factor to the published scale. For maps which have been photographed a similar method is used but by measuring a distance on the historic map compared to a measured map. Such scaling is marked "approximate scaling" that is the scaling is within $\pm 10\%$. Where a map cannot be scaled with certainty within $\pm 10\%$ it is marked "not to scale". For smaller scales the maps are rescaled to approximately 1:2500 or 1:5000.

Distortion

Where a map has been distorted by photography or similar the map is corrected using photo-rectification software where this assists the interpretation of the map.

Locations of the Buildings

It is conventional to mark the location of the building or site by edging the boundaries in red. This convention is not followed as by definition it will obscure the mapping of the boundaries. Instead there are arrows which point to the position of the building.

Overlays

Where we present an overlay no attempt has been made to correct the historic map to the map projection and error apportionment of digital OS. Instead the overlay are presented with the best fit of the detail of the historic map to the OS data.

GIS corrected Maps

The use of digital historic maps which have been corner corrected so that they fit OS digital data are avoided as far as possible.

Symbol Sets

The symbol sets for the historic maps can be found on our web site www.historicenvironment.co.uk

Map North

Maps are presented with North at the top of the page. No correction is made so that the maps line up with Grid North not true North.

Errors

We regularly come across errors in mapping. These are discussed in the text and how we have investigated them.

Overlays

Where a map is overlaid onto OS data this is to be regarded as indicative not exact. The maps are adjusted so that the detail that is being considered matches OS data this will include:

1. Correct so that the historic map is orientated on grid north.
2. Scale

No attempt is made to correct for map projection.

5.2 1848 Tithe Maps

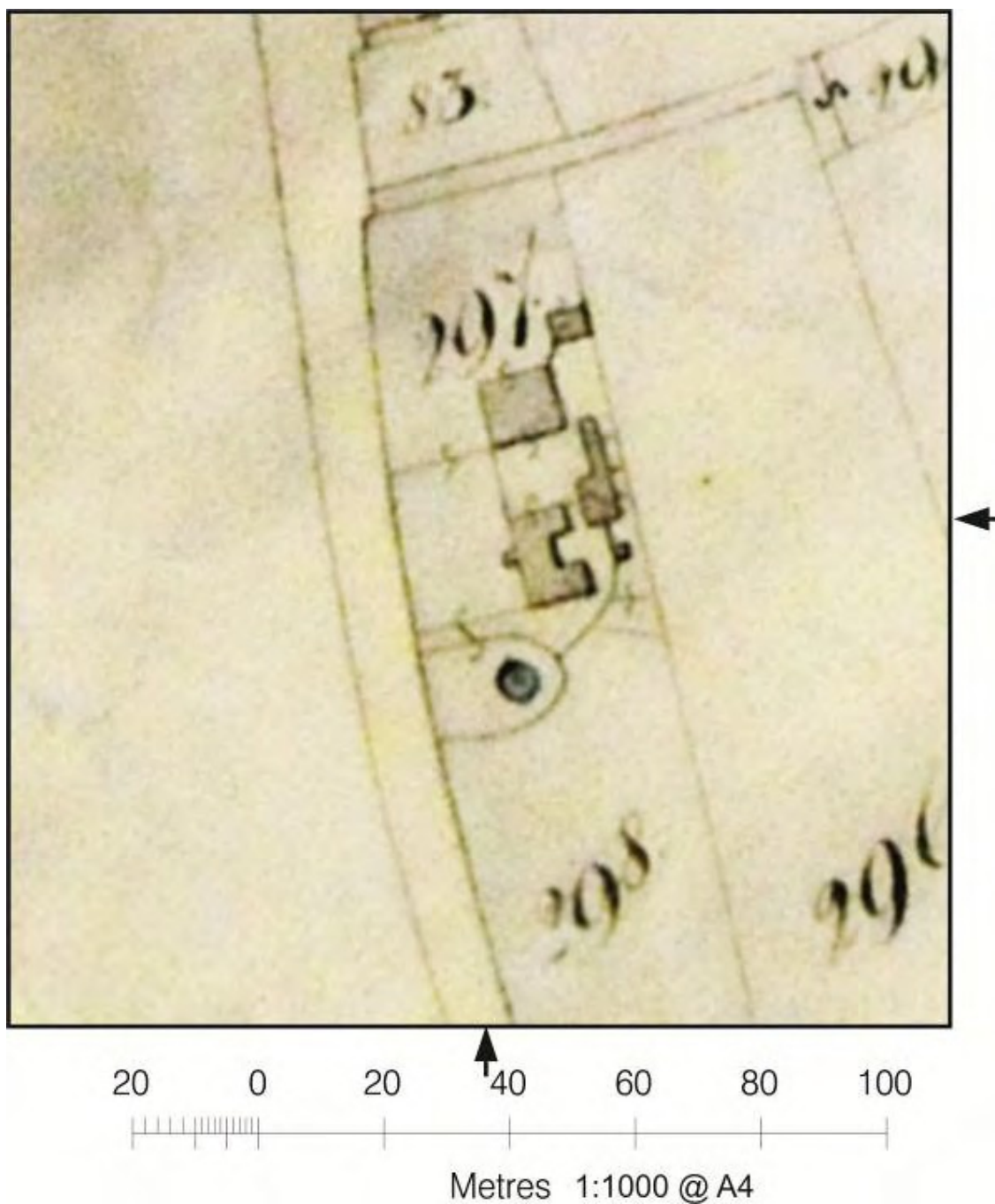


Figure 3 The 1848 Tithe Map

While a building is present on the plot of land it is located to the east of the circular feature to the south and therefore appears to be a different building to that present today.

5.3 1879 Ordnance Survey 1:500

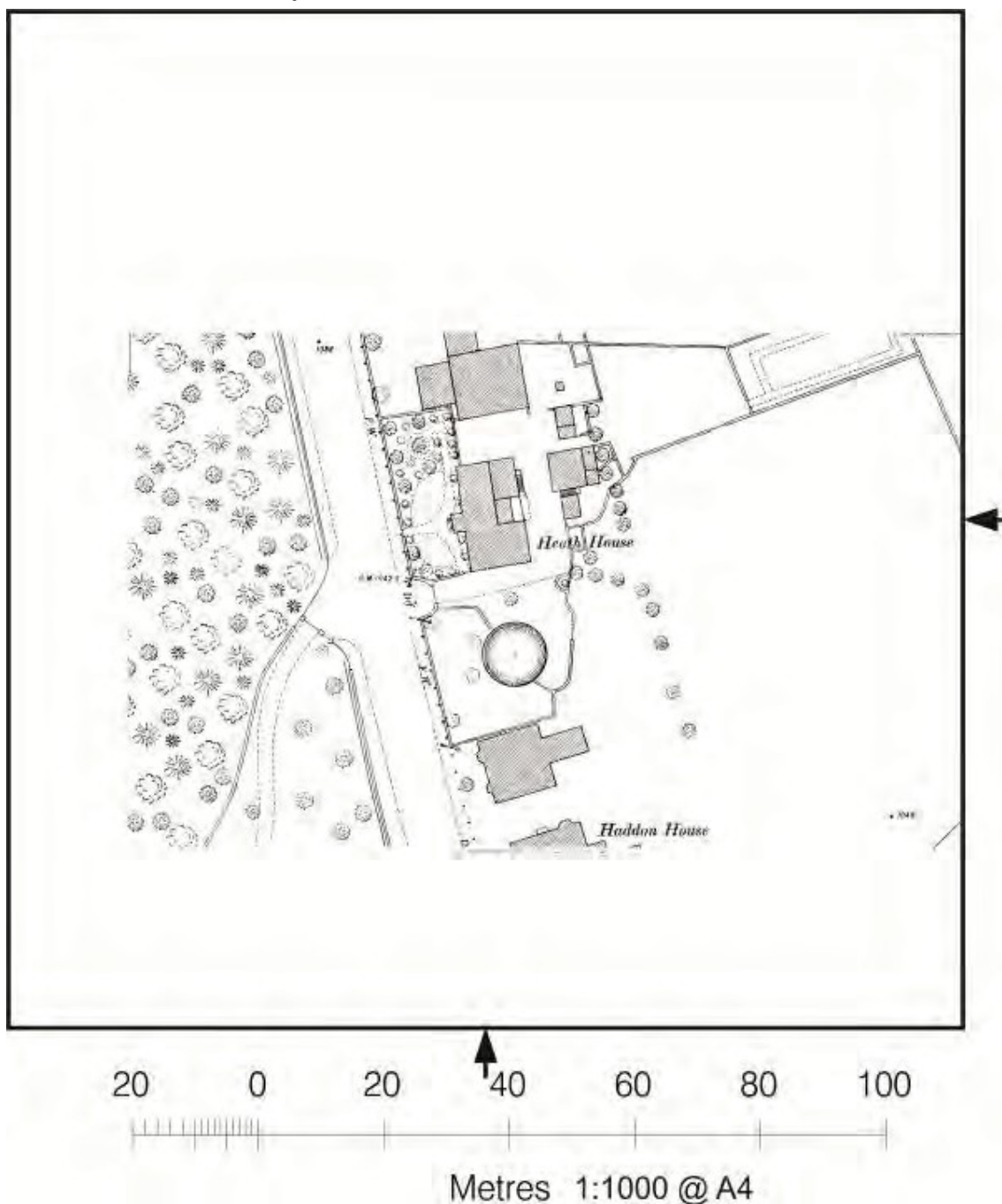


Figure 4: 1879 Ordnance Survey 1:500 reduced to 1:1000

The building is shown, labelled as Heath House, with phases 1, 2 and 3 present. Centrally to the rear, a small lean-to structure is present between phase 1 and phase 3 of the construction. A porch is present, central to the façade.

A number of outbuildings are present to the east.

5.4 1898 Ordnance Survey 1:2500

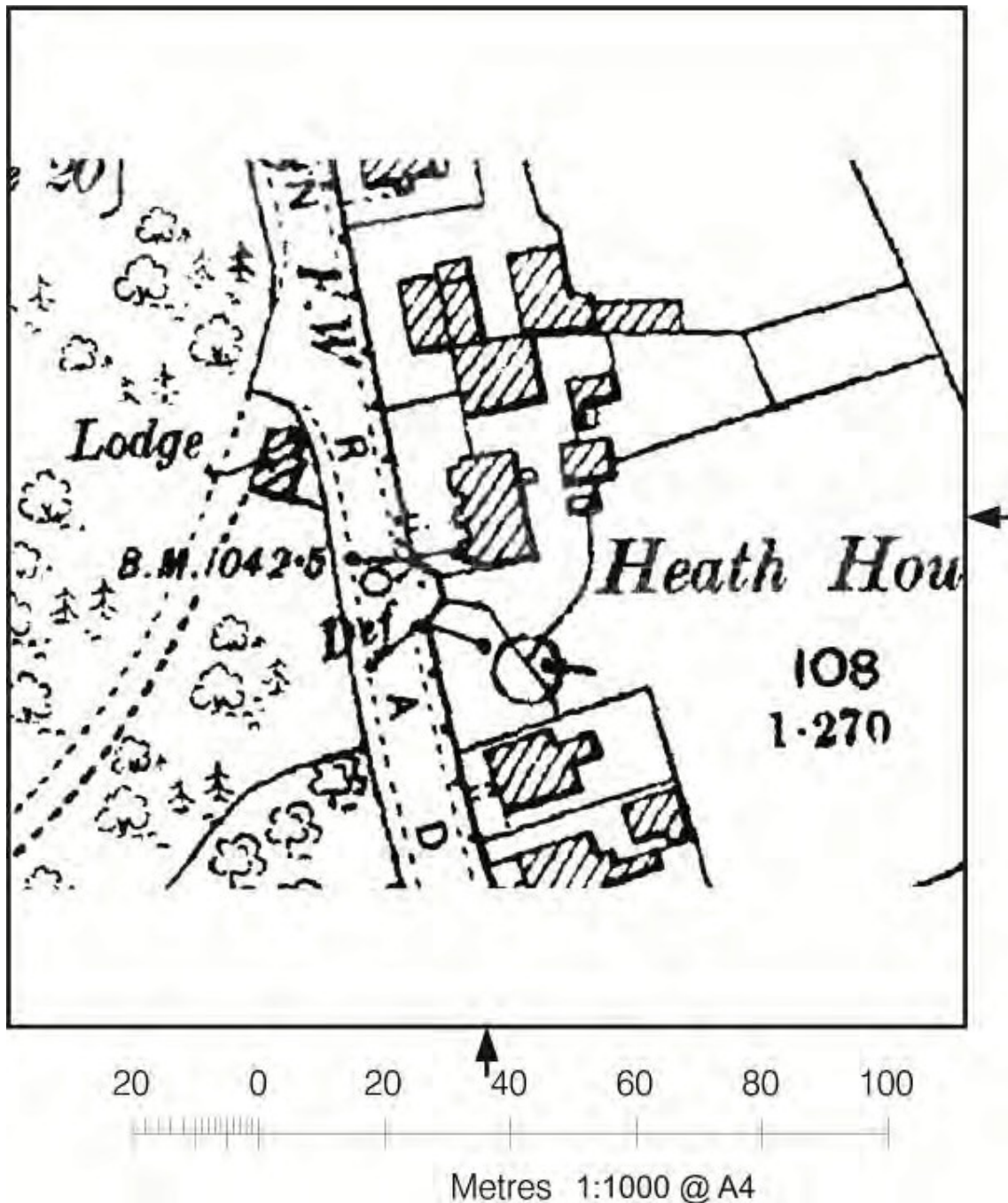


Figure 5: 1898 Ordnance Survey 1:2500, enlarged to 1:1000

The building is now shown as a single solid entity. The porch to the front is present and the recess to the rear has been filled in. The bay windows are now present to the west.

Outbuildings are still present to the rear.

5.5 1922 Ordnance Survey 1:2500

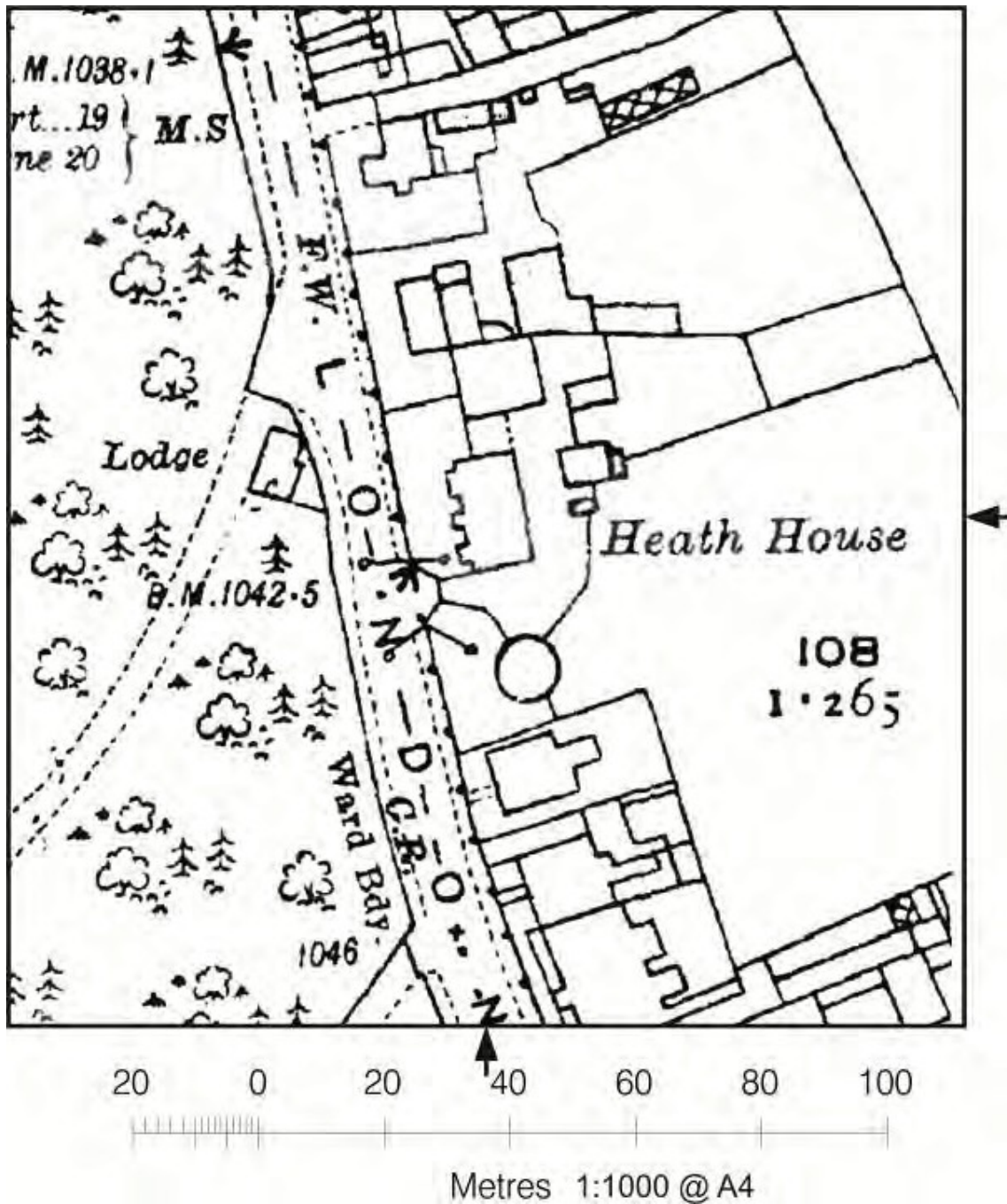


Figure 6: 1922 Ordnance Survey 1:2500

The form of the building has not changed, however the dotted line running from the northeast corner indicates a roofed structure open to the east is now present joined to the north of the building. This is thought to be that shown by the scar externally to the northern wall.

5.6 1955 Ordnance Survey 1:10,000

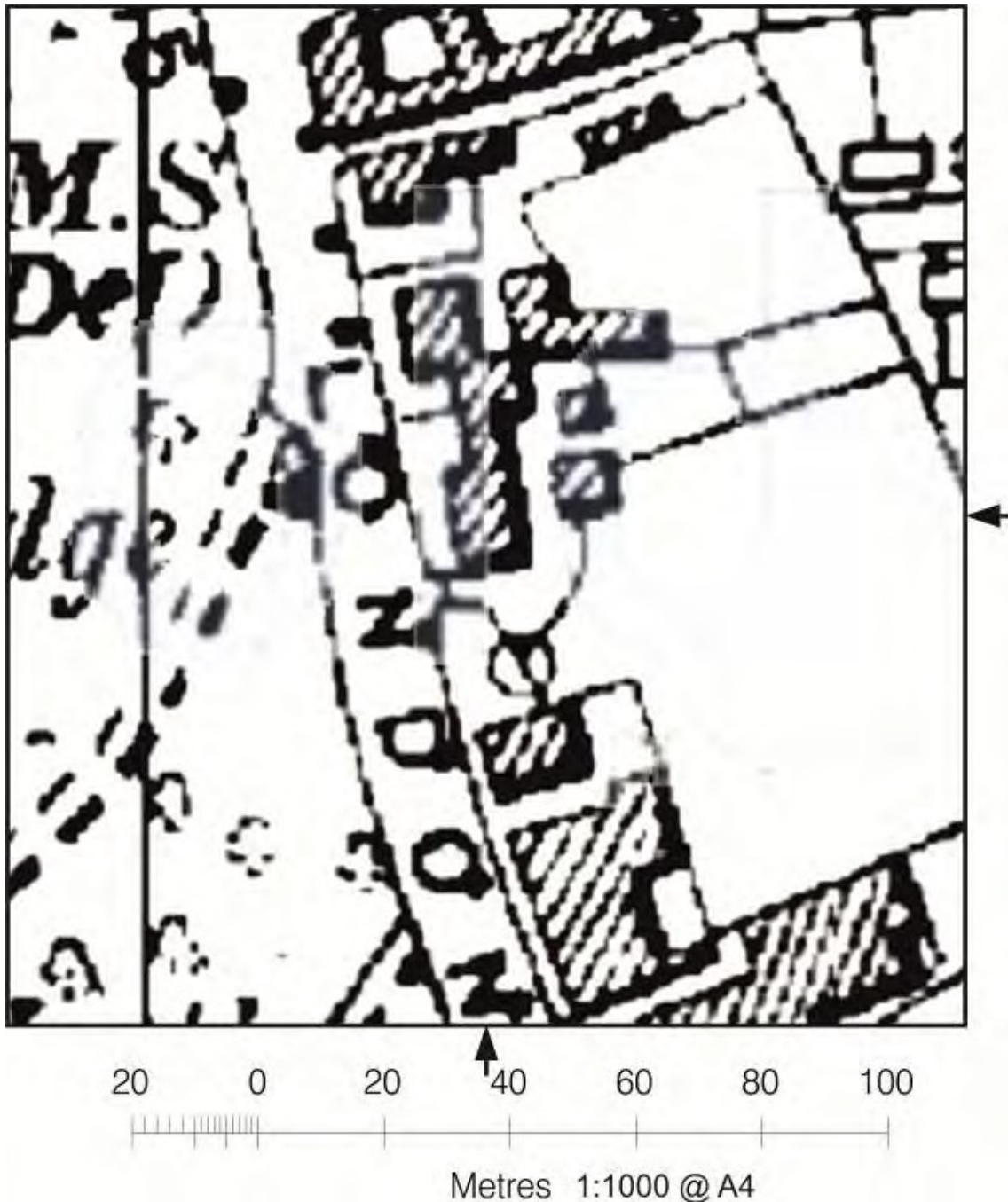


Figure 7: 1954 Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 enlarged to 1:1000

The above map depicts simplified building outlines, however it is clear that a roofed structure is present running to the north of the Robin Hood.

5.7 1977 Ordnance Survey 1:10,000



Figure 8: 1977 Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 enlarged to 1:1000

Again, building outlines are simplified, however a large structure is still joined to the north of the Robin Hood.

The outbuildings to the rear are now absent.

5.8 Modern Ordnance Survey

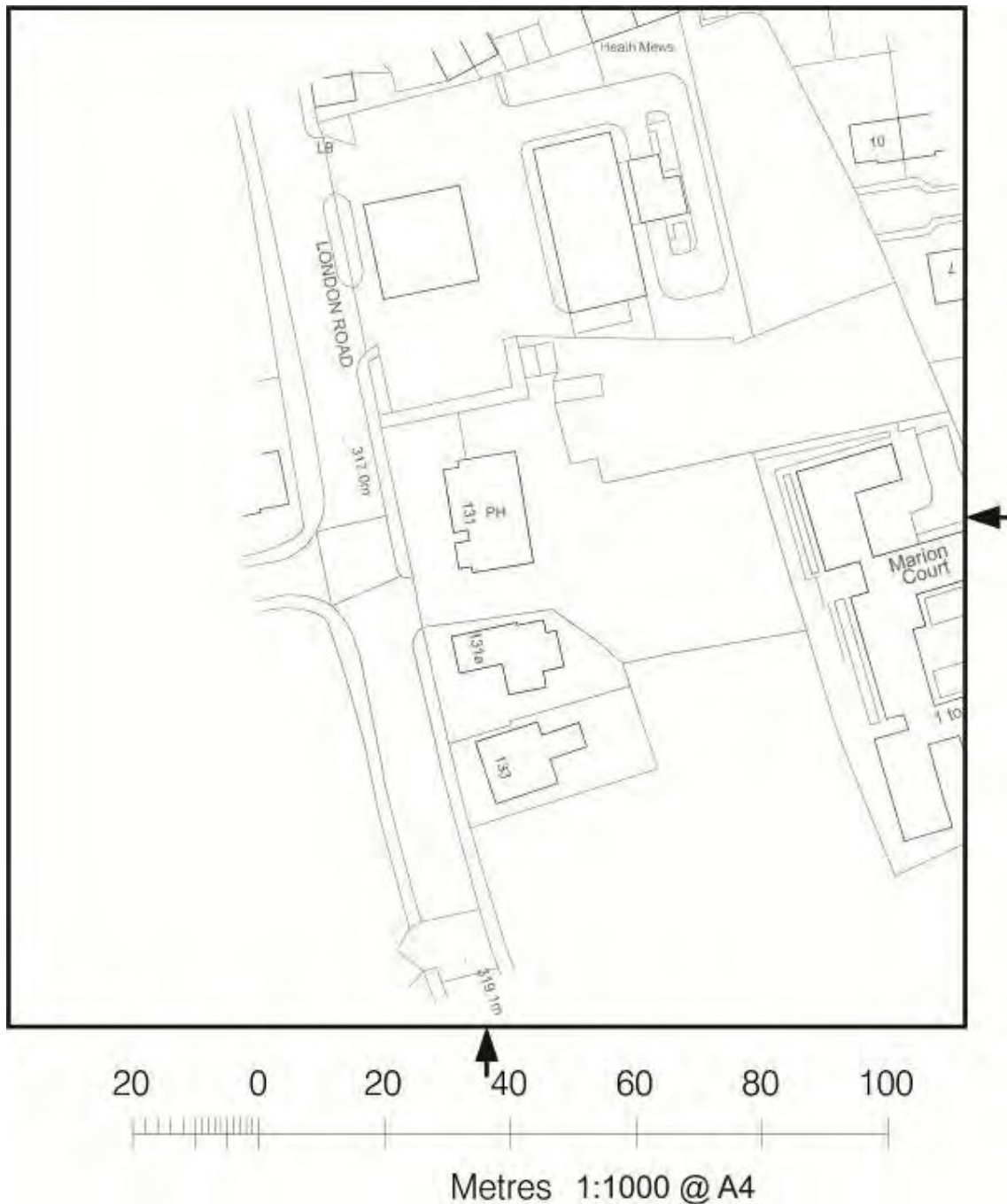


Figure 9: Modern Ordnance Survey, 1:1000

The building to the north is now absent however its western wall remains. The single- storey extension to the west, the kitchen extension to the rear and the lavatory extension to the south are not depicted.

6. Previous Archaeological Investigations on the Development Area

An amateur excavation was carried out in c. 1916 to investigate whether a slight ridge running through the paddock to the rear of Heath House (the former name of the Robin Hood public house) was the Roman road leading to Buxton from the southeast. A section of the road was uncovered during this exercise.

7. Archaeological Remains, Sites and Monuments in the Vicinity of the Development Area

A search of the Derbyshire County Council Historic Environment Record was carried out in a 500m radius on the centre of the site. Full results are available on request.

7.1 Prehistoric

A perforated hammerstone thought to be of Bronze Age date was found in Little Gib Yard, near to the site. The exact location is uncertain.

A flint blade was found during cultivation works at an allotment at Cote Heath in around 2007, 400m NE of the site. It is dated to the early Neolithic to the Early Bronze Age.

7.2 Roman

The Roman road between Buxton and Derby is reported to run through the site. An amateur excavation in the early part of the 20th century to the southeast of the pub building revealed a section of the road. A dip in a garden wall at Byron Street 300m NNW of the site is considered to indicate a continuation of the road.

The possible line of a second Roman road, running to the southwest, is located c. 45m to the west of the site. The line of this road is speculated from known locations established by excavation.

Roman pottery and coins were found at an unspecified location in Bennett Street in the late 19th-early 20th century.

7.3 Early Medieval – Pre 1066

No early medieval finds or sites are known from the vicinity.

7.4 Medieval – Post 1066-1485

No medieval finds or sites are known from the vicinity.

7.5 Post Medieval 1485-1700

No post-medieval finds or sites are known from the vicinity. A number of post-medieval buildings survive.

7.6 Undated

A bell-shaped piece of enamelled bronze was found during building work at the junction of London Road and Leek Road in 1894, c. 440m west of the site.

Traces of a paved road which may or may not be Roman were found at a depth of 600mm below ground level in or before the late 1970s, 425m to the northwest.

8. On site Observations - Current Topography

The site slopes from the southeast down to the northwest. Landscaping has occurred around the pub building which is located towards the northeast of the site. The northern part of the site is occupied by a beer garden whilst the southern part is a car park.



Plate 1: Northeast part of site - beer garden



Plate 2: Northwest part of site - beer garden



Plate 3: Western aspect, beer garden



Plate 4: Eastern aspect, southern part of site (car park)



Plate 5: South aspect, car park

9. Aerial Photographic Evidence

Aerial photographs of the site are reproduced below, taken from Google Earth.



Plate 6: 1999 Google air photo



Plate 7: 6th September 2005 Google air photo



Plate 8: 6th September 2005 air photo



Plate 9: 2006 Google air photo

The area around the site is heavily built on and there are no discernible earthworks indicating the location of the Roman road or any other archaeological features.

10. The Roman Road

The Derbyshire County Council Historic Environment Record has four records pertaining to Roman roads within a 500m radius of the site. One record, ref 2368, relates to a road located to the west of the site, entering Buxton from the southwest. The remaining three records (refs. 2854, 2866 and 99030) relate to the road considered to intersect the site.

A fifth record (2850) refers to traces of a paved surface which may be Roman in origin to the northwest of the site, at the junction of London Road and Leek Road.

Reference 2866 records the location of 'a large hump and dip in the front wall of a garden' on the north side of Byron Street considered to be an indicator of the route of the Roman road. The dip is noted in the photograph below to the right of the lamp post, but is not considered conducive.



Plate 10: Dip in garden wall (Google Street View)

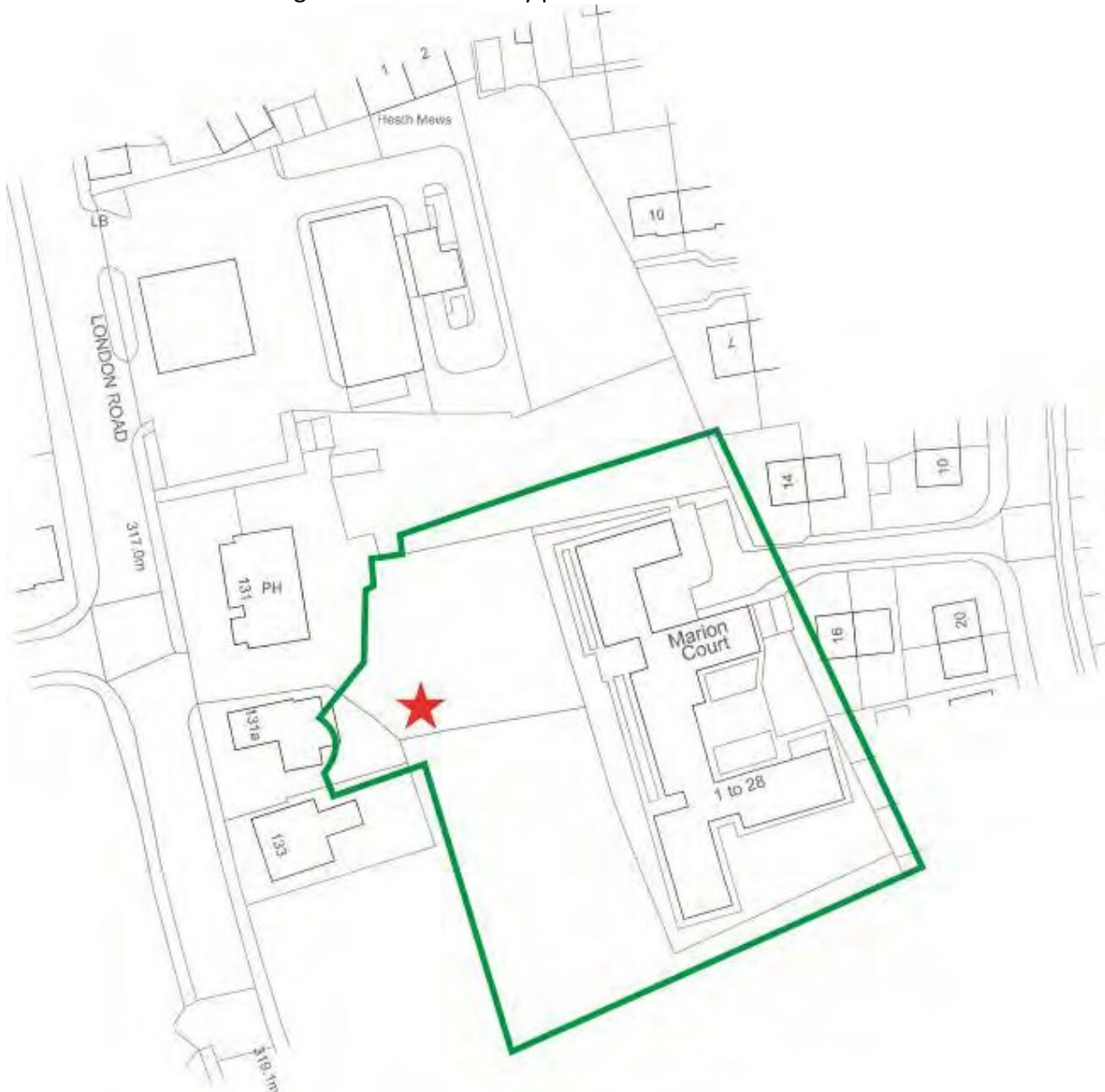
HER reference 2854 is that of the amateur excavation in the area to the rear of the Robin Hood pub, then known as Heath House, in c. 1916. The text of the entry is reproduced as follows:

The line in which the road to Little Chester left Buxton has not hitherto been defined [1916]. This road can, however, be clearly traced in the paddock at the back of Heath House, London Road, and especially at the south-easterly end of the paddock, and also in the field in front of 'The Highlands' stables, London Road. In order to prove that the slight ridge running through Heath House paddock former the site of the road, a section of this road was uncovered by Tristram and several other gentlemen interested in archaeology. Two further sections were uncovered just beyond, and on the opposite side of the present road to, the cemetery. All three sections were identical in character. Large stone surface stones were placed for support along the side of the road where the ground had a downward slope, and the remaining width of the road was formed of smaller surface stones. The road was very much disintegrated, and it seems probable that the traffic became gradually diverted to the present road, owing to the dilapidated condition in to which the Roman road had fallen.

The point the HER records for the 1916 investigation is given an eight figure grid reference which is accurate to a ten metre square. Monuments with more questionable locations tend to be given a six-figure reference which is accurate to 100m. The location is therefore considered to be fairly accurate.

The grid reference supplied by the HER places the location of the 1916 investigation at the southwest corner of the area to the east of 131a London Road in an area formerly occupied by an open field, presumed to be the paddock as mentioned in the HER description. This paddock can be seen on the historic mapping reproduced above and was considerably larger than it is now, however the point of the investigation indicated by the HER still lies within the current, albeit reduced in size, parcel of land.

The plan below shows the location of the HER point for the 1916 excavations in red, with the former extent of the paddock transcribed from the 1922 1:2500 Ordnance Survey map in green, overlaid on the modern digital Ordnance Survey plan.



RED: HER point for 1916 excavations GREEN: Extent of paddock from 1922 1:2500 map

Figure 10: Location of HER point for 1916 investigations, 1:1000 @ A4

Entry 99030 in the HER details the general line of the road along its 31½ miles between Derby and Buxton. Its alignment on entering Buxton is documented as follows:

The present straight road in to Buxton is not the Roman route, which is now known to be marked first by a minor road close alongside it on the west and then by a line of field walls.

This alignment has been traced on aerial photographs (solid line on illustration overleaf) and if projected beyond the extent of the field walls (dashed line on illustrations overleaf) it can be seen to cross 'the road to the cemetery' as mentioned in the 1916 account above, before running through the Robin Hood site in the rough location of the line of trees in the car park.

It is noted that this is not the alignment depicted as line 99030 on the HER plot and it does not align with the dip in the wall mentioned above (HER 2854). It does, however, cross the site within 20m of the point marked for the 1916 investigation and passes c. 10m from the undated paved surface found at the junction of London Road and Leek Road (HER 2850), reinforcing the possibility that the road follows the route from the air photographs and the dip in the garden wall on Byron Street is merely coincidental.



Figure 11: Approximate route of Roman road plotted on Google Earth air photography (not to scale)

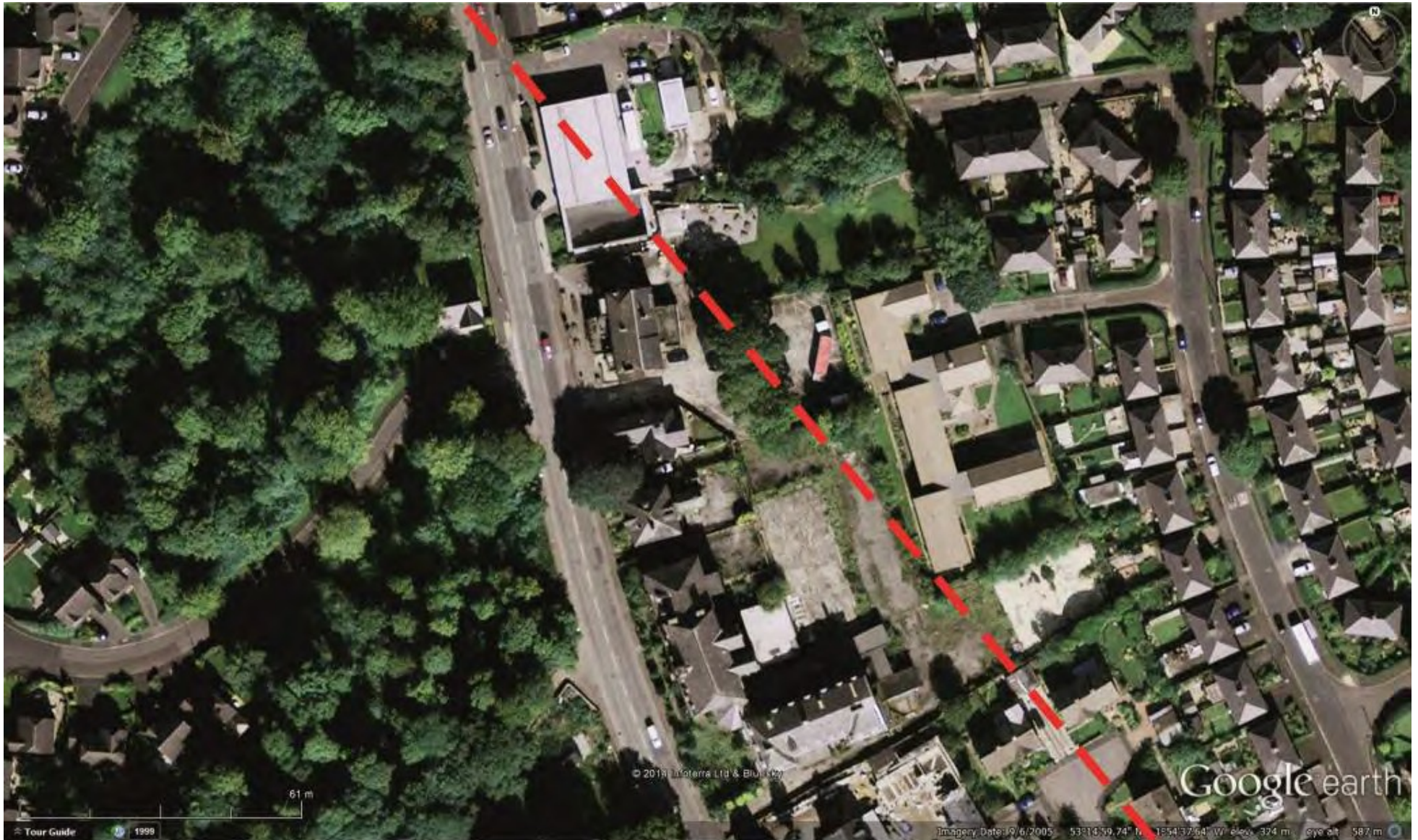


Figure 12: Approximate projected route of Roman road from field boundaries, c. 1:1000 @ A4 (Google Earth air photography)

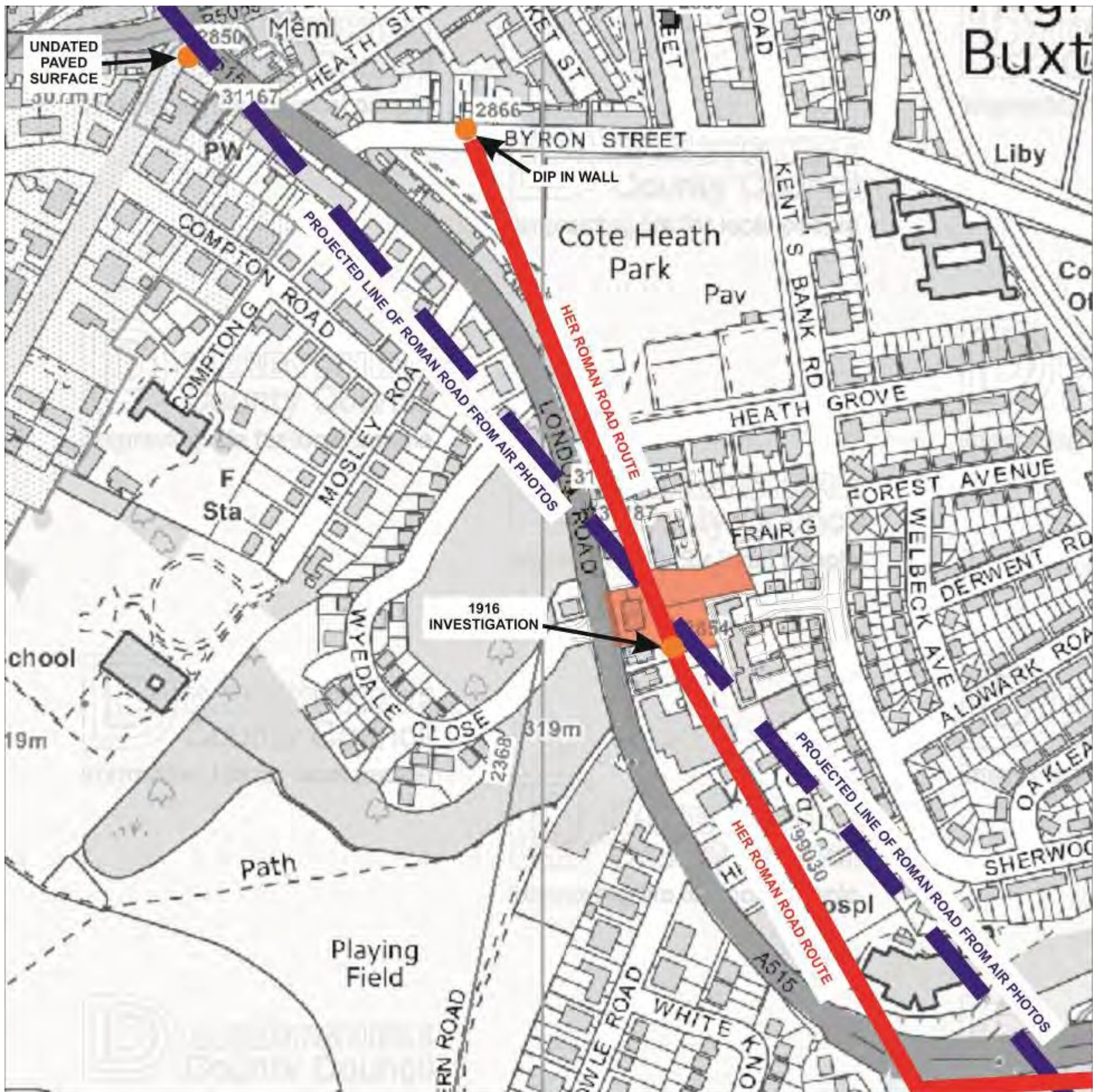


Figure 13: Projected line of road from air photos in relation to HER entries (1:2500 @A3)

11. Proposed Fieldwork

The strong likelihood of a Roman road passing through the site necessitates an archaeological evaluation in order to ascertain the presence or absence of archaeological remains in the development area. If remains are encountered, their location, extent and condition can be recorded.


It is proposed to excavate two trenches:

- One 1.8m in width (the width of a ditching bucket) by 20m in length at the northern end of the car park. This is located so as to coincide with the road as recorded in the Historic Environment Record and also with the projected line of the Roman road as taken from the air photographic evidence.
- One trench of 1.8m x 15m will be excavated to the north to examine the possible continuation of the road across the site.

Dependent on the findings from these investigations a further programme of archaeological work may be implemented.

11.1 Fieldwork Methodology

Constraints	There are no known constraints.
Methodology	<p>At all times the project will follow current IfA best practice, standards and similar and where this specification is silent then those standards and practices shall prevail.</p> <p>The work will consist of stripping topsoil and subsoil with a backhoe loader or a tracked 360° excavator using a toothless ditching bucket under direct archaeological supervision. A plan of any archaeological remains will be produced.</p> <p>If archaeological remains are found, a sampling strategy will be agreed and a more detailed written scheme of investigation will be submitted for approval.</p> <p>Excavation will be carried out by machine unless archaeological remains are located.</p> <p>Mechanical excavation should cease if archaeological remains are found.</p> <p>Standard Methodologies are appended.</p>
On site methodology management	<p><i>The project officer will have to exercise professional judgement in terms of:</i></p> <p>What features will be excavated and how much of them – dating evidence and depths are always important. The objective of this phase of excavation is to determine what the sampling strategy will be if archaeological remains are found.</p>

Site Specific Recording	 <p>Archaeological deposits will not be completely excavated unless it was deemed unavoidable.</p> <p>All stratigraphic sequences will be recorded, even where no archaeology is present. Features will be planned at a scale of 1:20 or 1:50, and sections drawn of all cut features and significant vertical stratigraphy at a scale of 1:10. A comprehensive written record will be maintained using a continuous numbered context system on <i>pro-forma</i> cards. Written records and scale plans will be supplemented by photographs using digital photography.</p> <p>Where there was evidence for industrial activity, samples will be taken to identify macroscopic technological residues in accordance with <i>Archaeometallurgy</i> (English Heritage 2001) and <i>Science for Historic Industries</i> (English Heritage 2006).</p> <p>Recovered finds will be cleaned, marked and dried onsite and remedial conservation work undertaken as necessary off site. Treatment of all finds conforms to guidance contained within the Centre of Archaeology Fieldwork Manual and <i>First Aid for Finds</i> (Watkinson and Neal 1998).</p> <p>Any human remains that are encountered will be left insitu unless this is deemed as impossible. Any lifting of human skeletal remains will be kept to the minimum which is compatible with an adequate evaluation. Burials will be recorded in situ and subsequently lifted, washed, marked and packed to standards compatible with <i>Excavation and post-excavation treatment of cremated and inhumed human remains</i> (McKinley and Roberts 1993). Excavation of human remains confirms with advice provided in <i>Church Archaeology: its care and management</i> (Council for the Care of Churches 1999), <i>Human bones from Archaeological Sites</i> (English Heritage 2004) and in <i>Guidance for best practice for treatment of human remains excavated from Christian burial grounds in England</i> (English Heritage 2005).</p> <p>The full site archive will include all artefactual remains recovered from the site. The site archive will be prepared according to guidelines set down in Appendix 3 of the Management of Archaeology Projects (English Heritage, 1991), the Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-term Storage (UKIC, 1990) and the Derbyshire Archives guidelines and procedures. The paper archive will be deposited with Buxton Museum and Art Gallery. The archive procedure will follow the Museums in Derbyshire Procedure for the Transfer of</p>
Artefacts: Site-specific collection strategies	<p>Artefacts that provide dating or land use evidence must be collected.</p> <p>All other pre 20th century artefacts will be collected.</p>

	All artefacts from excavated contexts will be retained, except those from features or deposits of obviously modern date. In such circumstances, sufficient artefacts will be retained in order to elucidate the date and / or function of the feature or deposit. Material of undoubtedly modern date observed on the spoil heap would not be noted or retained.
Environmental Sampling	<p>Buried soils and sediment sequences will be inspected and recorded on site where appropriate. Examination of soil sediments conformed to guidelines set out in <i>Geoarchaeology: using earth sciences to understand the archaeological record</i> (English Heritage 2004). Deposits will be sampled for retrieval and assessment of the preservation conditions and potential for analysis of biological remains. The environmental sampling policy follows the guidelines contained in the Centre of Archaeology Fieldwork Manual and <i>Environmental Archaeology: a guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation</i> (English Heritage 2002). In general, 40L of material will be sampled from contexts which demonstrate environmental potential. Sampling strategies for wooden structures conformed to guidelines set out in <i>Waterlogged wood: Guidelines on the recording, sampling, conservation and curation of waterlogged wood</i>. (Bunning 1996).</p> <p>Where suitable deposits existed they will be sampled for dendrochronological dating evidence in line with <i>Dendrochronology: guidelines on producing and interpreting dendrochronological data</i> (English Heritage 2004a).</p>
Contingency Excavation	See standard methodology
Contingency Post-Excavation	See standard methodology
Reporting	The report will include comment on the development of the site.
Archiving	<p>The archive will be deposited with Derby Museum. (See site specific recording above)</p> <p>A copy of the report will also be submitted to OASIS (Online Access to the Index of archaeological investigations).</p>
Personnel Project Manager	Kevin Colls CMifa
Personnel On site Manager	William Mitchell CAifa
Contingency Personnel	In the event that a full excavation is required, the situation will be reviewed and a further written scheme of investigation will be produced prior to the commencement of excavation work.

Timescale On-site	It can be anticipated that this work will take 1-2 days.
Timescale Post-excavation	The post-excavation timescale is relevant to the findings of the exercise. It will differ depending on any artefacts recovered and archaeological features present.
Copyright	The copyright of all data relating to the evaluation will belong to The Historic Environment Consultancy.
Minor Variation	Minor variations may be implemented for practical on-site reasons.
Major Variation	A curatorial authority will be notified of any major variation.
Access	There are no access difficulties.
Monitoring	The local authority archaeology service will be given notice of the start of work so that a monitoring visit can be arranged.

Standard Methodologies

Health and Safety	<p>All work will be carried out in accordance with the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 and the Management of Health and Safety Regulations 1992, and all other relevant Health and Safety legislation, regulations and codes of practice in force at the time.</p> <p>Correct PPE should be used at all times.</p> <p>The absence of underground services should be ascertained before digging commences.</p> <p>The main contractor is responsible for health and safety on site. The instructions of the engineer should be followed.</p> <p>Safe working practices will supersede archaeological considerations at all times.</p> <p>A risk assessment will be carried out before work starts on site.</p>
Personnel	A project manager will be responsible for the supervision of the project and will make monitoring visits to the site.
Excavation: Mechanical	<p>An appropriate machine must be used, with an appropriate bucket, usually a wide toothless ditching blade. Choice should be influenced by prevailing site conditions, and the machine must be able to carry out a clean job.</p> <p>All machine work must be carried out under the direct supervision of an archaeologist.</p> <p>The groundworks contractor is responsible for locating buried/above ground services, and for any consequences resulting from their damage.</p>

Heritage Statement Robin Hood Public House

Excavation: General	All excavation, both by machine and by hand, must be undertaken with a view to avoiding damage to any archaeological features or deposits which appear to be worthy of preservation in situ.
Inclement Weather	In the instance that the weather or effects thereof on the site should not be conducive to good healthy and safe working practices, work will cease until conditions improve.
Recording: Drawing	<p>A complete drawn record of excavated archaeological features and deposits will be compiled. This will include both plans and sections.</p> <p>Plans will be tied in to the Ordnance Survey National Grid.</p> <p>Where appropriate, the Ordnance Datum height of all principal features will be calculated, and plans / sections annotated therewith.</p> <p>Drawings will be made at appropriate scales (1:10, 1:20, 1:100, 1:500) using drafting film and hard (4H-6H) pencils.</p>
Recording: Photography	<p>The photographic record will consist of high resolution SLR digital (6+ megapixel), and monochrome film images, with negatives, of archival quality.</p> <p>The photographic record will illustrate both the detail and general context of the principal features, finds excavated and the site and environs as a whole.</p>
Reporting	<p>All plans must be at a recognised standard scale, have a scale bar and be georeferenced.</p> <p>Copies of the report will be circulated to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Client • The Planning Archaeologist • The SMR • The institution where the archive will be deposited • The National Monuments Record • Local Studies Library <p>Copies of all digital photographs and digitised drawings should be circulated via CD or DVD.</p>
Post-excavation	<p>Post-excavation work will include detailed analysis of biological samples, sedimentary samples or artefacts as is necessary and appropriate for an evaluation.</p> <p>All artefacts will, as a minimum, be washed, weighed, counted and identified. Any artefacts requiring conservation or specific storage conditions will be dealt with immediately in line with First Aid for Finds (Watkinson and Neal 1998).</p>
Contents of Report	<p>The report will contain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A non-technical summary • An outline description of the aims of the evaluation and the methodology used in order to achieve these aims • A descriptive text concerning the results of the evaluation, including finds

Heritage Statement Robin Hood Public House

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting figures at appropriate scales showing the location of all excavated areas and features / deposits • Summary tables showing soil descriptions and depths for all excavations, and for all artefacts recovered
Archiving	<p>Prior to the commencement of fieldwork, arrangements will be made with the appropriate museum for deposition of the archive and finds, subject to agreement with the landowner. A museum accession number will also be sought at this time.</p> <p>The archive will be prepared to the standards set out in Management of Archaeological Projects (English Heritage, 1991).</p> <p>It will be prepared for long-term storage in accordance with guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long term storage (Walker 1990) and Standards in the museum care of archaeological collections (Museums and Galleries Commission 1994).</p> <p>The archive should be retained pending further work but it should be deposited with the relevant authority if further work does not take place.</p> <p>Subject to the wishes of the landowner, the entire archive (including any finds) will be deposited with the local museum service.</p> <p>If necessary, the paper records of the site archive will be security microfilmed prior to deposition.</p>
Evaluation Standards	<p>The Institute for Archaeologists standards for evaluations are appended.</p>

12. Appendix: Definitions

Term	Definition
Archaeology	The study of past human activities, before the end of the post medieval period at 1700 AD, from the material remains which these activities produce.
Remains	Includes any sign or trace of the thing in question.
Archaeological Site	The place or position occupied by, and the place where, physical remains of past human activity, including those remains, can be discovered.
Evaluation	Small scale inexpensive trial archaeological excavation carried out before planning permission is granted in order to determine the weight that ought to be placed upon the preservation of an archaeological site.
Industrial Archaeology	The study, using archaeological methods, of industrial processes from ancient times to the present day.
Mitigation Strategy	A strategy for ameliorating the effects of a development on an archaeological site, by means of a foundation design which reduces the amount of ground disturbance, or a programme of archaeological investigation, recording and research.
Preservation in situ	The physical preservation of archaeological remains and sites in the place where they are to be found.
Planning Archaeologist	The person who advises the Local Planning Authority on archaeological matters. This may be somebody within the authority but can be an external post in a County Council, English Heritage or another body.
Period Definitions	
Neolithic	Circa 4000-2500 bc uncalibrated radio-carbon years
Earlier Bronze Age	2500-1200 bc
Later Bronze Age	1200BC-800 bc
Iron Age	800 bc-50 AD
Romano-British	AD50-AD410
Early Medieval	AD410-1086
Medieval	1086-1485
Post Medieval	1485-1700
Tudor	1485-1558
Jacobean	1603-1702
Georgian	1702-1837
Early Modern (Imperial)	1700-1837
Victorian	1837-1901
Modern	1901-present day

Geological definitions	
Particle sizes	The Wentworth Scale is used
Made Ground	Non natural deposits which may have the potential to be archaeological remains. It is noted that the identification of made ground as being modern is the prerogative of archaeologists.