

NORFOLK ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT

Report No 982

**An Archaeological Watching Brief at
Robin Farm, Itteringham,
Norfolk**

11340 JTT

Steven Tatler

October 2004

© Norfolk Archaeological Unit

Contents

Summary

- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Geology and Topography
- 3.0 Archaeological and Historical Background
- 4.0 Methodology
- 5.0 Results
- 6.0 The Finds
- 7.0 Conclusions

Acknowledgements

Bibliography

Figures

- Fig.1 Site location
- Fig.2 Area location

Location: Robin Farm, Itteringham, Norfolk
District: North Norfolk
Grid Ref: TG 1405 3075
HER No.: 11340 JTT
Date of fieldwork: 1st February 2000

Summary

An archaeological watching brief was carried out following the excavation of a new access track and cart shed at Robin Farm, Itteringham, Norfolk.

No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed, although a small quantity of worked prehistoric flint was recovered from unstratified deposits.

1.0 Introduction

(Fig. 1)

An archaeological watching brief was carried out by Norfolk Archaeological Unit (NAU) during the construction of a new access track and cart shed at Robin Farm, Itteringham, Norfolk.

The report was commissioned and funded by Mr & Mrs Goodman of Robin Farm, Itteringham, Norfolk.

This archaeological watching brief was undertaken in accordance with a Brief issued by Norfolk Landscape Archaeology (NLA Ref: 99 0876 PF).

The site archive is currently held by the Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service, following the relevant policy on archiving standards.

2.0 Geology and Topography

North-east Norfolk has a cover of loamy loess over glacial till or course outwash. The most widespread upland soil is a well drained brown earth with about 0.5m of almost stone free brown loam over sand and gravel. This sand and gravel (Norwich Crag formation), sometimes also containing shell, was laid down by the north sea not long before the advent of the Ice Age glaciers.

The site lies on flat ground to the north of the River Bure, west of the village of Itteringham.

3.0 Archaeological and Historical Background

Within the area of the farm several artefacts have been recovered, mainly by fieldwalking. In the late 1960s a Bronze Age barbed wire Beaker (HER 11340) was discovered in the vicinity of the farmhouse. In 1990 one sherd of post-medieval pottery (HER 28032) was found in a field to the north-west of the farmhouse and in 1991 several sherds ranging in date from the Romano-British to post-medieval (HER 11340) were found to the north of the farmhouse.

4.0 Methodology

(Fig. 2)

The objective of this watching brief was to record any archaeological evidence revealed during the excavation of a new access track and cart shed.

Any archaeological features and deposits were recorded using the NAU *pro forma* sheets. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and colour and monochrome photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.

Due to the lack of suitable deposits, no environmental samples were taken.

5.0 Results

Several pieces of struck and burnt prehistoric flint were recovered from unstratified deposits from spoil associated with the access track. The post-holes excavated for the cart shed were only 0.23m deep and did not effect the subsoil or disturb any potential archaeological features. No deposits or features of archaeological interest were observed.

6.0 The Finds

The Flint

(Fig. 2)

Five pieces of prehistoric flint were recovered from unstratified deposits associated with the access track. These consisted of three flakes and two burnt fragments.

7.0 Conclusions

The results of this watching brief are largely negative.

No features were observed during the excavation of the new access track, although a small quantity of worked prehistoric flint was recovered from unstratified deposits associated with it. The ground works for the cart shed were very shallow and did not disturb the subsoil.

Acknowledgements

Thanks to Mr & Mrs Goodman of Robin Farm, Itteringham, Norfolk who commissioned and funded this work.

The watching brief was carried out by Jayne Bown. The report was written by Steven Tatler, illustrated and produced by Maggie Foottit and edited by Alice Lyons.

Bibliography

Peter Wade-Martins 1994 *An Historical Atlas of Norfolk*, Norfolk Museums Service

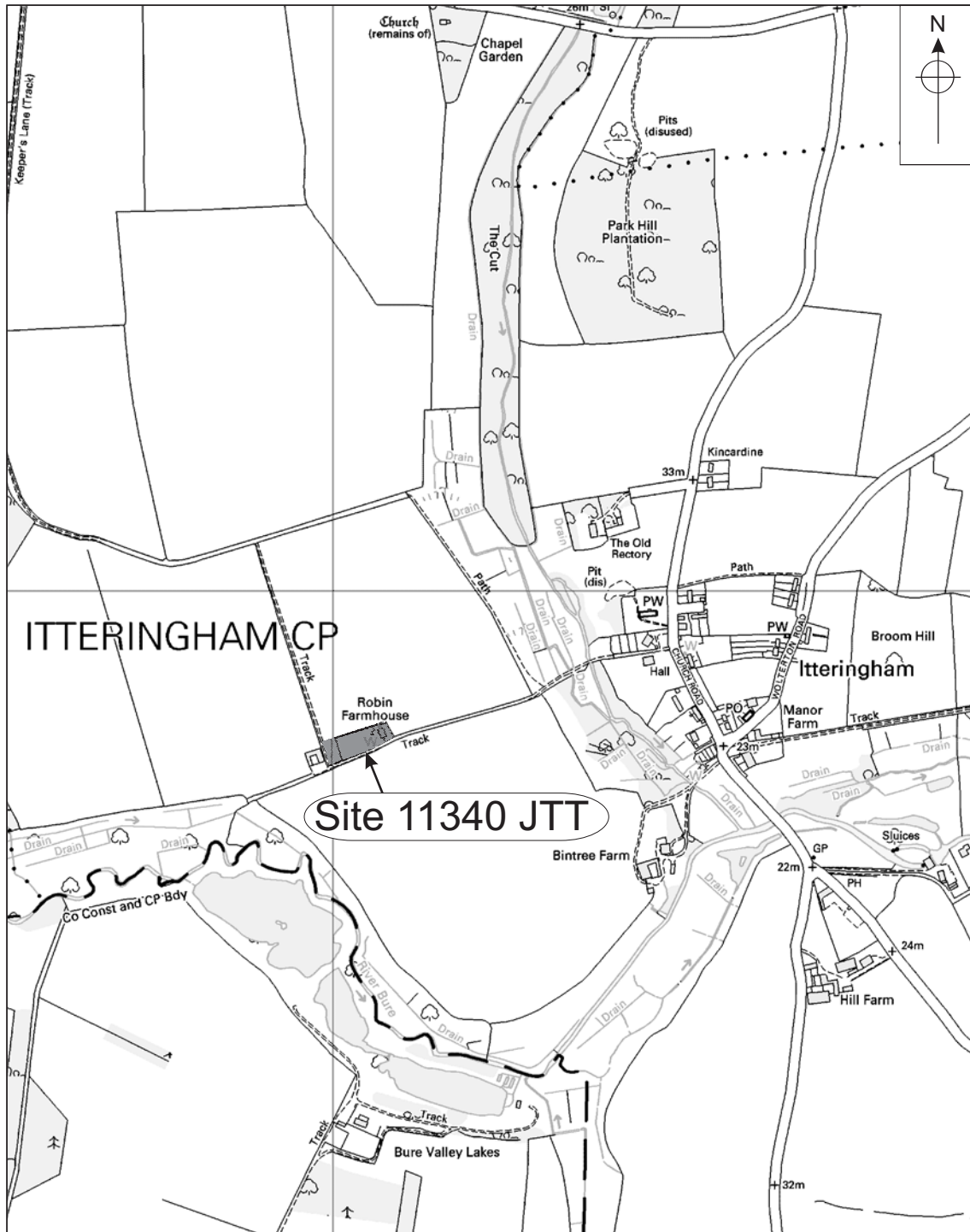


Figure 1. Site location. Scale 1:10,000

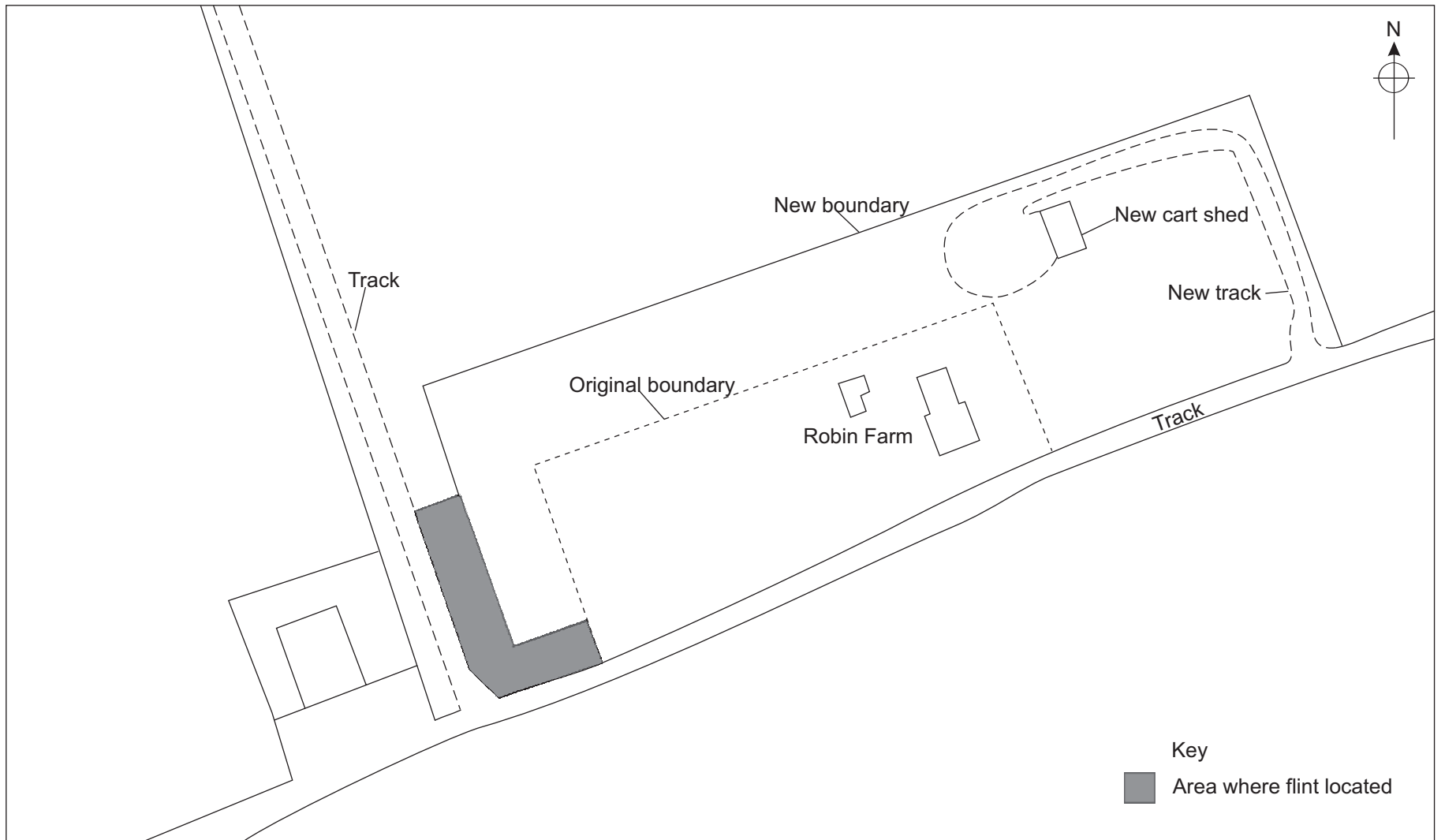


Figure 2. Area location. Scale 1:1000