

BAMBURGH RESEARCH PROJECT

TWO SITES WITHIN BAMBURGH VILLAGE BAMBURGH NORTHUMBERLAND



DESK BASED ASSESSMENT

Compiled for The Trustees of Lord Armstrong by The Bamburgh Research Project: Commercial Projects Section

BRP 14/02b

February 2014

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SUMMARY

This document has been compiled by The Bamburgh Research Project (BRP) for The Trustees of Lord Armstrong during February 2014 and comprises a desk based assessment of two sites within Bamburgh Village, Bamburgh, Northumberland, that are proposed for housing development. The work has been undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation compiled by the BRP in January 2014. The OASIS reference number is bamburgh1-172162. This report provides an assessment of the archaeological sites in the vicinity of the two sites and considers the potential for encountering and impacting on archaeological material that might result from the proposed construction of three high quality dwellings on the ground, adjacent to Armstrong House together with a number of additional dwellings on land off Ingram Road. The present study represents the first phase in a process of archaeological assessment. It will provide evidence with which to assess the need for additional work to be conducted, prior to the submission and determination of an application.

The two proposed development areas are immediately adjacent to the urban area of Bamburgh Village, which lies 7km east of Belford in north east Northumberland. The first of the sites lies in a pasture field to the immediate east of Armstrong House, centred on grid reference NU 18220 34925 and the second extends between two fields to the east of Ingram Road and is centred on grid reference NU 18070 34700. The site in front of Armstrong House is currently an overgrown field, broadly rectangular in plan and measuring 56m east to west by 32m north to south, being some 1,800m² in area. It is somewhat uneven and slopes intermittently down from west to east. The second site off Ingram Road is very roughly L-shaped and extends for 133m east to west by 180m north to south and is 12,800 m² in area. It extends over two pasture fields and is somewhat uneven, sloping gently down, from north west to south east (Figures 1 and 2).

The Northumberland HER for the vicinity of the site, to a radius of 1km, list eighty entries. Fifty six of these are of post-medieval date, including numerous listed buildings and World War II defensive items. Five items are of prehistoric date, including evidence for Mesolithic activity, Bronze Age burial and probably Iron Age cropmarks, indicative of a settled landscape. With the exception of one undated feature the remaining thirty eight items are of early medieval and medieval date, underlining the importance of Bamburgh in the Middle Ages (Figure 7).

It is clear from archaeological and documentary sources that an early medieval site of international importance lies beneath Bamburgh Castle. It is also highly probable that an early medieval site also lies in the area of the modern village, but no evidence has so far emerged. A number of medieval features and sites are known to have been present in and around the site of the present village. The church of St Aidan located at the west side of the village (HER 5257) contains structural work of the 12th, 13th and 14th centuries. Masonry believed to be a part of The Master of Bamburgh's Tower, is preserved within the east wall of the churchyard (HER 5258). A cell of Augustinian canons was founded at Bamburgh in AD 1121. Masonry remains, now built into the farm buildings adjacent to Bamburgh Hall, are noted as possibly representing part of the monastic buildings (HER 24160). Two further ecclesiastical sites were present at Bamburgh during the medieval period. A Dominican friary (HER 5353), founded in AD 1265, lay some 300m west of St Aidan's church at Friars Farm. The third site, that of the Hospital of St Mary Magdalene, in existence by AD 1256 and defunct by AD 1326, cannot be located with great accuracy. It is known from documentary evidence to have shared a common boundary with the Dominican friary site, or a property of the friary. The leper hospital site is marked on the 2nd Edition Ordnance Survey map as having lain in a field off Ingram Road. It is unclear what evidence this identification is based on, but it is as good a candidate as any and is highly relevant to the present study, being immediately adjacent to the Ingram Road development site.

A borough is known from documentary sources to have been present at Bamburgh during the medieval period. A burgess, noted as paying a fine in AD 1170, confirms its presence at that time, but a royal charter was not issued till AD 1255. The names of six streets within the town are mentioned by these records. Spitalgate was a major thoroughfare that extended beyond the legal limits of the borough. A linear earthwork, to the north of the County Council car park, that aligns with South Victoria Terrace, has been proposed as the former line of Spitalgate since the 19th century, an interpretation reinforced

by Stewart Ainsworth during the Time Team investigations of 2010 (Ainsworth pers comm.). If correctly identified it adds some substance to the identification of the hospital as having occupied the enclosure on the west side of the village, as demarked on the 2nd Edition OS. The further streets named in the documentation are: Ratonrawe, Pestethgate, Southgate, Headrow and Northrawe (Figure 5). The post-medieval history of the village is dominated by its ownership by a series of great estates beginning with the purchase of the castle and village by Nathaniel Crewe, Bishop of Durham, in the early 18th century. It was purchased by the first Lord Armstrong in 1888 and remains in the ownership of the Trustees of Lord Armstrong to the present.

Bamburgh appears on a number of aerial photographs, and numerous earthworks can be plotted within the fields to the north, south and east of the village. The fields to the west of the line of St Aidan's Church and Ingram Road are under cereal cultivation and no earthworks survive in these fields (Figure 5). Of particular interest is a broad linear earthwork, which parallels the northern boundary of the County Council car park and aligns with South Victoria Terrace. This feature, as previously noted, has been identified since the 19th century, as potentially representing the medieval street called Spitalgate. If this association is correct then both development areas approach this feature and may well therefore contain urban elements of the former medieval borough. A series of geophysical surveys were conducted within the fields around Bamburgh Village in 2004 by TimeScape Surveys for a project undertaken by the BRP (Figure 6). Two areas of survey are of potential relevance to the current study. The most relevant being Area 1, which lay immediately to the south of the site off Ingram Road. It confirms the presence of the ridge and furrow, seen on the aerial photographs, Two linear anomalies can be clearly identified as former field boundaries depicted on the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey. Other strong linear anomalies are more likely to represent modern drains. Four trial trenches excavated as part of this project revealed few features beyond two post-holes and a probably boundary feature.

The two sites were examined on the 4th February 2014. The field in front of Armstrong House is heavily overgrown with bushes and brambles, in addition to three modestly sized trees. Waste and rubble was also noted within the undergrowth, but the extent of such material over the site was hard to determine, even in mid winter. A north-south oriented earthwork aligned with a boundary plot to the north and the linear earthwork, proposed as medieval Spitalgate, was clearly visible as a hollow way extending past the southern boundary of the site. On the site off Ingram Road, a series of narrow, low, linear earthworks could be traced within the southern half of the northern field and the broad S-shaped earthworks were also clearly visible within the southern field. Both were entirely consistent with being the result of ridge and furrow cultivation. In the north west corner of the northern field, adjacent to the garages, an extensive broadly rectangular area of raised ground may represent a building platform.

Bamburgh is noted within the North East Region Research Framework for the Historic Environment (Petts and Gerrard 2006, 61) as a site of national as well as regional importance. It is problematic that the extent of the urban settlement in the early medieval period can only be speculated upon, using analogy with comparable sites within the region, as no direct evidence for early medieval Bamburgh has been identified, within the village, to date. Such potential raises the possibility that such material could be present within either or both of the proposed developments. The ephemeral and distributed nature of such sites would make the identification of such material problematic even with trial trenching.

The available evidence provides a quite compelling argument that medieval Bamburgh was more extensive, and potentially more densely settled, than the present village. The clear implication of this is the potential for archaeological material, of importance, to be present within the site, and vulnerable to development activity. It is not certain that this is the case though, as much rides on the identification of a linear earthwork as one of the principal streets of the medieval borough (Spitalgate), which is by no means certain. In addition the limited cartographic evidence allows some reason to doubt that the medieval borough extended into the two development sites. The presence of extensive earthworks, resulting from ridge and furrow cultivation, present on, or in the vicinity, of both sites could have resulted in the truncation of archaeological material, as such cultivation practice can be intrusive.

**TWO SITES WITHIN BAMBURGH VILLAGE
BAMBURGH
NORTHUMBERLAND
DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT**

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.0.1 This document has been compiled by The Bamburgh Research Project (BRP) for The Trustees of Lord Armstrong during February 2014 and comprises a desk based assessment of two sites within Bamburgh Village, Bamburgh, Northumberland, that are proposed for housing development. The work has been undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation compiled by the BRP in January 2014. The OASIS reference number is bamburgh1-172162.
- 1.0.2 This report provides an assessment of the archaeological evidence in the vicinity of the two sites and considers the potential for encountering and impacting on archaeological material that might result from the proposed construction of three high quality dwellings on the ground adjacent to Armstrong House, together with a number of additional dwellings on land off Ingram Road. The present study represents the first phase in a process of archaeological assessment. It will provide evidence with which to assess the need for additional work to be conducted, prior to the submission and determination of an application.

1.1 Location

- 1.1.1 The two proposed development areas lie immediately adjacent to the urban area of Bamburgh Village, which lies 7km east of Belford in north east Northumberland. The first of the sites lies in a pasture field to the immediate east of Armstrong House, centred on grid reference NU 18220 34925 and the second extends between two fields to the east of Ingram Road and is centred on grid reference NU 18070 34700 (Figures 1 and 2).

2.0 THE SITE

2.1 Geology

- 2.1.1 The landscape provided the economic resources that made occupation possible together with many of the materials for exchange that formed the basis of social relationships. Moreover, topographic features, were significant in determining the situation of sites, which would have been placed along main arteries of communication, on fertile soils or at locations where different ecological niches could easily be reached, or in defensive positions that offered good visibility.
- 2.1.2 The solid geology of the Bamburgh area is Carboniferous Limestone of the Alston group laid down between 299 and 359 million years ago during a transition from the marine conditions of the Limestone series and the deltaic lagoon-swamp conditions of the Coal Measures (Taylor *et al.* 1971, 52-54).
- 2.1.3 The advance and recession of the glacial ice-sheets in the Pleistocene profoundly transformed the appearance of the landscape. Nevertheless, it was the final glacial cycle of the Devensian that has left the most significant legacy for us in as much that it moulded the landscape and effaced almost all evidence of previous glacial episodes. The ice-sheets scoured the landscape removing the soil and exposing bedrock; however, the weight of the ice and the friction caused by its movement crushed the rock into a clay with fragments of rock and gravel, forming till. In places where no further sediment deposition occurred, this till formed the basis of later soil development. In the area around Bamburgh the deeper geology

tends to be overlaid by a thick band of boulder clay, but the area of the village is underlain by sand and gravel deposits.

2.2 Description

- 2.2.1 The site in front of Armstrong House is currently an overgrown field, broadly rectangular in plan and measuring 56m east to west by 32m north to south, being some 1,800m². It is somewhat uneven and slopes intermittently down from west to east. The second site off Ingram Road is very roughly L-shaped and extends for 133m east to west by 180m north to south and is 12,800 m² in area. It extends over two pasture fields and is somewhat uneven, sloping gently down from north west to south east (Figure 2).

3.0 METHODOLOGY

- 3.0.1 The evaluation comprised a desk-based assessment of the land within the development area. The two sites themselves have been studied in detail and the surrounding 1km area assessed for archaeological potential.
- 3.0.2 All work was carried out in compliance with the codes of practice of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA 2009) and followed the IfA Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessment (IfA 2008).

3.1 Desk-based assessment

- 3.1.1 The desk-based assessment will undertake the evaluation of the archaeological potential for the development area based on information derived from:
1. A site visit and field inspection of the landscape, structures and any associated groundworks and features.
 2. Study of the development area and the surrounding 1 km radius beyond the site boundary based on:
 - i) The location of known archaeological sites and landscapes within the proposed development area
 - ii) The potential for palaeo-environmental samples within the proposed development area
 - iii) The density of archaeological sites in the surrounding area and the potential that comparable sites may continue into the site
 - iv) Previous disturbance on the site, which may have affected archaeological remains, including any significant change in levels from those indicated on old Ordnance Survey maps, and truncation by existing services on or adjacent to the site.
 - v) Where the information is available, the physical impact of the proposed development including:
 - a) Building foundations
 - b) Services
 - c) Access roads
 - d) Ground reduction
 - e) Increased vibration
 - f) Change in ground conditions on waterlogged or environmentally rich sites
 - vi) The impact of the proposed development on the setting of the following sites or monuments within the wider study area:
 - a) Scheduled Ancient Monuments

- b) Listed Buildings
- c) Historic Parks and Gardens and Historic Battlefields
- d) Non-designated heritage assets
- e) Any other heritage assets specifically identified in the brief as requiring assessment

3.2 Sources

3.2.1 The sources consulted will include:

3.2.2 Maps, as a minimum (where available)

- i) 1716 Warburton
- ii) 1753 Horsley and Cay
- iii) 1769 Armstrong
- iv) 1808 Smith
- v) 1820 Fryer
- vi) 1828 Greenwood
- vii) 1829 Pigot
- viii) Tithe, apportionment and parish maps
- ix) Estate maps of the area
- x) Ordnance Survey maps from the First Edition onwards
- xi) Service providers maps and databases (Water, Electricity, Telecoms and Gas as a minimum)
- xii) Other available maps

3.2.3 Aerial Photographs will be consulted for the specific site and the immediate surrounding area.

- i) English Heritage, National Monument Record, Swindon (NMR)
- ii) Northumberland Historic Environment Record (HER)
- iii) Woodhorn Museum and Northumberland Archives

3.2.4 If, for any reason, the assessor was not able to access any of the above resources, this will be noted within the text of the report below.

3.2.5 Northumberland Historic Environment Record will be consulted for the following sources:

- i) A comprehensive record of all the known archaeological sites in the County
- ii) Copies of the Scheduled Ancient Monument designations
- iii) Copies of the Listed Building designations
- iv) Conservation Area Boundaries
- v) Complete digital aerial photographic coverage of the county
- vi) Selected LiDAR data, if available

3.2.6 Other Sources to be consulted where appropriate will include:

- i) Appropriate archaeological and historical journals and books
- ii) Historical documents held in local museums, libraries, record offices and archives
- iii) Unpublished material held by local archaeological organisations (amateur and professional)
- iv) All available borehole, trial pit and geotechnical data from the site and its immediate environs held by the developer

- v) Geomorphological information may be obtained from the Soil Survey and Land Research Centre or the Geography Department at Newcastle University
- vi) Existing utility and service information which may help to inform on constraints to future work.

3.3 Written account

- 3.3.1 A written account of features and structures of interest will be compiled on site during the site visit on pro-forma sheets.

3.4 Photographic record

- 3.4.1 The photographic record compiled will include:

1. General views of the study area
2. Record of any significant features identified during field inspection

3.5 Report compilation

- 3.5.1 The report will be compiled in accordance with English Heritage MoRPHE guidelines (English Heritage 2008).

- 3.5.2 The report will include:

- Northumberland County Council Conservation Team reference, planning reference number and the OASIS reference number and an 8 figure grid reference
- A description of the site and its underlying geology
- Period-based discussion of the known and potential archaeological sites within the proposed development area
- An assessment of the importance of any standing buildings, individually, and as a group of buildings
- Discussion of the physical impact of the proposed development on known and potential archaeological sites
- Where possible an assessment of the impact on the visual setting of Scheduled Monuments, Listed buildings, Historic Parks and Gardens and Historic battlefields and unscheduled archaeological sites of national or regional importance
- Appendices listing:
 1. All archaeological sites, Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Historic Parks and Gardens and Historic battlefields in the proposed development area and the wider study
 2. All aerial photographs within the detailed study area and immediate environs, quoting the reference number and date (cross-referenced to the gazetteer where appropriate)
 3. A copy of the specification and its checklist.

3.6 Illustrations

- A location plan of the site at an appropriate scale of at least 1:10 000 will be included
- A location plan of the extent of the proposed development area at a recognisable planning scale, and located with reference to the national grid
- Copies of all maps described in the text with the extent of the proposed development area marked on each map. Where copyright prevents the inclusion of a map in the report, a hand-drawn copy will be provided. Where possible historic maps will be

transcribed either by hand or digitally, as an overlay on to the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey to allow details to be assessed in relation to recent features.

- A plan with the extent of the proposed development area and showing the location of all archaeological sites, Scheduled Monuments, Listed buildings, Historic Parks and Gardens and Historic battlefields in the proposed development area and the wider study area will be included
- Photographs appropriate to the assessment of the site including copies of all relevant Aerial photographs on which features have been identified or failing this a transcription of the identified feature in an appropriate modern basemap.

3.7 Site archive

- 3.7.1 An archive containing a copy of the report and original illustrations and tracings that are not included in the report together with digital copies of the report and illustrations will be deposited at the Northumberland Record Office and its reference number included in the report.
- 3.7.2 An online OASIS form will be completed for the project as part of the post-excavation assessment process.
- 3.7.3 The site archive will be deposited within six months of the completion of the report.
- 3.7.4 A summary of the assessment report will be submitted to the County Council Conservation Team for inclusion in 'Archaeology in Northumberland' by December 2014.

4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 4.0.1 The table below (Table 1) summarises the evidence entered on the Northumberland HER for the vicinity of the site, to a radius of 1km. The full report is included within the archive. Fifty six of the eighty entries are of post-medieval date, including numerous listed buildings and World War II defensive items. Five items are of prehistoric date, including evidence for Mesolithic activity, Bronze Age burial and probably Iron Age cropmarks, indicative of a settled landscape. With the exception of one, undated feature, the remaining thirty eight items are of early medieval and medieval date, underlining the importance of Bamburgh in the medieval period (Figure 7).

Table 1: HER Sites

HER No.	Site Name	Description	Period	Grid Ref.
5089	Bamburgh Castle	Restored medieval castle with extensive medieval ruins and post-medieval structures	Medieval	NU 183351
5094	Castle Windmill	Listed post-medieval building	Post-medieval	NU18203520
5095	Bamburgh Castle flints	Worked flints	Mesolithic	NU184350
5105	Wynding House	Wynding House. Grade II listed building. Early to mid 18 th century	Post-medieval	NU1804735060
5106	Pinfold	The Pinfold. Grade II listed. Stray animals pound, 18 th or early 19 th century	Post-medieval	NU1785535311

5107	No. 1-7 odd The Wynding	Nos 3-7 (odd) The Wynding. Grade II listed building. Terrace of three houses built in 1906 by Ernest Hart for Lord Armstrong. Arts and Crafts style	Post-medieval	NU17993505
5108	Pillbox by Harkness Rocks	Pillbox recorded during field visit between October 2009 and January 2010. The pillbox includes an anti tank/machine gun emplacement and embrasure. It is located within the dune grass of the area	WWII	NU17723554
5109	Pillbox	D-shape concrete pillbox	WWII	NU17823548
5110	Pillbox	D-shape concrete pillbox	WWII	NU17823541
5250	Mound	A large mound, 180ft in diameter. Small excavations in 1928-9 suggested it to be artificial, but overlain by some 6ft of blown sand. A medieval sherd, and part of a handle were the only finds	Bronze-Age	NU18633464
5251	Mound	Mound and Bronze-Age cist with ceramic vessel	Bronze-Age	NU18413448
5252	Bowl Hole	Final phase Anglo-Saxon burial ground	Early-medieval	NU18693484
5353	Bamburgh Friary	The Dominican Friary at Bamburgh was founded in 1265 and dissolved in 1539. It was included in the Visitation of York. In 1300 there were ten friars	Medieval	NU17453483
5256	Pant and trough	St Aidan's Well, Bamburgh, is on what was formerly the village green, now a small plantation, near the church gate	Medieval and post-medieval	NU1803134913
5257	St Aidan's Church	Church of St Aidan, Grade I listed building. 12 th , 13 th and 14 th centuries. Restored 1830 and later 19 th century	Medieval and post-medieval	NU17953493
5258	Master of Bamburgh's Tower	Fragment of wall believed to represent part of Pele Tower	Medieval	NU17883495
5270	<i>Malvoisin</i>	Medieval siege castle from 1095	Medieval	NU182349
5275	Dovecote	A dovecote of conical or beehive shape constructed of rubble masonry, with a diameter at base of 6.7m. Similar examples of this type of dovecot seen in North Yorkshire and south Durham have been ascribed to the 17 th century	Post-medieval	NU18173483
5281	Enclosure	Rectilinear cropmark enclosure	Prehistoric	NU179345

Two sites within Bamburgh Village , Northumberland - Desk Based Assessment

5289	Pump	A two-throw pump driven by an iron horse wheel with wooden sweeps	Post-medieval	NU183348
5296	Ridge and furrow	Bamburgh open fields	Medieval	NU184344
5305	No.s 15 and 16 Armstrong Cottages	Listed buildings of 1894	Post-medieval	NU19063448
5306	Monument to Grace Darling	Monument to Grace Darling c.30 yards west of Church of St Aidan. Grade II listed	Post-medieval	NU1778934960
5307	Mackenzie and Robb Grave	Mackenzie and Robb graves c.50 yards south west of Church of St Aidan. Grade II listed	Post-medieval	NU178349
5308	Bamburgh Hall	Bamburgh Hall. Grade II listed building. 17 th and 18 th century, refronted early 19 th century. Early 18 th century staircase inside	Post-medieval	NU17903494
5309	Farm buildings	Farm buildings c.50 yards north east of Bamburgh Hall. Grade II listed building. Shelter sheds, threshing barn, granary and gingang. Early 19 th century	Post-medieval	NU1793634991
5311	Castle Hotel	No 7 (The Castle Hotel) Front Street. Grade II listed building. 18 th century inn	Post-medieval	NU1796534840
5312	No. 8 Front Street	No 8 Front Street. Grade II listed building. 18 th century	Post-medieval	NU17983485
5313	No. 9 and 10 Front Street	No.s 9 and 10 Front Street. Grade II listed building. Pair of cottages, formerly one house. Dated 1699	Post-medieval	NU1798534855
5314	No. 11 Front Street	No 11 (The Village House) Front Street. 18 th century house, remodelled early 20 th century	Post-medieval	NU1799434857
5315	No.s 13 and 13 Front Street	No.s 12 and 13 Front Street. Two late 18 th century cottages. No 13 is where Grace Darling died	Post-medieval	NU1800834865
5316	No. 16 Front Street	No. 16 (Bamburgh House) Front Street. Grade II listed building. c.1840	Post-medieval	NU1802534835
5317	Garden Wall	Garden wall attached to south of No 16 (Bamburgh House), Front Street. Grade II listed. c.1840	Post-medieval	NU1803634834
5318	No.s 17-23 Front Street	No.s 17-23 Front Street. Grade II listed building. Terrace of six cottages built in 1809 in Gothick style	Post-medieval	NU18053489

5319	No. 23 Front Street	No. 23 (The Post Office) Front Street. Grade II listed building. 1891 in Gothick style	Post-medieval	NU18083490
5320	No.s 25 and 26 Front Street	No.s 25 and 26 (The Village Store) Front Street. Grade II listed building. Shop and cottage, now one property. 18 th century, with 20 th century shop front	Post-medieval	NU18093492
5321	No. 27 Front Street	No. 27 (The Lord Crewe Arms) Front Street. Grade II listed building. Mid 19 th century with older masonry	Post-medieval	NU18113492
5322	No. 28 Front Street	No. 28 (The Toby Jug Restaurant) Front Street. Grade II listed building. Formerly a house, now part of The Lord Crewe Arms. Early 19 th century	Post-medieval	NU1812534935
5323	Armstrong House	Armstrong House. Grade II listed building. Rest home built by Lord Armstrong in 1925 for workers in his Tyneside factories. Built to a modification of a 1914 design by Ernest Hart of Bamburgh and George Reavell of Alnwick. Arts and Crafts style	Post-medieval	NU18173488
5325	Walled garden	Walled garden at west end of The Grove. Grade II listed	Post-medieval	NU17873487
5326	No.s 6 and 8 Ingram Road	No.s 6 and 8 (Blacksmith's Forge) Ingram Road. Grade II listed building	Post-medieval	NU17953473
5327	No. 5 Radcliffe Road	No. 5 Radcliffe Road. Grade II listed building. House, 18 th century	Post-medieval	NU1781534880
5328	No. 7 Radcliffe Road	No. 7 Radcliffe Road. Grade II listed building. Late 18 th or early 19 th century house	Post-medieval	NU17813488
5329	The Friars	The Friars. Grade II listed building. House, built 1820-30	Post-medieval	NU17323478
5330	Gate Piers and wall	Gatepiers and garden wall c.15 yards east of The Friars. Grade II listed. Early 19 th century	Post-medieval	NU1733634769
5331	No.s 1-6 Armstrong Cottages	No.s 1-6 Armstrong Cottages. Grade II listed building. Row of six cottages built in 1894 by Lord Armstrong for workers restoring Bamburgh Castle	Post-medieval	NU19003455
5332	No.s 10 and 11	No.s 10 and 11 Armstrong Cottages. Grade II listed building. Two cottages built in 1894 by Lord Armstrong for	Post-medieval	NU19073455

		workers restoring Bamburgh Castle		
5333	No.s 12 -14 Armstrong Cottages	No.s 12, 13 and 14 Armstrong Cottages. Grade II listed building. Row of three cottages built in 1894 by Lord Armstrong for workers restoring Bamburgh Castle	Post-medieval	NU19083452
14935	Ditched Enclosure	Possible large ditched enclosure to the south of Lucker Road	Uncertain	NU1787234614
15035	Cartshed at the Friars	An early 19 th century cartshed. Six bays with segmental arches	Post-medieval	NU1742434851
15036	Farm buildings at Friary Farm	18 th century farm buildings incorporating medieval masonry of the former Dominican Friary. Four ranges around a farmyard, with a gingang	Post-medieval	NU1744534818
18680	Well	Well	Post-medieval	NU1750534749
18681	Well	Well	Post-medieval	NU1756734790
18682	Well	Well	Post-medieval	NU1804634740
18683	Well	Well	Post-medieval	NU1814934951
19890	Quarry	Quarry to the north west of Bamburgh village as shown on the OS map of 1866	Post-medieval	NU1763835211
19961	Fire trench	Fire trench	WWII	NU178354
19962	Pill box	Anti-tank pill box	WWII	NU178356
19963	Pill box	Lozenge pill box	WWII	NU179354
20732	Trench/dug out	Small rectangular, almost square, trench/dugout in dunes overlooking anti-tank cubes and burn mouth to the sea	WWII	NU178354
21751	Well	Well	Post-medieval	NU1766135236
22024	Flints	During a test pitting survey in 2002 by the Bamburgh Research Project worked prehistoric flint was recovered from test pits around Friary Farm at the west end of the village	Prehistoric	NU17483477
22872	Medieval ditch	A substantial ditch was identified during a watching brief at the Grace Darling Museum in 2007	Medieval	NU17833487

Two sites within Bamburgh Village , Northumberland - Desk Based Assessment

22873	Rubbish pit	A substantial feature was identified during a watching brief at the Grace Darling Museum in 2007	Medieval	NU17833487
22874	Rubbish pit	A sub-circular pit was identified during a watching brief at the Grace Darling Museum in 2007	Medieval	NU17833488
24157	Possible tumulus	A locally prominent knoll, some 60m in diameter and up to 7.25m high above the surrounding land surface. Medieval ridge and furrow cultivation earthworks appear to respect the western side of the mound	Uncertain	NU18253464
24158	Medieval village	The extent of the medieval village is unknown but it is likely that the basic infrastructure of the village remains despite several instances of destruction	Medieval	NU17763490
24160	Augustinian Friary	A cell of Augustinian Canons was established at Bamburgh about 1121, and it appears to have been conventual for a prior after 1228. It was dissolved in 1537	Medieval	NU17803494
24161	Ditched enclosure	Geophysical survey (Area 6) in 2004, west of the Mizen Head Hotel, revealed a double-ditched feature	Iron Age	NU17753464
24253	Siege of Bamburgh AD 993	Early medieval siege at Bamburgh in AD 993	Early-medieval	NU1816934935
24254	Siege of Bamburgh AD1464	Civil War siege of Bamburgh during the Wars of the Roses, AD 1464	Medieval	NU1816934935
24278	Tank traps	Series of World War II anti tank blocks recorded between October 2009 and January 2011	WWII	NU1796435394
24279	Tank Traps at Harkness Rocks	World War Two concrete cubes, or tank traps, on Harkness Rocks. Two are painted red and white to resemble dice	WWII	NU1775035589
25078	Wooden structure	The remains of a possible wooden structure were identified in work between October 2009 and January 2010 in the dunes north of Bamburgh	WWII	NU1776835514
25097	Linear earthwork	Linear earthwork recorded in a field visit between October 2009 and January 2010	WWII	NU1769235644
25098	Trench	World War II trench located in the	WWII	NU1782335424

		dunes north of Bamburgh between October 2009 and January 2010		
25099	Trench	Two separate trenches of World War II date are noted in the dunes area north of Bamburgh close to the car park	WWII	NU1782735395
25491	War memorial	War memorial located in a carved niche within the crag on which Bamburgh Castle sites. The war memorial is a Portland stone cross with a tapering shaft and crucifix on a pedestal, plinth and square base	20 th century	NU1828635078
25932	Ship wreck	Series of timbers of a shipwreck recorded north-east of Redbarns Links to the north-east of Bamburgh Castle during low tides early March 2013	Post-medieval	NU1883035242

4.1 The prehistoric period (8,000 BC to 1st century AD)

- 4.1.1 The earliest human activity in the Bamburgh area dates from the Mesolithic period (8,000 BC to 4,000 BC) that followed the end of the last ice age. The population during this early period is usually perceived as small numbers of hunter-gatherers occupying temporary camps, often to be found by the sea and along river or stream courses. At Howick, however, 17km south of Bamburgh, recent excavation has uncovered a circular, sunken-floored house of Mesolithic date, proving that permanent settlements could also exist (Waddington 2003, 394-6). A similar house has also recently been discovered near Dunbar.
- 4.1.2 Finds of flints of Mesolithic date have been identified at two find spots near Budle, one of which comprised over 300 flints, and also on Brada Hill, west of the village. Mesolithic activity can be demonstrated within the village envelope by a find of such flints immediately south of the castle site (HER 5095) (Figure 7).
- 4.1.3 The Neolithic period (4,000 BC to 2,000 BC) marked the introduction of farming together with the production of pottery and many more permanent settlements. Finds of Neolithic date within the area are not common and are represented by an axe head found near to Budle during the cutting of a trench and a further fragment of a shale axe identified immediately south of Glorum. It is far from certain that a settlement would have existed in the area of Bamburgh Village at this early time, but the rich farmland of the coastal plain of Northumberland would have been extensively exploited from that time. Evidence for early farming activity may well underlie the area of the present village.
- 4.1.4 Finds of Bronze Age date (2,000 BC to 800 BC) within the area comprise the discovery of a arrowhead at Budle and part of a stone mould for a rapier discovered just north of Hoppen Hall. At Bamburgh, the presence of a putative round barrow (HER 5251) - a scheduled ancient monument - attests to a Bronze Age presence in the village area of some status. The 'barrow' was investigated during the 19th century, when a cist containing a human burial was discovered. A further putative barrow was investigated by the Bamburgh Research Project in 2003, in the south east corner of the southern field in which part of the Ingram Road development is proposed, and found to be a geological feature. It is quite likely therefore that the scheduled barrow is also of geological origin, but that it became the focus of Bronze Age cist burial due to its barrow-like appearance. Some degree of settlement activity, of Bronze

Age date, is likely, though the focus of such activity may lie on the defensible rock plateau now occupied by the castle.

- 4.1.5 The discovery of pottery of Iron Age date (800 BC to 1st century AD) during excavation undertaken within the West Ward of Bamburgh Castle demonstrates that the castle site represented the focus of settlement activity at Bamburgh from at least that time if not earlier (Hope-Taylor 1960, 11). No further finds of Iron Age date are known from the village area.
- 4.1.6 The dating of cropmark sites, or those identified by geophysical survey, is an uncertain art. Nevertheless, the reported presence of a hut circle on Brady Crag and of a number of cropmark enclosures identified in the Bamburgh area, including one located in a field to the immediate south-west of the village (HER 5381, 14935 and 24161), would indicate that the Bamburgh environs were a settled landscape during the later prehistoric period, and therefore that features and sites of such a date could be present beneath the village.
- 4.1.7 The discovery of a small number of potentially worked flints within test pits, dug by the Bamburgh Research Project, at the western end of the village (HER 22024) provides further evidence for prehistoric activity within the village envelope (BRP 2003, 7).

4.2 The Roman period (1st century AD to 5th century AD)

- 4.2.1 Pottery of Romano-British date was recovered during the excavations by Dr Hope-Taylor within Bamburgh Castle, demonstrating occupation of this site in the Romano-British period. Although Bamburgh does not appear in the documentary record from this time it seems likely that native rulers or client chiefs occupied the fortress for at least part of this period. The presence of a wider settlement landscape at Bamburgh for this period can be predicted, but clear evidence for such activity is currently lacking (Hope-Taylor 1960, 11).

4.3 The early medieval period (5th century AD to 12th century AD)

- 4.3.1 Bamburgh like Edinburgh and Dumbarton is believed, from documentary evidence, to have formed a focus to a British kingdom in the immediate post-Roman period. Anglo-Saxon settlement is thought to have begun at Bamburgh in the mid 6th century (H.E., 562). By the 7th century Bamburgh had become the pre-eminent centre of the Anglo-Saxon dynasty that came to dominate Northumbria.
- 4.3.2 The burial ground at the Bowl Hole (HER 5252), 300m to the south of the fortress site, first identified in AD 1817 and investigated by the Bamburgh Research Project between 1998 and 2007, has been dated to the 7th to 8th century AD from artefactual and ¹⁴C evidence. The absence of burials from the 6th century may indicate the presence of an earlier cemetery elsewhere in the area. Pagan burial grounds are often attracted to pre-existing monuments as a focus. It can be speculated therefore that the Bronze Age barrow in the field to the south of the village could have formed the focus to an earlier cemetery.
- 4.3.3 It is clear from archaeological and documentary sources that an early medieval site of international importance lies beneath the castle. It is also highly probable that an early medieval site also lies in the area of the modern village. While references to Bamburgh in pre-conquest documents use the Latin term *urbs* (fortress) to denote the residence of the kings, Bede notes the existence of a separate but closely linked settlement nearby. St. Aidan is stated as having died within a church in a royal *vill* (*villa regis*) near to the *urbs* of Bamburgh. Royal *vills* were the centres of extensive estates, to which the local populace owed service and taxes (Campbell 1979, 44). The present parish church at Bamburgh (HER 5257) is unique as the only known medieval dedication to St. Aidan. This, together with its position, strongly suggests that the church in which St. Aidan died was the predecessor of the present parish church, and that a royal *vill* or estate centre lies under the present village (Cambridge 1995, 136-8).

- 4.3.4 Aidan and his successors used the various royal *vills* as centres for missionary work (Bede, H.E., 262), and in many, groups of non-monastic priests are believed to have been established (Cambridge 1984, 79-80). Early medieval church sites are often of substantial scale such that it is entirely possible, even likely, that the early church occupied a wider perimeter than the present church yard. It is possible therefore that the early medieval church site could be extensive over the northern part of the area occupied by the present village. Indeed it is possible to speculate that a large, broadly rectangular, enclosure is present on the 1st Edition OS and Tithe maps, extending to the west of the church and potentially including part of the area of the market garden site. Whilst the antiquity of such an enclosure cannot be certainly demonstrated from cartographic evidence, there is an established tendency for friary sites to be sited within vacant ground and on the periphery of urban centres. If this is assumed to be the case at Bamburgh, then the position of the Dominican Friary, immediately to the west of this putative enclosure, can be taken as evidence for its existence as a boundary in the mid 13th century (Figure 5). A substantial ecclesiastical establishment is also consistent with the tradition, reported by Aired of Rievaulx, that a monastery was present at Bamburgh during the Anglo-Saxon period (Bateson 1893, 73).
- 4.3.5 In addition to a potentially large ecclesiastical presence, the royal *vill* settlement is likely to have covered an extensive area. The potential scale of which is testified to by Bede's use of the terms *urbs* and *civitas* to describe the royal centres at Bamburgh. The combination of the two terms is used only rarely to describe sites of the importance of London and Canterbury (M. Welsh, 1992, 24-5). The excavated site at Yeavinger covered an area in excess of 350m by 250m, while cropmarks at Milfield (which may have been in use longer) covered an area 1100m by 450m, including apparent clusters of rectangular sunken-featured-buildings (Hope-Taylor 1977, fig. 12, Tinniswood and Harding 1991, 96; Scull and Harding 1990, 3). By their size, the Yeavinger and Milfield sites would cover the majority of Bamburgh village. No evidence for such a settlement has emerged during the limited archaeological interventions within the village area to date, however, such sites, though extensive in area, contain ephemeral structures, notoriously difficult to identify within small trenches, and substantial open spaces.

4.4 The medieval period (12th century AD to 16th century AD)

- 4.4.1 A number of medieval features and sites are known to have been present in and around the site of the present village. The church of St Aidan located at the west side of the village (HER 5257) contains structural work of the 12th, 13th and 14th centuries. Masonry believed to be a part of The Master of Bamburgh's Tower, first noted in AD 1415, is preserved within the east wall of the churchyard (HER 5258). A cell of Augustinian canons was founded at Bamburgh in AD 1121. Masonry remains now built into the farm buildings adjacent to Bamburgh Hall are noted as possibly representing part of the monastic buildings (HER 24160). If this is the case then it clearly demonstrates that, as postulated for the early medieval church site, the boundary of St Aidan's in the medieval period was substantially larger than the present churchyard.
- 4.4.2 Two further ecclesiastical sites were present at Bamburgh during the medieval period. A Dominican friary (HER 5353), founded in AD 1265, lay some 300m west of St Aidan's church at Friars Farm. Three burials and some of the structural remains were identified by excavation in the 1960s. Further archaeological work was undertaken at the time of the construction of the recent housing development. Despite this work the full extent of the site is not a present known. The third site, that of the Hospital of St Mary Magdalene, in existence by AD 1256 and defunct by AD 1326, cannot be located with great accuracy. It is known from documentary evidence to have shared a common boundary with the Dominican friary site, or a property of the friary. Traditionally, the hospital is equated with a low hill called Mizen Head at the south-west edge of the village, the name postulated to be a corruption of the Norman French *Maison Dieu* 'House of God' (Bateson 1893, 137). In addition, the upper part of the Mill Burn, north-west of Mizen Head hill, was called the Spitalburn as late as AD 1774. Geophysical survey and

limited trial trenching by the Bamburgh Research Project over the fields either side of Lucker Road, on the village perimeter, identified a number of features of interest, but failed to identify a strong candidate for the hospital site. The HER notes that place name evidence from a 17th century survey and an 18th century map, place the site some distance to the west of the village between the friary and Dukesfield (HER 5254), also the site of a deserted medieval village. The leper hospital site is marked on the 2nd Edition Ordnance Survey map as having lain in a field off Ingram Road. It is unclear what evidence this identification is based on, but it is as good a candidate as any and is highly relevant to the present study, being immediately adjacent to the Ingram Road development site. Wherever its location, a survey dated AD 1376 stated that the (by then ruined) hospital contained a chapel, hall, pantry, kitchen and other chambers, in an enclosed site (*ibid*, 136-7).

- 4.4.3 It is known from the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle that a siege of Bamburgh Castle was conducted by William Rufus in 1095. A siege castle, called '*Malvoisin*' (Evil Neighbour) was constructed at that time (Garmonsway 1972, 231). The version of these events related by *Oderic Vitalis* describes how Earl Robert called out from the ramparts of Bamburgh Castle to name those constructing the siege castle who had previously sworn to his cause (Bateson 1893, 25). Two sites for the location of the feature have been suggested. The HER provides a possible location immediately to the east of Armstrong House (HER 5270). The earthworks to the north of the sports pavilion represent the second possible site. Though clearly in part of natural origin, these earthworks are well positioned to blockade the only known entrance to the castle, prior to the 12th century, and also check access to the putative port located within the inlet called Postern Nook, 50m to the north of St Oswald's Gate (Figure 5). No archaeological evidence exists to support or refute either location, but on purely practical terms the latter seems the more likely location.
- 4.4.4 A borough is known from documentary sources to have been present at Bamburgh during the medieval period. A burgess, noted as paying a fine in AD 1170, confirms its presence at that time, but a royal charter was not issued till AD 1255. The names of six streets within the town are mentioned by these records. Spitalgate was a major thoroughfare that extended beyond the legal limits of the borough. A linear earthwork to the north of the County Council car park that aligns with South Victoria Terrace has been proposed as the former line of Spitalgate since the 19th century (*ibid*, 113), an interpretation reinforced by Stewart Ainsworth during the Time Team investigations of 2010 (Ainsworth *pers comm.*). If correctly identified it adds some substance to the identification of the hospital as having occupied the enclosure on the west side of the village, as demarked on the 2nd Edition OS. The further streets named in the documentation are: Ratonrawe, Pestethgate, Southgate, Headrow and Northrawe (*ibid*, 127-30). Ratonrawes are common medieval street names whose derivation is a matter of some debate. The origin of the name has been suggested as deriving from the presence of rats in a run down area, from the Anglo-Saxon *hrother* (cattle), indicating cattle driving or butchery, or from the Norman French *roi* (kings or royal road). In the case of Bamburgh Ratonrawe is known to have been in close proximity to the *cucking stole* that must have stood in the market square, almost certainly in the area of the modern village green. This would be consistent with the line of the modern Church Street and Radcliffe Road and favour the cattle or royal road derivation, being one of the principal streets of the town. A further unnamed road described, in a grant of 1413, as 'off Pestethgate to the sea' must have been located in the east side of the borough, probably to the north, as must Pestethgate itself. Northrawe and Southgate are likely to be secondary streets to the main thoroughfares and their position speculatively assigned along with Headrow, at the 'head' of the market, to make a tentative reconstruction of the medieval borough within its expected confines (Figure 5).
- 4.4.5 Further features known to be present within the medieval borough include the Marketstead and three wells, Wyndewell, Edynwell and Maudelynswell, the later named as the principle source of the stream that turned the kings mills. The mills themselves, two are mentioned, must have lain along the Mill Burn, very likely well beyond the area of the present village. Maudeleynswell lay on a boundary shared by the Dominican friary and the hospital and could be the well

marked on the 2nd Edition OS, adjacent to the development site off Ingram Road, assuming the friary owned lands within the village, which seems to be the case. In addition to the numerous streets of the town, reference is made to properties in *La Baille* of the castle (ibid, 129). While this may refer to one of the wards within the castle, it may signify an outer bailey, in the area of the present castle car park. Excavation in this area in 1961 revealed two medieval occupation layers, one of late 12th / early 13th century date, the other of 14th or 15th century date, both covered by large quantities of wind-blown sand (Hope-Taylor 1962, 5-6).

- 4.4.6 The borough may have originally had a port located to the north of the castle. However by the mid 13th century documentary evidence notes the foundation of a harbour for the borough at Warenmouth, modern Newtown (Bateson 1893, 193-5). The outbreak of fairly continuous warfare between England and Scotland at the end of the 13th century resulted in the decline of Bamburgh as an urban centre during the latter part of the medieval period. In both the early 14th and early 15th centuries, pleas were made to the king for tax relief, and in the latter case, the townsfolk stated that the borough had been depopulated as a result of Scottish raids. The decline was accelerated by the great siege of the castle in AD 1464, and by the time of a survey in AD 1575, the town was stated as being in advanced decay, with few houses and the abandonment of the burgage-plot arrangement in large areas (ibid, 123-5, 132-3, 152-4).

4.5 The post medieval period (16th century to the present)

- 4.5.1 The post-medieval history of the village is dominated by its ownership by a series of great estates beginning with the purchase of the Castle and village by Nathaniel Crewe, Bishop of Durham, in the early 18th century. Lord Crewe's death prompted the foundation of the Bamburgh Trust, which functioned as an experiment in social welfare, providing opportunities for education for the local community and administering payments to the poor. By the later 19th century the roll of the trust had been to a large extent taken over by national legislation. It was purchased by the first Lord Armstrong in 1888 and remains in the ownership of the Trustees of Lord Armstrong to the present.
- 4.5.2 The village remained modestly populated during the period of administration by the Lord Crewe Trust. The Parliamentary Enclosure Act of 1774 mentions many of the fields that are shown on the 1846 Tithe Map. Numerous of the field names from these documents, and from a 17th century survey of Friars Farm contain the element 'close' (an enclosed piece of land), implying that the original medieval open field system was being gradually divided and enclosed for some time before 1774 (Field 1993, 20-1).
- 4.5.3 A dovecote is present within the village between the two proposed developments; the style of the structure may indicate a 16th or 17th century date. Such a structure would have been owned by a rich or high status individual. The pant and trough, which lies at the east end of the village green (HER 5256) and a horse drawn pump to the west of the current council car park (HER 5289) are also of note.
- 4.5.4 Bamburgh Hall dates to the 17th or 18th century and is a grade II listed building (HER 5308). A number of the farm buildings, located to the north of the hall, are of interest as they represent the early 19th century farming tradition (HER 5309), a time of great reform and prosperity in farming in Britain. Numerous of the village structures are Grade II listed, including many of the buildings on Front Street and the Grace Darling memorial (Figure 7). A substantial group of buildings, Armstrong Cottages, were constructed by the First Lord Armstrong as part of a community for his employees engaged in the reconstruction of the castle. Armstrong House, immediately to the west of one of the proposed development sites dates to 1925 and was built as a rest home for workers from the Armstrong's Tyneside factories (HER 5323).
- 4.5.5 A series of pillboxes (HER 5109, 5119, 19962 and 19963) and tank traps (HER 24278 and 24279) located in the area of the beach around the outlet of the Mill Burn were constructed during the second world war and represent Bamburgh's latest role in the defences of the North

East.

4.6 Cartographic evidence

- 4.6.1 Speed's map of AD 1610 depicts Bamburgh in a stylised fashion and is unable to contribute any information regarding the layout of the village. Armstrong's map of AD 1769 is the first to depict the village with any detail, showing the triangular plan of the village green and an indication of houses along the streets together with the church and the ruins of the friary at the west end of the village. Fryers map of AD 1820 has little to add but Greenwood's map of AD 1828 depicts the village in somewhat greater detail, confirming the presence of the core of the village as it exists to the present day (Figure 3).
- 4.6.2 The Tithe map of AD 1846 and the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey, of c. AD 1860, are the first to depict the village with any reliable detail. The classic pattern for a medieval borough comprises a series of individual plots of land with relatively narrow frontages onto a street, but stretching back for some distance (known as burgage-plots). Such an arrangement appears to be reflected in the general layout of both Front Street and the Wynding as depicted by the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey and the Tithe map. Such long thin plots do not extend eastwards as far as the site of Armstrong House, in fact the proposed development site in front of Armstrong House is depicted as open ground as is also the case for the site off Ingram Road (Figure 4).
- 4.6.3 The identification of the enclosure to the immediate west of the proposed development off Ingram Road as the site of the medieval hospital is made on the 2nd Edition Ordnance Survey map (Figure 5). Much has been made of this identification, with regard to the identification of one of the principal roads of the medieval borough, since the 19th century, though there is little in the way of firm evidence to back this up. One item of note is the presence of a well at the boundary, where it was predicted by documentary evidence. In addition a Victorian photograph, pre-dating the 1890s, shows a substantial stone building, probably a farm building, at least by that time, and a ruin of a substantial stone structure to its immediate north (Frame 1). It is quite possible therefore that the identification of the enclosure as the hospital site is based on the presence of stone ruins on the site. Whether such an identification is valid is unknown at this time.

4.7 Earthworks

- 4.7.1 Bamburgh appears on a number of aerial photographs and numerous earthworks can be plotted within the fields to the north, south and east of the village (Plate 4). The fields to the west of the line of St Aidan's Church and Ingram Road are under cereal cultivation and no earthworks survive in these fields (Figure 5). Of particular interest is a broad linear earthwork, which parallels the northern boundary of the County Council car park and aligns with South Victoria Terrace (Cover photo). This feature, as previously noted, has been identified since the 19th century, as potentially representing the medieval street called Spitalgate. If this association is correct then both development areas approach this feature and may well therefore contain urban elements of the former medieval borough.
- 4.7.2 A number of the fields surrounding the village to both north and south show remains of ridge and furrow cultivation. Such a cultivation technique was employed from late Anglo-Saxon times into the post-medieval period. In the case of the Ingram road site, the large field to the south of the village, and east of Ingram Road, that contains one of the putative barrows, shows the presence of broad S-shaped ridge and furrow, that is consistent with the results of medieval agricultural practice. It is very likely that these earthworks represent open field agriculture and are part of the 'infields' of the medieval borough. The fields to the immediate south of the linear feature that has been speculated as being the medieval Spitalgate, also show the presence of ridge and furrow, though of a straighter and somewhat narrower character than that to the south.

4.7.3 In the case of the proposed development within the field to the east of Armstrong House, the field itself is overgrown and it is difficult to discern the presence of features via aerial survey within the field itself. Though a linear feature, in alignment with a plot boundary to the immediate north, does appear to be present. Ridge and furrow can be seen within the fields immediately east and south of the site. This is similar to that seen in the northern field off Ingram Road, being straighter and somewhat more narrow than the broad S-shaped ridge and furrow in the southern fields. This would be consistent with the establishment of ridge and furrow in these areas at a later date. Though it should be noted that the dating of such cultivation earthworks, from form alone, is open to considerable interpretation.

4.8 Archaeological interventions

4.8.1 Excavation undertaken within the site of the Grace Darling Museum, at the time of the building's reconstruction in 2007, revealed the presence of a substantial ditch and a series of medieval pits indicating occupation within this area (HER 13837). In addition the geophysical survey, discussed below, was also undertaken in the field to the north west of this site (Figure 6, Area 4) and indicated the presence of numerous archaeological features. Trial trench evaluation and a watching brief, undertaken in advance of development at the Mizen Head Hotel, produced no evidence of archaeological material. (HER 13583) It could be tentatively speculated, from this, that the large ecclesiastical enclosure proposed to the west of the church contains features of archaeological interest from the medieval period but that the medieval village did not extend any distance to the west of Ingram Road, explaining the absence of features of interest on the Mizen Head site.

4.8.2 A series of ten 1m² test pits were excavated within village gardens as part of a Local Heritage Initiative project by the Bamburgh Research Project in 2001. The survey was limited in scope but two test pits within the Castle Wynd development and two on South Victoria Terrace are of some relevance, lying as they do within the general area of the two proposed development sites. The Castle Wynd proved to contain evidence of modern disturbance and a pinkish sandy subsoil close to the surface that was consistent with a high level of disturbance or even truncation. South Victoria Terrace revealed deep midden deposit that were not bottomed within the narrow confines of the test pits. It is no surprise that medieval and post-medieval pottery formed a general background throughout the village area (HER 13652).

4.8.3 A series of geophysical surveys were conducted within the fields around Bamburgh Village in 2004 by TimeScape Surveys for an HLF funded project undertaken by the BRP (Figure 6). Two areas of survey are of potential relevance to the current study. Area 1 lay immediately to the south of the site off Ingram Road, and clearly shows the presence of the ridge and furrow, seen on the aerial photographs. Two linear anomalies can be clearly identified as former field boundaries, depicted on the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey. Other strong linear anomalies are more likely to represent modern drains than features of early date. In addition a series of discrete anomalies, of unknown provenance, were present, but formed no obvious patterns. The mound within the field, that had been assumed to represent a Tumulus by Victorian Antiquarians, was subject to trial trenching excavation as part of the HLF funded project and found to be of natural origin. Few features were identified but the presence of two post-holes and a probable boundary feature were noted within one trench to the south of the mound. Little in the way of dating evidence was present making interpretation problematic (HER 13735).

4.8.4 Area 5 of the 2004 geophysical survey, revealed the presence of what appears to be a very substantial enclosure, containing a number of internal features, initially interpreted as of prehistoric date. Re-examination of this survey by Geophysical Surveys of Bradford in 2010 as part of a Time Team investigation, has raised the possibility that this feature is an unusual natural geological phenomenon. Certainly the trial trenching north of the road at the Mizen Head did not identify features of interest in an area directly adjacent to this proposed feature.

5.0 SITE WALKOVER

- 5.0.1 The two sites were examined on the 4th February 2014. The field in front of Armstrong House is heavily overgrown with bushes and brambles in addition to three modestly sized trees being present. Waste and rubble was also noted within the undergrowth, but the extent of such material over the site was hard to determine, even in mid winter. A north-south oriented earthwork, noted from the 1997 RAF vertical aerial photograph, and mentioned earlier as aligning with a boundary plot to the north, could be traced as a noticeably higher platform at the west side of the site. The linear earthwork, proposed as medieval Spitalgate, was clearly visible as a hollow way extending past the southern boundary of the site (Plate 2).
- 5.0.2 On the site off Ingram Road, a series of narrow, low, linear earthworks, also visible on the aforementioned aerial photograph, could be traced within the southern half of the northern field and the broad S-shaped earthworks were also clearly visible within the southern field. Both were entirely consistent with being the result of ridge and furrow cultivation. In the north west corner of the northern field, adjacent to the garages, an extensive broadly rectangular area of raised ground may represent a building platform (Plate 3).

6.0 IMPORTANCE OF THE ARCHAEOLOGY

- 6.0.1 It is clear from historical and archaeological evidence that Bamburgh, in its wider context, represents a site of regional, national and arguably international importance. Indeed it is noted within the North East Region Research Framework for the Historic Environment (Petts and Gerrard 2006, 61) as a site of national as well as regional importance.
- 6.0.2 The known archaeological and historical material related to the Bamburgh area spans a number of key periods in history, which have been highlighted by English Heritage in their Research Agenda (EH 1997). These include:
- P8 Late Iron Age hillforts, enclosures and settlements
 - PC5 Empire to Kingdom (c200-700 AD)
 - PC6 The late Saxon to medieval period (c700-1300)
 - H3 Population change in the 4th –7th century England
 - H4 The impact of Christianity
 - H5 The origins and development of the medieval town and rural markets
- 6.0.3 Historical records and cartographic evidence would appear to place the site in front of Armstrong House close to the heart of the medieval borough, provided Spitalgate has been correctly identified and its extent to the east traced via earthwork evidence. Whilst ridge and furrow is problematic to date with certainty from its form alone, the earthwork evidence taken together with the historical documents, would suggest that the open ground in front of Armstrong House was within the confines of the medieval borough and that the narrow ridge and furrow, now in this vicinity, is of late medieval or post medieval date. If correct then it represents a later phase of agricultural activity that post-dates the relative decline of the borough. It would therefore be reasonable to predict the presence of medieval archaeology of considerable significance, related to burgage plot occupation, within the site, provided Spitalgate originally contained occupied plots along its full length. Buildings as well as back yard pits and features can be predicted within the development area. Though the extent to which ridge and furrow would have truncated any underlying archaeological material remains speculative. Although areas of damp and marginal ground are present to a limited extent within

the fields to the south, both sites would appear to be well drained and it is unlikely that waterlogged remains would be present within archaeological layers, should they be present within either site. The soils at Bamburgh are known from previous excavation to be conducive to the preservation of animal bone and palaeoenvironmental sampling is known to be productive.

- 6.0.4 That said It should be noted, that the evidence from the Tithe Map and 1st Edition OS depict the burgage plot-like boundaries extending eastwards within the village core only as far the line of the Wynding Road. If this were to be an indication, not of the shrinking of the village but a relict of its original extent, then this would have significant implications for the presence of medieval archaeology within the proposed site in front of Armstrong House. In the absence of geophysical survey or trial trench excavation it is not possible to resolve this with any certainty. As an additional note, on the Armstrong House site, it should be stated that it seems an unlikely one for the location of the siege castle of 1095, given what is known of this site from the historical record.
- 6.0.5 In the case of the site off Ingram Road, the archaeological potential for the northern part of the site also depends, to a large extent, on the problem of identifying the extent of the urban elements of the medieval borough. As with the first site, the 1st Edition Ordnance survey map does not depict burgage plots in this area, and the presence of ridge and furrow clearly indicates that the site has been put to agricultural use for some time. Much will depend on whether the identification of the linear earthwork as an important medieval street is valid, as in that instance there would clearly be a high potential for the presence of medieval urban archaeology to have extended into the development area.
- 6.0.6 The identification of the medieval hospital site, as lying within the housing estate to the immediate west of the Dovecote field and off Ingram Road, is problematic, in that its presence or absence there is key in the identification of Spitalgate. This street is known from documentary records to be a major thoroughfare within the medieval borough and therefore to have the potential to be a significant archaeological area. The hollow way that lies adjacent to the two development sites has been identified with this street since at least the 19th century, and remains an assertion supported by Stewart Ainsworth, one of the country's leading landscape archaeologists. This is based, in no small part, on the cartographic identification for the location of the hospital. The implication for this is that should the hospital lie elsewhere, as some documentary evidence regarding a shared boundary with the friary site suggests, then the street represented by the hollow way could be a less important one with the potential for a much reduced archaeological potential. It is unfortunate that the current state of evidence is insufficient to resolve this issue.
- 6.0.7 The southern part of the site is less problematic to speculate upon, due the presence of broad S-shaped ridge and furrow over it, and the close proximity of the geophysical survey area from 2004 with its associated trial trenching evidence. In this case few features, and the absence of clear dating evidence, makes it unlikely that any features of pre-modern date are present within the 2004 trial trenches in the southern part of the Ingram Road field and the the ridge and furrow indicates long term agricultural use.
- 6.0.8 As far as the potential for the presence of archaeological material of Anglo-Saxon and prehistoric date, within either site, is concerned, it is impossible to predict the potential for such material beyond the known documentary evidence for an Anglo-Saxon *vill* in the vicinity of the church, and the known scale of such sites elsewhere in the county. Prehistoric activity is known in the general area and a feature of substantial size has been tentatively identified by geophysical survey in the field to the west of Ingram Road. Ridge and furrow potentially masks such early features, but this could only be investigated by excavation.

7.0 PREDICTED IMPACT OF THE NEW DEVELOPMENT

- 7.0.1 The detailed design of the two proposed new developments is not presently defined, but both are for domestic dwellings that would involve housing construction and the associated access routes and services. It is clear that construction activity associated with two housing developments would impact substantially on any archaeological features, should they be present on the two sites. The development areas are immediately peripheral to the urban elements of the present village, and the area in front of Armstrong House, lies within the village conservation area. Existing evidence suggests, quite strongly, that the medieval settlement was more extensive than the present village area, which raises the potential that all or part of the two development areas could contain archaeological material of considerable importance.
- 7.0.2 Both sites are clearly visible from the castle and so the development would have a visual impact, but one that can be mitigated through sympathetic design. This is particularly the case with regard to the site in front of Armstrong house, which is close to the listed building itself and could limit views of this building from the present road through the village. The Ingram Road site, is more discretely located and the development is sites some metres form the Dovecote, one of the more unusual village landmarks.

8.0 CONCLUSIONS

- 8.0.1 Bamburgh is noted within the North East Region Research Framework for the Historic Environment (Petts and Gerrard 2006, 61) as a site of national as well as regional importance and this must be taken into consideration in the light of any development. It is problematic that the extent of the urban settlement in the early medieval period can only be broadly speculated upon, using analogy with comparable sites within the region, as no direct evidence for early medieval Bamburgh has been identified, within the village, to date. Such potential raises the possibility that such material could be present within either or both of the proposed developments. The ephemeral and distributed nature of such sites would make the identification of such material problematic even with trial trenching.
- 8.0.2 The available evidence provides a quite compelling argument that medieval Bamburgh was more extensive, and potentially more densely occupied, than the present village. The clear implication of this is the potential for archaeological material of regional importance to be present within the site, and vulnerable to development activity. It is not certain that this is the case though, as much rides on the identification of a linear earthwork as one of the principal streets of the medieval borough (Spitalgate), which is by no means certain. In addition the limited cartographic evidence allows some reason to doubt that the medieval borough extended into the two development sites. In addition the presence of extensive earthworks, resulting from ridge and furrow cultivation, is present on, or in the vicinity, of both sites. Such medieval cultivation practice can be intrusive and result in the truncation of archaeological material. Providing some doubt concerning the state of preservation likely to be encountered on site.

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Cartographic evidence

- Speed's Map of 1610
- Armstrong's map of 1769
- Fryer's map of 1820
- Greenwood's map of 1828
- Horesly and Cay's map of 1753
- Warburton's map of 1716
- 1st Edition Ordnance Survey, 25 inch to the mile
- 2nd Edition Ordnance Survey, 25 inch to the mile
- 3rd Edition Ordnance Survey, 25 inch to the mile

Northumberland Records Office

- Land Valuation Map 1910, sheet 16.8
- Tithe award, Bamburgh township [Bamburgh parish] DT 21M

Aerial Photograph

- Ordnance Survey, RAF vertical Frame 160, Film no. 97-116 (1997)

APPENDIX I

TWO DEVELOPMENT SITES IN BAMBURGH VILLAGE, NORTHUMBERLAND

WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR A DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.0.1 This document has been compiled by The Bamburgh Research Project for The Trustees of Lord Armstrong during January 2014. The document sets out the written scheme of investigation for a desk-based assessment of two sites on land within Bamburgh Village, Northumberland, where housing schemes are proposed.

1.0.2 The desk-based-assessment will be undertaken by The Bamburgh Research Project (BRP) in January/February 2014. The written scheme of investigation details the proposed scheme of work to be undertaken as the first phase in a process of archaeological assessment. It will provide evidence that will allow the need for additional work to be adjudged, prior to the submission and determination of an application.

1.1 Location

1.1.1 The two proposed development areas are within the urban area of Bamburgh Village, which lies 7km east of Belford in north east Northumberland. The first of the sites lies in a pasture field to the immediate east of Armstrong House, centred on grid reference NU 18220 34925 and the second extends between two fields to the east of Ingram Road and is centred on grid reference NU 18070 34700 (Figures 1 and 2).

2.0 METHODOLOGY

2.0.1 The evaluation will comprise a desk-based assessment of the land within the development area. The site itself will be studied in detail and the surrounding 1km area assessed for archaeological potential.

2.0.2 All work will be carried out in compliance with the codes of practice of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA 2009) and will follow the IFA Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessment (IFA 2008).

2.1 Desk-based assessment

2.1.1 The desk-based assessment will undertake the evaluation of the archaeological potential for the development area based on information derived from:

- A site visit and field inspection of the landscape, structures and any associated groundworks and features.
- Study of the development area and the surrounding 1 km radius beyond the site boundary based on:
 - i) The location of known archaeological sites and landscapes within the proposed development area
 - ii) The potential for palaeo-environmental samples within the proposed development area
 - iii) The density of archaeological sites in the surrounding area and the potential that comparable sites may continue into the site
 - iv) Previous disturbance on the site, which may have affected archaeological remains, including any significant change in levels from those indicated on old Ordnance Survey maps, and truncation by existing services on or adjacent to the site.

- v) Where the information is available, the physical impact of the proposed development including:
 - a) Building foundations
 - b) Services
 - c) Access roads
 - d) Ground reduction
 - e) Increased vibration
 - f) Change in ground conditions on waterlogged or environmentally rich sites
- vi) The impact of the proposed development on the setting of the following sites or monuments within the wider study area:
 - a) Scheduled Ancient Monuments
 - b) Listed Buildings
 - c) Historic Parks and Gardens and Historic Battlefields
 - d) Non-designated heritage assets
 - e) Any other heritage assets specifically identified in the brief as requiring assessment

2.2 Sources

2.2.1 The sources consulted will include:

2.2.2 Maps, as a minimum (where available)

- i) 1716 Warburton
- ii) 1753 Horsley and Cay
- iii) 1769 Armstrong
- iv) 1808 Smith
- v) 1820 Fryer
- vi) 1828 Greenwood
- vii) 1829 Pigot
- viii) Tithe, apportionment and parish maps
- ix) Estate maps of the area
- x) Ordnance Survey maps from the First Edition onwards
- xi) Service providers maps and databases (Water, Electricity, Telecoms and Gas as a minimum)
- xii) Other available maps

2.2.3 Aerial Photographs will be consulted for the specific site and the immediate surrounding area.

- i) English Heritage, National Monument Record, Swindon (NMR)
- ii) Northumberland Historic Environment Record (HER)
- iii) Woodhorn Museum and Northumberland Archives

2.2.4 If, for any reason, the assessor was not able to access any of the above resources, this will be noted within the text of the report.

2.2.5 Northumberland Historic Environment Record will be consulted for the following sources:

- i) A comprehensive record of all the known archaeological sites in the County
- ii) Copies of the Scheduled Ancient Monument designations
- iii) Copies of the Listed Building designations
- iv) Conservation Area Boundaries
- v) Complete digital aerial photographic coverage of the county
- vi) Selected LiDAR data, if available

2.2.6 Other Sources to be consulted where appropriate will include:

- i) Appropriate archaeological and historical journals and books
- ii) Historical documents held in local museums, libraries, record offices and archives

- iii) Unpublished material held by local archaeological organisations (amateur and professional)
- iv) All available borehole, trial pit and geotechnical data from the site and its immediate environs held by the developer
- v) Geomorphological information may be obtained from the Soil Survey and Land Research Centre or the Geography Department at Newcastle University
- vi) Existing utility and service information which may help to inform on constraints to future work.

2.3 Written account

- 2.3.1 A written account of features and structures of interest will be compiled on site during the site visit on pro-forma sheets.

2.4 Photographic record

The photographic record compiled will include:

- General views of the study area
- General views of the exterior of the building, from all angles
- Record of any significant features identified during field inspection

3.0 REPORT COMPILATION

- 3.0.1 The report will be compiled in accordance with English Heritage MoRPHE guidelines (English Heritage 2008).

- 3.0.2 The report will include:

- Northumberland County Council Conservation Team reference, planning reference number and the OASIS reference number and an 8 figure grid reference
- A description of the site and its underlying geology
- Period-based discussion of the known and potential archaeological sites within the proposed development area
- An assessment of the importance of any standing buildings, individually, and as a group of buildings
- Discussion of the physical impact of the proposed development on known and potential archaeological sites
- Where possible an assessment of the impact on the visual setting of Scheduled Monuments, Listed buildings, Historic Parks and Gardens and Historic battlefields and unscheduled archaeological sites of national or regional importance
- Appendices listing:
 - 1 All archaeological sites, Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Historic Parks and Gardens and Historic battlefields in the proposed development area and the wider study
 - 2 All aerial photographs within the detailed study area and immediate environs, quoting the reference number and date (cross-referenced to the gazetteer where appropriate)
 - 3 A copy of the specification and its checklist

3.1 Illustrations

- A location plan of the site at an appropriate scale of at least 1:10 000 will be included
- A location plan of the extent of the proposed development area at a recognisable planning scale, and located with reference to the national grid
- Copies of all maps described in the text with the extent of the proposed development area marked on each map. Where copyright prevents the inclusion of a map in the report, a hand-drawn copy will be provided. Where possible historic maps will be transcribed either by hand or

digitally, as an overlay on to the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey to allow details to be assessed in relation to recent features.

- A plan with the extent of the proposed development area and showing the location of all archaeological sites, Scheduled Monuments, Listed buildings, Historic Parks and Gardens and Historic battlefields in the proposed development area and the wider study area will be included
- Photographs appropriate to the assessment of the site including copies of all relevant Aerial photographs on which features have been identified or failing this a transcription of the identified feature in an appropriate modern basemap.

3.2 Site archive

- 3.2.1 An archive containing a copy of the report and original illustrations and tracings that are not included in the report together with digital copies of the report and illustrations will be deposited at the Northumberland Record Office and its reference number included in the report.
- 3.2.2 An online OASIS form will be completed for the project as part of the post-excavation assessment process.
- 3.2.3 The site archive will be deposited within six months of the completion of the report.
- 3.2.4 A summary of the assessment report will be submitted to the County Council Conservation Team for inclusion in 'Archaeology in Northumberland' by December 2014.

4.0 PERSONNEL

- 4.0.1 The designated project manager Graeme Young, is one of the four directors of the Bamburgh Research Project. A graduate of Newcastle University, with 25 years of experience in field archaeology including directing a number of excavations of urban medieval sites in Newcastle and Durham. He is an Associate Member of the Institute of Field Archaeologists.
- 4.0.3 Additional field staff, with appropriate archaeological experience, will be engaged as required.

5.0 HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 5.0.1 The Bamburgh Research Project complies with the 1974 Health and Safety Act and its subsequent amendments in all its operations. The SCAUM manual and the Bamburgh Research Project Health and Safety Policy Document is followed for all site works. A designated and appropriately trained first aider is present at all times during working hours. A First Aid kit, Accident Book and telephone are provided for each project. Safety footwear is mandatory on all excavation sites. Where required safety helmets and reflective jackets are provided.
- 5.0.2 All staff undergo a safety induction prior to commencing work on site. A written risk assessment is undertaken specific for each site. The safety assessment is reviewed on a daily basis and changes to the working conditions monitored continually during adverse weather conditions.



Figure 1 Location plan

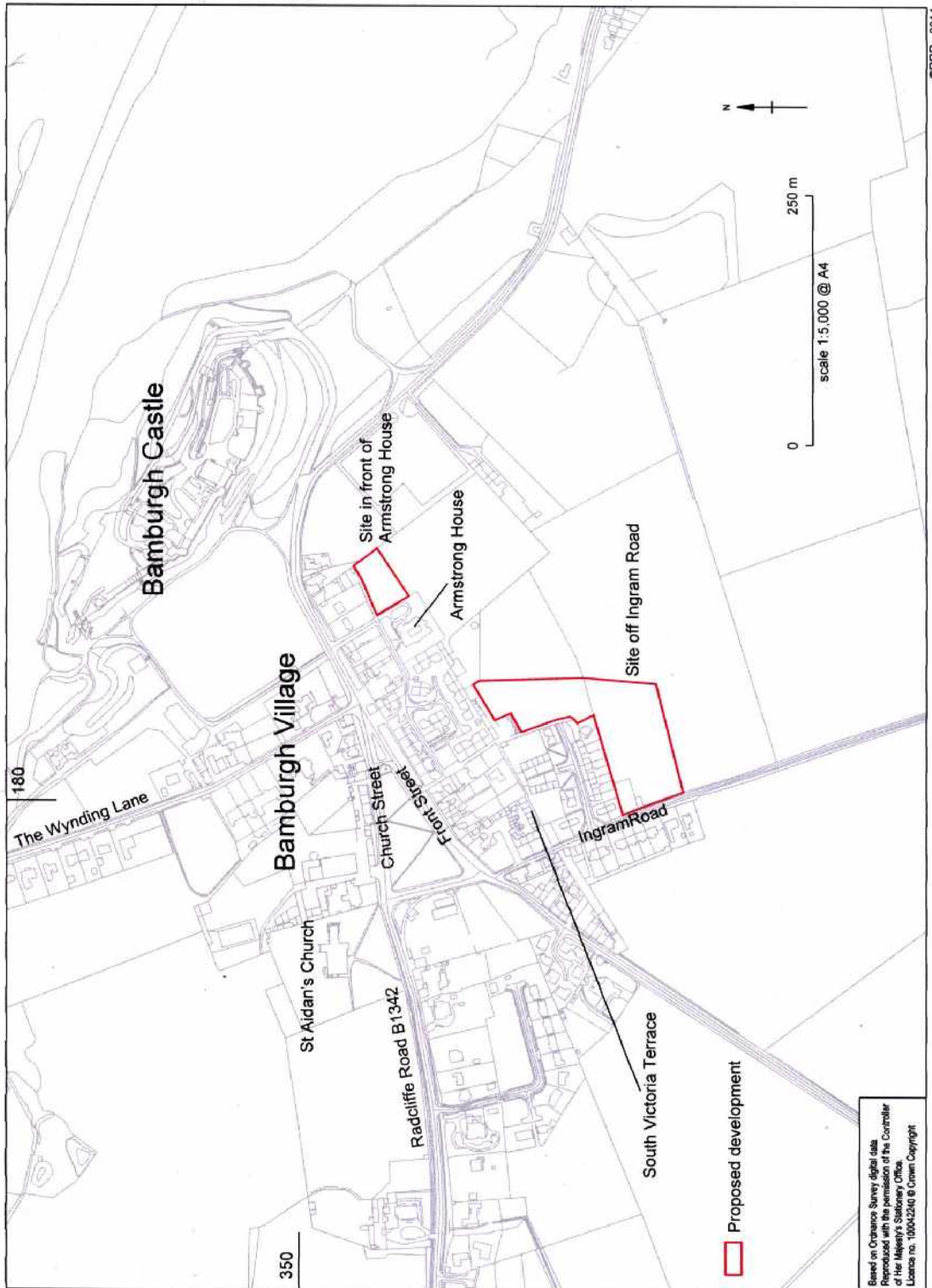


Figure 2 Location of the two proposed developments

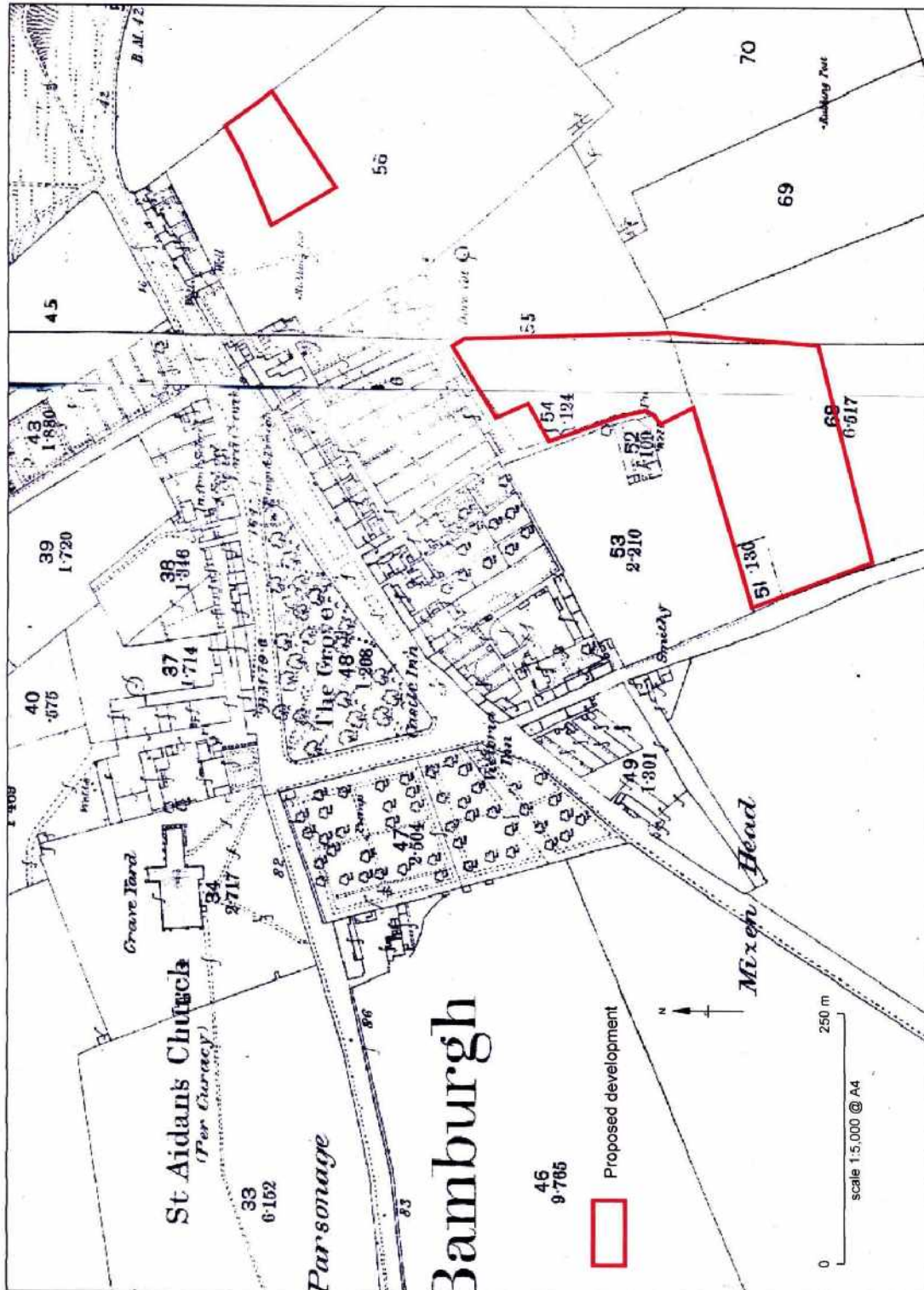
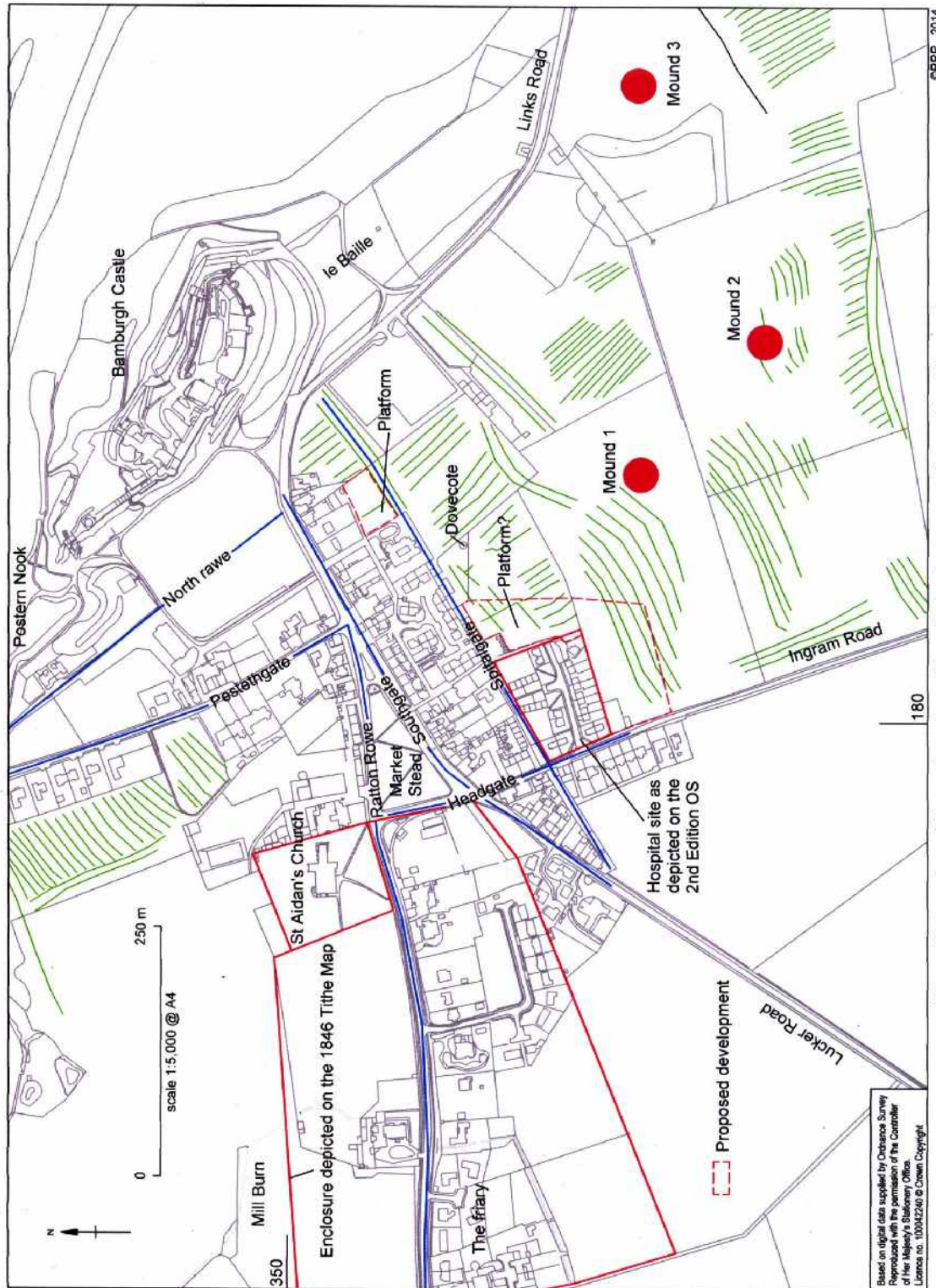


Figure 4 1st Edition Ordnance Survey



6BRP 2014

Figure 5 Location of the earthworks and best fit for the layout of the medieval borough

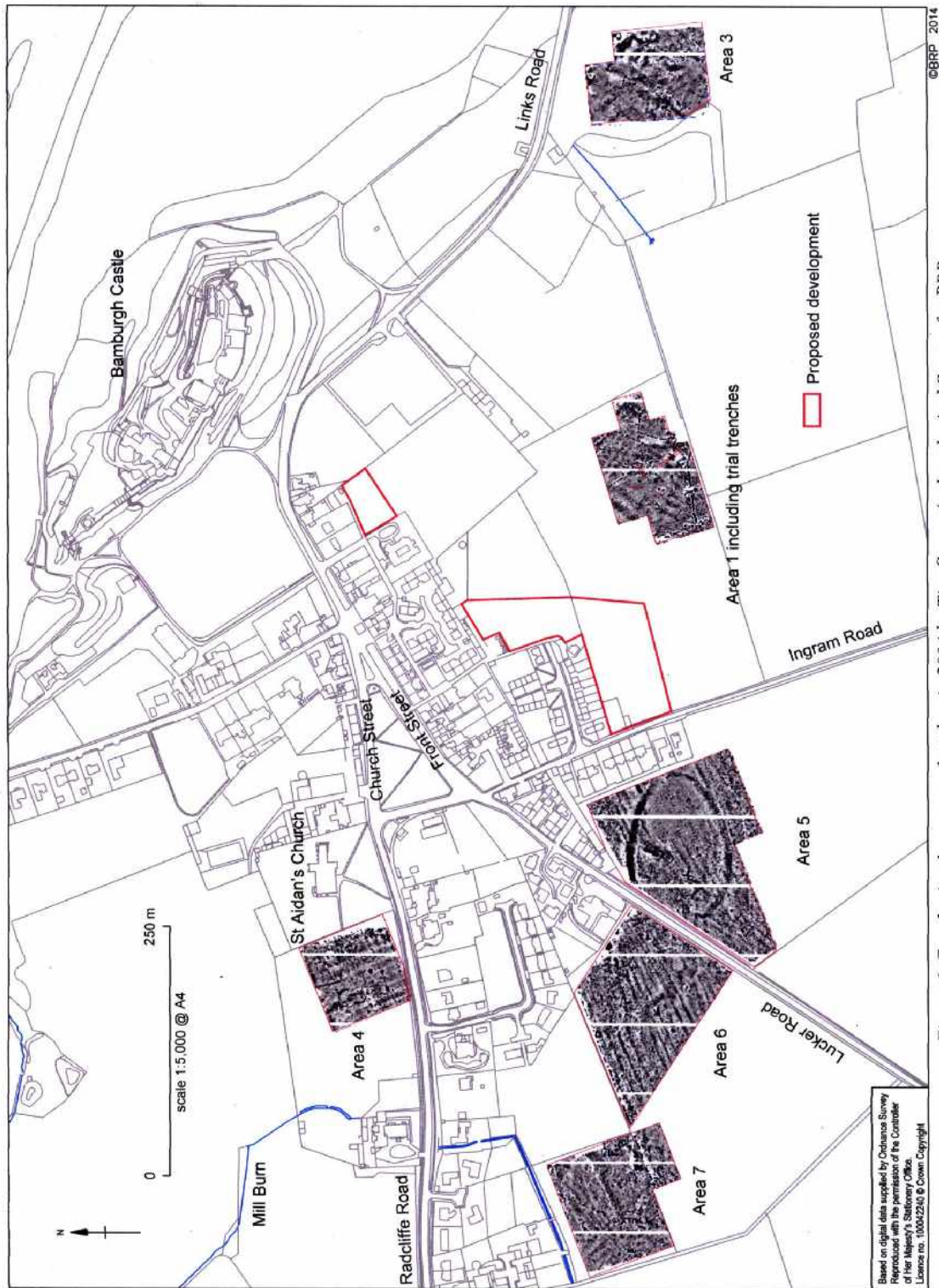


Figure 6 Geophysical survey undertaken in 2004 by TimeScape Archaeological Survey for BRP

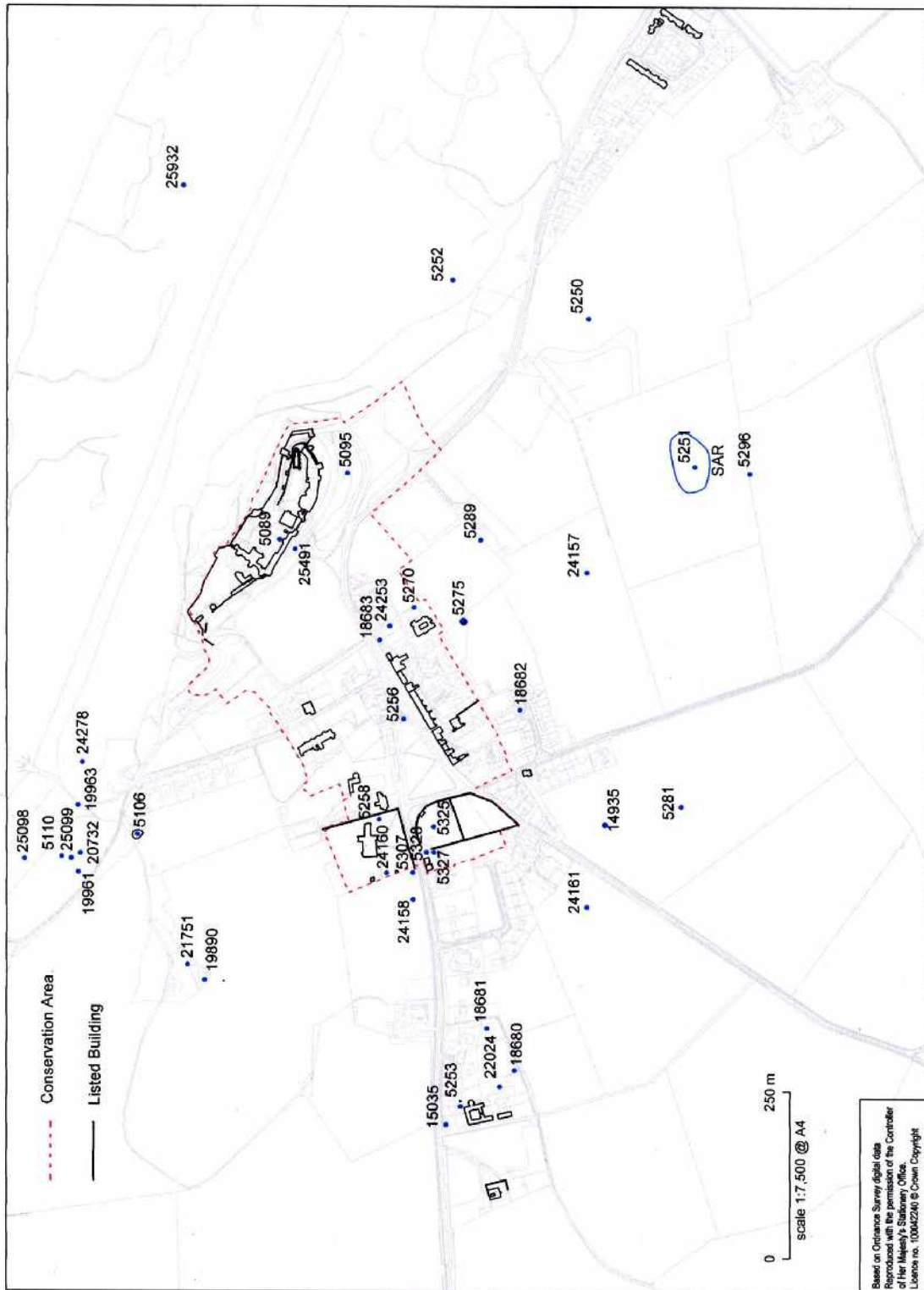


Figure 7 Plan of the Historic Environment Record features



Plate 1: View of the putative hospital site, facing east



Plate 2: View of the overgrown site in front of Armstrong House, facing south west



Plate 3: Platform in the northern field off Ingram Road, facing south west



Plate 4: Aerial photograph 1973, facing north west