

# **BAMBURGH RESEARCH PROJECT**

## **THE FRIARS BAMBURGH NORTHUMBERLAND**



## **DESK BASED ASSESSMENT**

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BRP 14/05b

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## SUMMARY

This document has been compiled by The Bamburgh Research Project (BRP) for Mr Graeme Ash during August 2014 and comprises a desk based assessment of a site at The Friars within Bamburgh, Northumberland, proposed for a housing development. The work has been undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation compiled by the BRP in July 2014. This report provides an assessment of the archaeological potential within the vicinity of the site, and considers the potential for encountering and impacting on archaeological material that might result from the proposed construction of dwellings within the field to the east of The Friars. 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 proposed development area lies on the extreme western edge of the urban area of Bamburgh Village, which lies 7km east of Belford in north east Northumberland. The site is currently a pasture field to the immediate east of The Friars and is centred on grid reference NU 1738 3479 (Figures 1 and 2).

The Historic Environment Record (HER) report is considered for the vicinity of the site, to a radius of 1km. Fifty six of the seventy eight 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 two, undated features, the remaining fifteen items are of early medieval and medieval date, underlining the importance of Bamburgh in the medieval period (Figure 7).

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 6<sup>th</sup> century (H.E., 562). By the 7<sup>th</sup> century Bamburgh had become the pre-eminent centre of the Anglo-Saxon dynasty that came to dominate Northumbria. 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* (walled city) 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).

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 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> 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). A borough is known from documentary sources to have been present at Bamburgh during the medieval period. 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 19<sup>th</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 18<sup>th</sup> 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.

A Dominican friary (HER 5353), founded in AD 1265, lay some 300m west of St Aidan's church at Friars Farm, immediately east of the proposed development site. The original land holding was not recorded but Henry III granted an additional seven acres to the friars in the year of its foundation (Bateson 1893, 138-142). Six additional acres 'in the old mill pond of Bamburgh' and four more in the 'Greenwellflat' were granted in 1266. Parts of the medieval fabric of the main friary buildings survived and were incorporated into the post medieval Friary Farm. In a survey of c.1715 mention was made of a "Friary with a church in ruins, length 42 (yards), breadth 7 (yards)" (Hodgson, 4). A sketch made c. 1780, and now held by the Bodleian Library, show the structure of the friary church as a substantial ruin. The dissolution of the monasteries in 1539 saw the friary and its lands pass into secular hands. Prior to 1560 it was in the possession of Thomas Horsley, but in that year passed to Nicholas Pynd and Thomas Reve. It is clear from the documents listing the lands that they were distributed about the open fields of Bamburgh, which may mean that the friary site itself may not have been extensive. The estate passed to the Forsters from the Widdringtons and from them to Lord Crewe and in turn to the Armstrong Estate.

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, and depicts buildings at the friary site (Figure 3). 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 Friars and the farm buildings at Friary Farm are both depicted, but the proposed development site is shown as open ground. The first edition does appear to show that the burn extended out to form a pond to the immediate south of the site and it is conceivable that this may be the Mill Pond of Bamburgh associated with the Henry III land grant of 1265. Though a further two ponds appear to be present to the north of the glebe. It may be significant that the boundary between the Friars and Friary Farm follows its present line, indicating a long lived boundary (Figure 4).

Burials and some of the structural remains were identified by excavation at Friary Farm in the 1960s. First by the discovery of the burials in 1967, during construction of grain storage bins, and later during excavation by Dr Brian Hope-Taylor in 1969. Sadly few records of these interventions survive (HER 5253). Further archaeological work was undertaken at the time of the construction of the recent housing development in 1992, when fabric of the north and east walls of the church were identified within the farm buildings, 0.8m wide at the base and surviving up to 5.5m in height. The cloister to the south of the church has been estimated as 16m square, but the exact line of the east side has not been identified. The west wall of the west range of the farm is thought to have been in part medieval, and an archway is thought to mark the entrance to an outer western court. The full extent of the friary precinct is not known and no trace of the precinct boundary or gate has been identified (ibid).

The site was examined on the 19<sup>th</sup> July 2014. The field in front of The Friars is a somewhat overgrown meadow, at present, with a narrow stand of mature trees along the southern boundary beyond which runs the Mill (or Spital) Burn. No sign of earthworks were noted, but conditions were far from perfect given the height of the grass (Plate s 1-4).

Historical records and cartographic evidence place the site immediately to the west of the known focus of the medieval Dominican Friary. What is much less certain is the extent of the boundary of the friary site in the medieval period. The limited cartographic evidence depicts the boundary between the site and Friary Farm as present from the earliest detailed maps. This together with the fact that the boundary continues two fields further to the south, as far as Lucker Road, could be seen as evidence that it represents a long lived feature. The presence of ridge and furrow cultivation on the site area can

*be seen as supporting evidence that the site lay beyond the friary precinct, on cultivated ground. The Mill Burn (Spital Burn) forms the southern boundary to the present site and extends to the east into the area of the Friary. Cartographic evidence demonstrates the presence of a pond, perhaps the mill pond mentioned in the medieval endowment of the friary. This raises the possibility that waterlogged material could be preserved towards the southern boundary of the site. The pond was filled in before the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and the adjacent trees will have substantially de-watered the ground, but the prospect that some preservation of palaeoenvironmental remains by water-logging could be remain in the extreme south of the site cannot be ruled out. To the north, within the general area of the site, such preservation is very unlikely given the know free draining nature of the soils of the Bamburgh area.*

*The available evidence provides a quite compelling argument that medieval Bamburgh was more extensive, and potentially more densely occupied, than the present village, but also that the secular borough was concentrated to the east of the present urban area with the ecclesiastical sites and their precincts to the west. The clear implication from this for the current site is that the potential for medieval archaeological material to be present will be associated within the proximity of the friary site, and also dependent on the former extent of the friary precinct. It is not certain that this formed the eastern boundary of the proposed site, but this seems at least likely, indicating a reduced likelihood that structural remains and other archaeological remains such as pits and ditches could be present. In addition the presence of ridge and furrow cultivation, known to cause truncation of archaeological material, will also have implications regarding preservation of sensitive archaeological remains.*

**THE FRIARS  
BAMBURGH  
NORTHUMBERLAND  
DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT**

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.0.1 This document has been compiled by The Bamburgh Research Project (BRP) for Mr Graeme Ash during August 2014 and comprises a desk based assessment of a site at The Friars within Bamburgh Village, Bamburgh, Northumberland, that is proposed for housing development. The work has been undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation compiled by the BRP in July 2014. The OASIS reference number is bamburgh1-187995.
- 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 dwellings on the ground adjacent to The Friars. 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 proposed development area lies on the extreme western edge of the urban area of Bamburgh Village, which lies 7km east of Belford in north east Northumberland. The site is currently a pasture field to the immediate east of The Friars and is centred on grid reference NU 1738 3479 (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. The topsoil in the site area was noted as a red-brown sandy silt during the site walk over.

## **2.2 Description**

- 2.2.1 The site in front of The Friars is currently an overgrown meadow, trapezoidal in plan and measuring 60m east to west by 125m north to south, being some 7,500m<sup>2</sup> in area. It is relatively even and slopes noticeable, but not steeply, down from north-west to south-east (Figure 2 and Plates 1-4).

## **3.0 METHODOLOGY**

- 3.0.1 The evaluation comprised a desk-based assessment of the land within the development area. The site has 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 Historic Environment Record (HER) for the vicinity of the site, to a radius of 1km. The full report is included within the archive. Fifty six of the seventy eight 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 two, undated feature, the remaining fifteen items are of early medieval and medieval date, underlining the importance of Bamburgh in the medieval period (Figure 7).

**Table 1: HER Sites**

<b>HER No.</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Period</b>	<b>Grid Ref.</b>
5089	Bamburgh Castle	Restored medieval castle with extensive medieval ruins and post-medieval structures	Medieval	NU 183351
5092	Mesolithic flints	11 microliths, 5 scrapers and 1 burin	Mesolithic	NU167353
5094	Castle Windmill	Listed post-medieval building	Post-medieval	NU18203520
5105	Wynding House	Wynding House. Grade II listed building. Early to mid 18 <sup>th</sup> century	Post-medieval	NU1804735060
5106	Pinfold	The Pinfold. Grade II listed. Stray animals pound, 18 <sup>th</sup> or early 19 <sup>th</sup> 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

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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
5253	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
5254	Leper hospital	Magdelene leper hospital	Medieval	NU173342
5255	Mesolithic flint	Series of over 300 flint finds from the hills to the south of Budle bay	Mesolithic to Bronze Age	NU1734
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 <sup>th</sup> , 13 <sup>th</sup> and 14 <sup>th</sup> centuries. Restored 1830 and later 19 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> century	Post-medieval	NU18173483
5281	Enclosure	Rectilinear cropmark enclosure	Prehistoric	NU179345
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 <sup>th</sup> and 18 <sup>th</sup> century, re-fronted early 19 <sup>th</sup> century. Early 18 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> century	Post-medieval	NU1793634991
5310	Farm House	Dukesfield farmhouse, Grade II listed building of c. 1820	Post-medieval	NU17133417
5311	Castle Hotel	No 7 (The Castle Hotel) Front Street. Grade II listed building. 18 <sup>th</sup> century inn	Post-medieval	NU1796534840
5312	No. 8 Front Street	No 8 Front Street. Grade II listed building. 18 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> century house, remodelled early 20 <sup>th</sup> century	Post-medieval	NU1799434857
5315	No.s 13 and 13 Front Street	No.s 12 and 13 Front Street. Two late 18th 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 <sup>th</sup> century, with 20 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> century	Post-medieval	NU1812534935

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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 <sup>th</sup> century	Post-medieval	NU1781534880
5328	No. 7 Radcliffe Road	No. 7 Radcliffe Road. Grade II listed building. Late 18 <sup>th</sup> or early 19 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> century	Post-medieval	NU1733634769
12986	Parish overview	Overview of Bamburgh Parish from Key to the Past website	Uncertain	NU1775233931
14634	Monitoring post	Royal Observer Corps monitoring post	20 <sup>th</sup> century	NU16573496
14935	Ditched Enclosure	Possible large ditched enclosure to the south of Lucker Road	Uncertain	NU1787234614
15035	Cartshed at the Friars	An early 19 <sup>th</sup> century cartshed. Six bays with segmental arches	Post-medieval	NU1742434851
15036	Farm buildings at Friary Farm	18 <sup>th</sup> century farm buildings incorporating medieval masonry of the former Dominican Friary. Four ranges around a farmyard, with a gingang	Post-medieval	NU1744534818
18679	Well	Well	Post-medieval	NU1731334209
18680	Well	Well	Post-medieval	NU1750534749
18681	Well	Well	Post-medieval	NU1756734790
18682	Well	Well	Post-medieval	NU1804634740

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18683	Well	Well	Post-medieval	NU1814934951
18684	Milepost	Milepost	Post-medieval	NU1727433808
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
22701	Spindle whorl	Lead spindle whorl recorded as part of the PAS	Medieval	NU1734
22706	Seal	Medieval copper alloy seal, recorded as part of the PAS	Medieval	NU1734
22872	Medieval ditch	A substantial ditch was identified during a watching brief at the Grace Darling Museum in 2007	Medieval	NU17833487
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	Medieval	NU17763490

		despite several instances of destruction		
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 dunes north of Bamburgh between October 2009 and January 2010	WWII	NU1782335424
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 <sup>th</sup> century	NU1828635078

#### **4.1 The prehistoric period (8,000 BC to 1<sup>st</sup> 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 5092) (Figure 7).
- 4.1.3 The Neolithic period (4,000 BC to 2,500 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 Glororum. 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 (2,500 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 (marked Mound 1 on Figure 5) attests to a Bronze Age presence in the village area of some status. The 'barrow' was investigated during the 19<sup>th</sup> century, when a cist containing a human burial was discovered. A further putative barrow was investigated by the Bamburgh Research Project in 2003 (marked Mound 2 on Figure 5) 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 properties.
- 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 (1<sup>st</sup> century AD to 5<sup>th</sup> 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 (5<sup>th</sup> century AD to 12<sup>th</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup> century (H.E., 562). By the 7<sup>th</sup> century Bamburgh had become the pre-eminent centre of the Anglo-Saxon dynasty that came to dominate Northumbria.
- 4.3.2 It is clear from archaeological and documentary sources that an early medieval site of international importance lies beneath the castle. It is also highly probably 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* (walled city) 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).
- 4.3.3 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 13<sup>th</sup> 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).
- 4.3.4 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 (12<sup>th</sup> century AD to 16<sup>th</sup> 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 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> 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, immediately east of the proposed development site. The original land holding was not recorded but Henry III granted an additional seven acres to the friars in the year of its foundation (Bateson 1893, 138-142). Six additional acres 'in the old mill pond of Bamburgh' and four more in the 'Greenwellflat' were granted in 1266. Parts of the medieval fabric of the main friary buildings survived and were incorporated into the post medieval Friary Farm and elements are extant to the present day. In a survey of c.1715 mention was made of a 'Friary with a church in ruins, length 42 (yards), breadth 7 (yards)' (Hodgson, 4). A sketch made c. 1780, and now held by the Bodleian Library, show the structure of the friary church as a substantial ruin. The dissolution of the monasteries in 1539 saw the friary and its lands pass into secular hands. Prior to 1560 it was in the possession of Thomas Horsley, but in that year passed to Nicholas Pynd and Thomas Reve. It is clear from the documents listing the lands that they were distributed about the open fields of Bamburgh, which may mean that the friary site itself may not have been extensive. The estate passed to the Forsters from the Widdringtons and from them to Lord Crewe before becoming part of the Armstrong Estate.
- 4.4.3 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 17<sup>th</sup> century survey and an 18<sup>th</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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. 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). Although potentially close to the friary site, we have no evidence placing the hospital to the west of the friary in the location of the proposed development.
- 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 19<sup>th</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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, and the ponds seen on the 1<sup>st</sup> Edition OS are our only potential clues to their location. Maudeleynswell lay on a boundary shared by the Dominican friary and the hospital and could be the well marked on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition OS, 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 12<sup>th</sup> / early 13<sup>th</sup> century date, the other of 14<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup> 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 13<sup>th</sup> 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 13<sup>th</sup> century resulted in the decline of Bamburgh as an urban centre during the latter part of the medieval period. In both the early 14<sup>th</sup> and early 15<sup>th</sup> 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 (16<sup>th</sup> 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 18<sup>th</sup> 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 19<sup>th</sup> 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 17<sup>th</sup> 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; the style of the structure may indicate a 16<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup> 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 The Friars, built between 1820 and 1830 is a grade II listed building as are its gate piers and garden wall (HER 5329 and 5330). A number of the farm buildings at Friary Farm are also grade II listed as they represent the early 19<sup>th</sup> century farming tradition (HER 15035 and 15036), 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).
- 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, and depicting buildings at the Friary Farm site (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 Friars and the farm buildings at Friary Farm are both depicted, and the proposed development site is shown as open ground. The first edition does appear to show that the burn extended out to form a pond to the immediate south of the site and it is conceivable that this may be the Mill Pond of Bamburgh associated with the Henry III land grant of 1265. Though a further two ponds appear to be present to the north of the Glebe. It may be significant that the boundary between the Friars and Friary Farm follows its present line indicating a long lived boundary (Figure 4).

#### **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 (Figure 5). Earthwork remains associated with ridge and furrow cultivation are well represented. Such a cultivation technique was employed from late Anglo-Saxon times into the post-medieval period. In the case of the present site, aerial photography appears to indicate the presence of such earthworks over the proposed development area (RAF vertical 1997). It is of a straighter character than the broad S-shaped ridge and furrow in the fields to the south of the village, This could be consistent with the establishment of ridge and furrow in this 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. Examination of the 1m resolution lidar data for this area confirms the presence of the ridge and furrow on the proposed development site.

#### **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 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). Areas 5 and 7 are of potential relevance to the current study. Area 7 lay to the south east of the friary site and appears to confirm the presence of former ridge and furrow, to the east of the village area within fields currently under cereal cultivation. This adds weight to the hypothesis that the medieval village did not extend to the west of the modern urban centre. In addition Area 5, 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.
- 4.8.3 Burials and some of the structural remains were identified by excavation at Friary Farm in the 1960s. The discovery of the burials occurred in 1967, during construction of grain storage bins, and these and some structures were later further investigated during by Dr Brian Hope-Taylor in 1969. Sadly few records of these interventions survive (HER 5253). Further archaeological work was undertaken at the time of the construction of the recent housing development in 1992, when fabric of the north and east walls of the church were identified within the farm buildings, 0.8m wide at the base and surviving up to 5.5m in height. The cloister to the south of the church has been estimated as 16m square, but the exact line of the east side has not been identified. The west wall of the west range of the farm is thought to have been in part medieval, and an archway thought to mark the entrance to an outer western court. The full extent of the friary precinct is not known and no trace of the precinct boundary or gate has been identified (*ibid*).

#### **5.0 SITE WALKOVER**

- 5.0.1 The sites was examined on the 19<sup>th</sup> July 2014. The field in front of The Friars is a somewhat overgrown meadow, at present, with a narrow stand of mature trees along the southern boundary, beyond which runs the Mill (or Spital) Burn. No sign of earthworks were noted, but conditions were far from perfect given the height of the grass (Plates 1-4).

#### **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 4<sup>th</sup> –7<sup>th</sup> 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 place the site immediately to the west of the known focus of the medieval Dominican Friary. What is much less certain is the extent of the boundary of the friary site in the medieval period. The limited cartographic evidence depicts the boundary between the site and Friary Farm as present from the earliest detailed maps. This together with the fact that the boundary continues two fields further to the south, as far as Lucker Road, could be seen as evidence that it represents a long lived feature. The presence of ridge and furrow cultivation on the site area can be seen as supporting evidence that the site lay beyond the friary precinct, on cultivated ground. The Mill Burn (Spital Burn) forms the southern boundary to the present site and extends to the east into the area of the friary. Cartographic evidence demonstrates the presence of a pond, perhaps the mill pond mentioned in the medieval endowment of the friary. This raises the possibility that waterlogged material could be preserved towards the southern boundary of the site and it is just possible that remain of a mill could be present in the vicinity.. The pond was filled in before the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and the adjacent trees will have substantially de-watered the ground, but the prospect that some preservation of palaeoenvironmental remains by waterlogging could be remain in the extreme south of the site cannot be ruled out. To the north, within the general area of the site, such preservation is very unlikely given the know free draining nature of the soils of the Bamburgh area.

6.0.8 As far as the potential for the presence of archaeological material of early medieval, Romano-British and prehistoric date is concerned, it is impossible to predict the potential for such material beyond the known documentary evidence for an early medieval *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.

## **7.0 PREDICTED IMPACT OF THE NEW DEVELOPMENT**

7.0.1 The detailed design of the proposed new developments is not presently defined, but domestic dwellings and the associated access routes and services can be assumed. It is clear that construction activity associated with a housing development would impact substantially on any archaeological features, should they be present on site. The development area is immediately peripheral to the urban elements of the present village, but lies out with the village conservation area. Existing evidence demonstrates the proximity of the focus of the medieval friary site, with potential that features of medieval date associated with the friary could be present in the site area.

7.0.2 The site is visible from the castle, although at some distance, and obscured somewhat by

trees, and so the development would have a visual impact on the view from the monument, but one that can be mitigated through sympathetic design.

## **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. This potential raises the possibility that such material could be present within the proposed development. Though the likelihood probably diminishes with distance from the only known focus of the early medieval *vill*, St Aidan's. 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, but also that the secular borough was concentrated to the east of the present urban area with the ecclesiastical sites and their precincts to the west. The clear implication from this for the current site is that the potential for medieval archaeological material to be present will be associated within the proximity of the friary site, and to a lesser extent on the location of the hospital site and the mills along the Mill Burn. A great deal depends on the extent of the friary precinct, as it is not certain that this formed the eastern boundary of the proposed site, though this seems at least likely, indicating a reduced likelihood that structural and other features could be present. In addition the presence of earthworks, resulting from ridge and furrow cultivation, known to cause truncation of archaeological material, will also have implications regarding preservation of sensitive archaeological remains.



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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
- 1<sup>st</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey, 25 inch to the mile
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey, 25 inch to the mile
- 3<sup>rd</sup> 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**

### **HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AT THE FRIARS 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 Design Two during July 2014. The document sets out the written scheme of investigation for a desk-based assessment for a proposed housing development on land at The Friars, Bamburgh Village, Northumberland.

1.0.2 The desk-based-assessment will be undertaken by The Bamburgh Research Project (BRP) in July/August 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 proposed development area lies on the extreme western edge of the urban area of Bamburgh Village, which lies 7km east of Belford in north east Northumberland. The site is currently a pasture field to the immediate east of The Friars and is centred on grid reference NU 1738 3479 (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



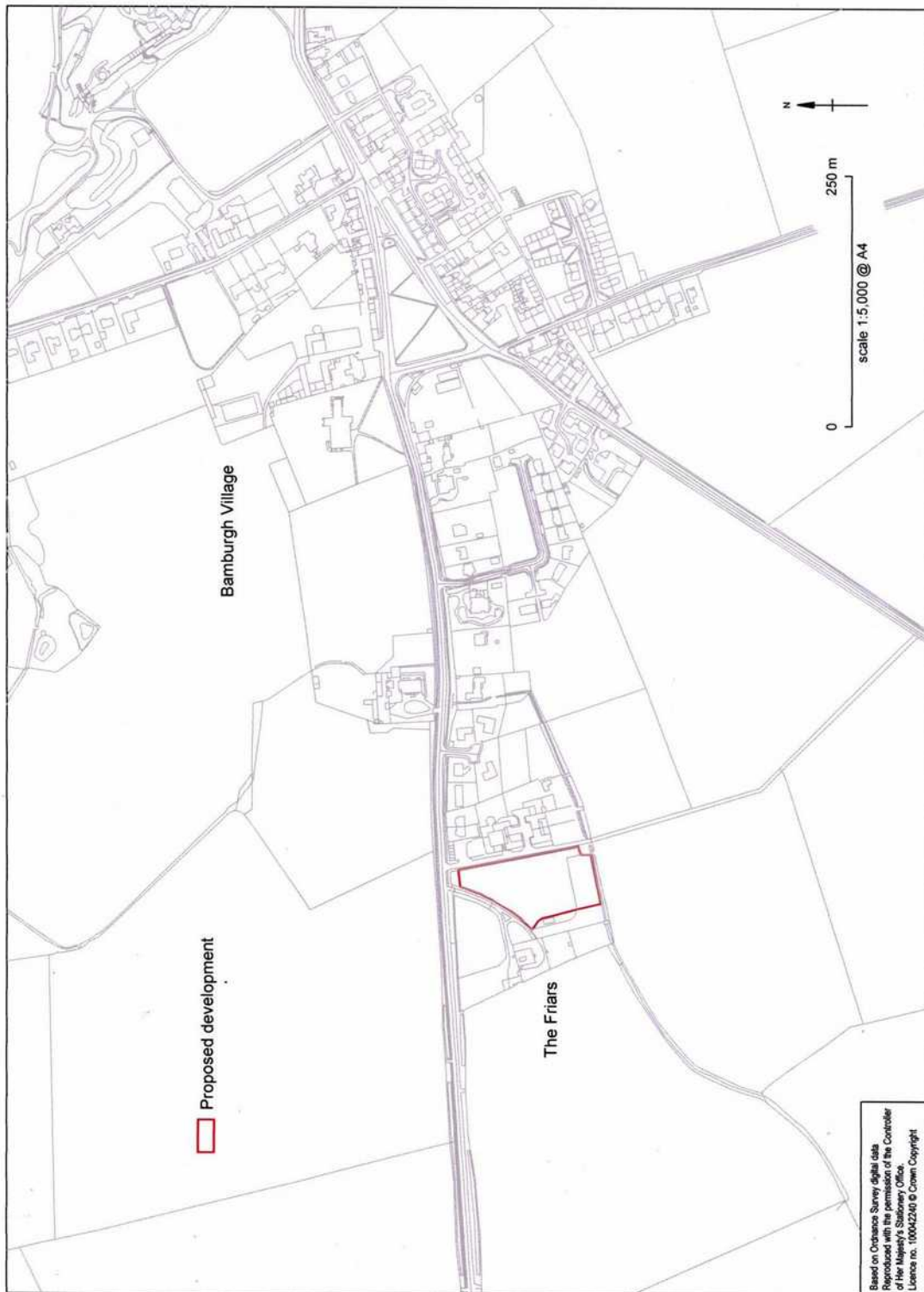


Figure 2 Location of the proposed development



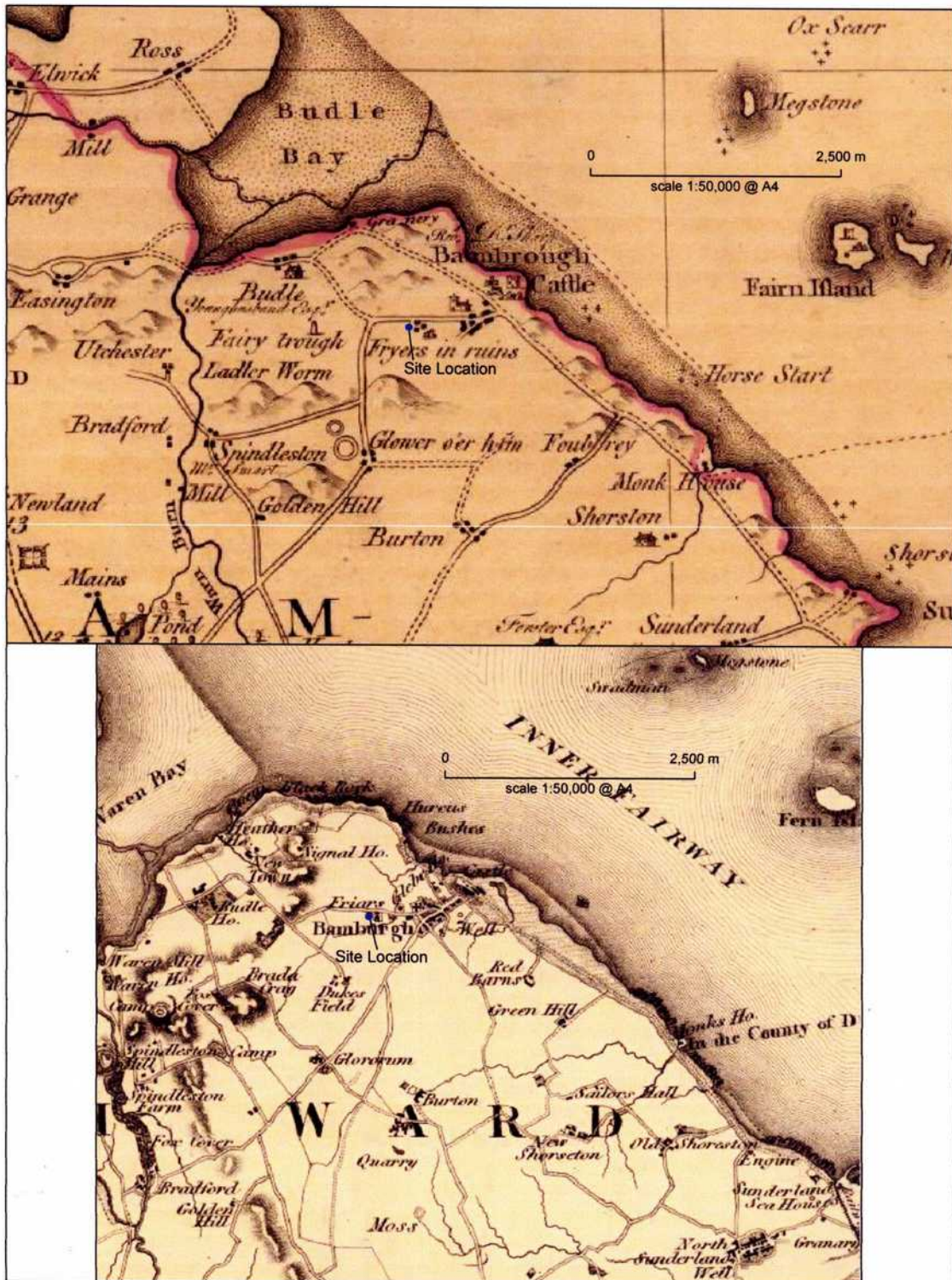


Figure 3 Armstrong's (top) and Greenwood's (bottom) maps

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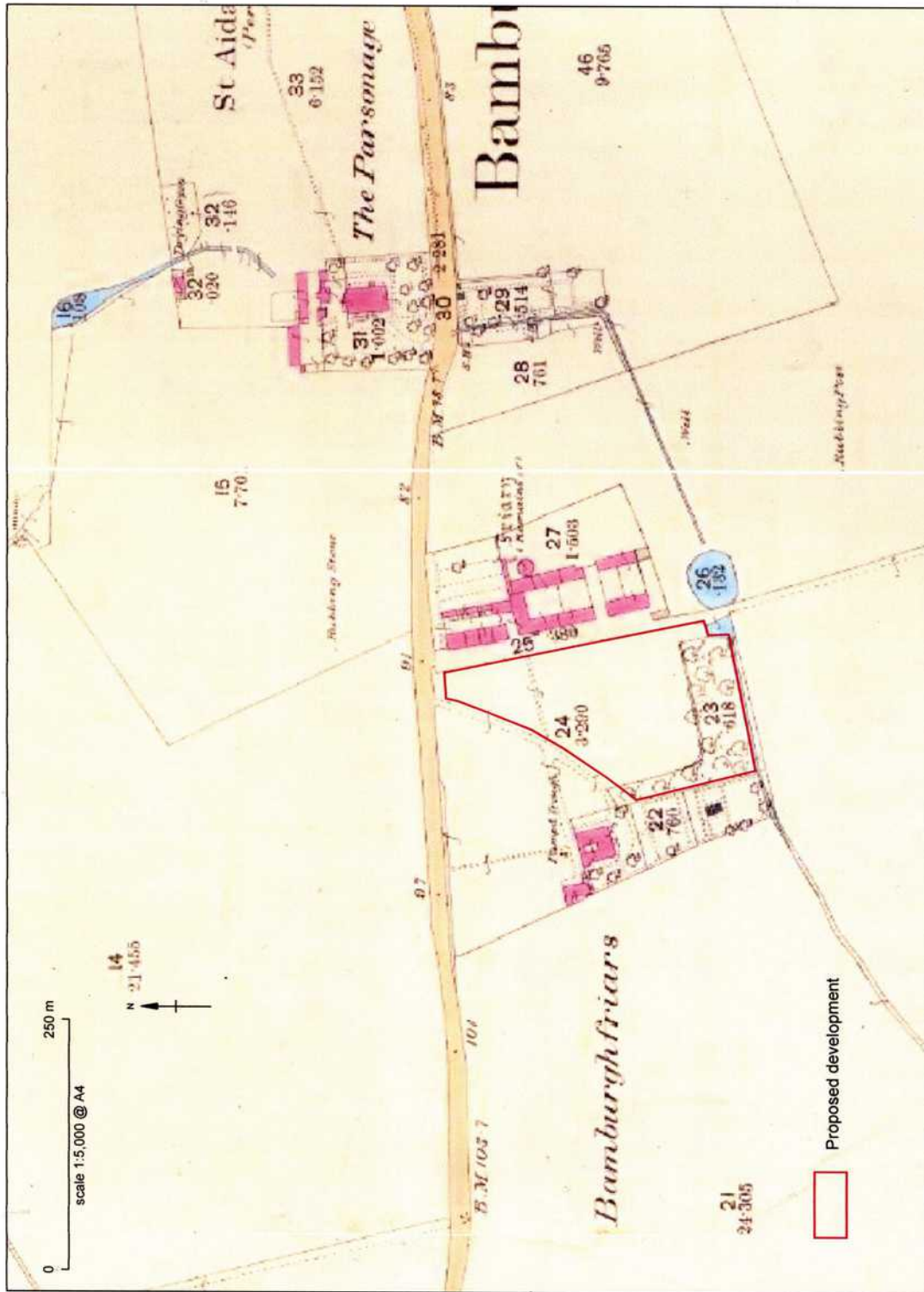


Figure 4 1st Edition Ordnance Survey



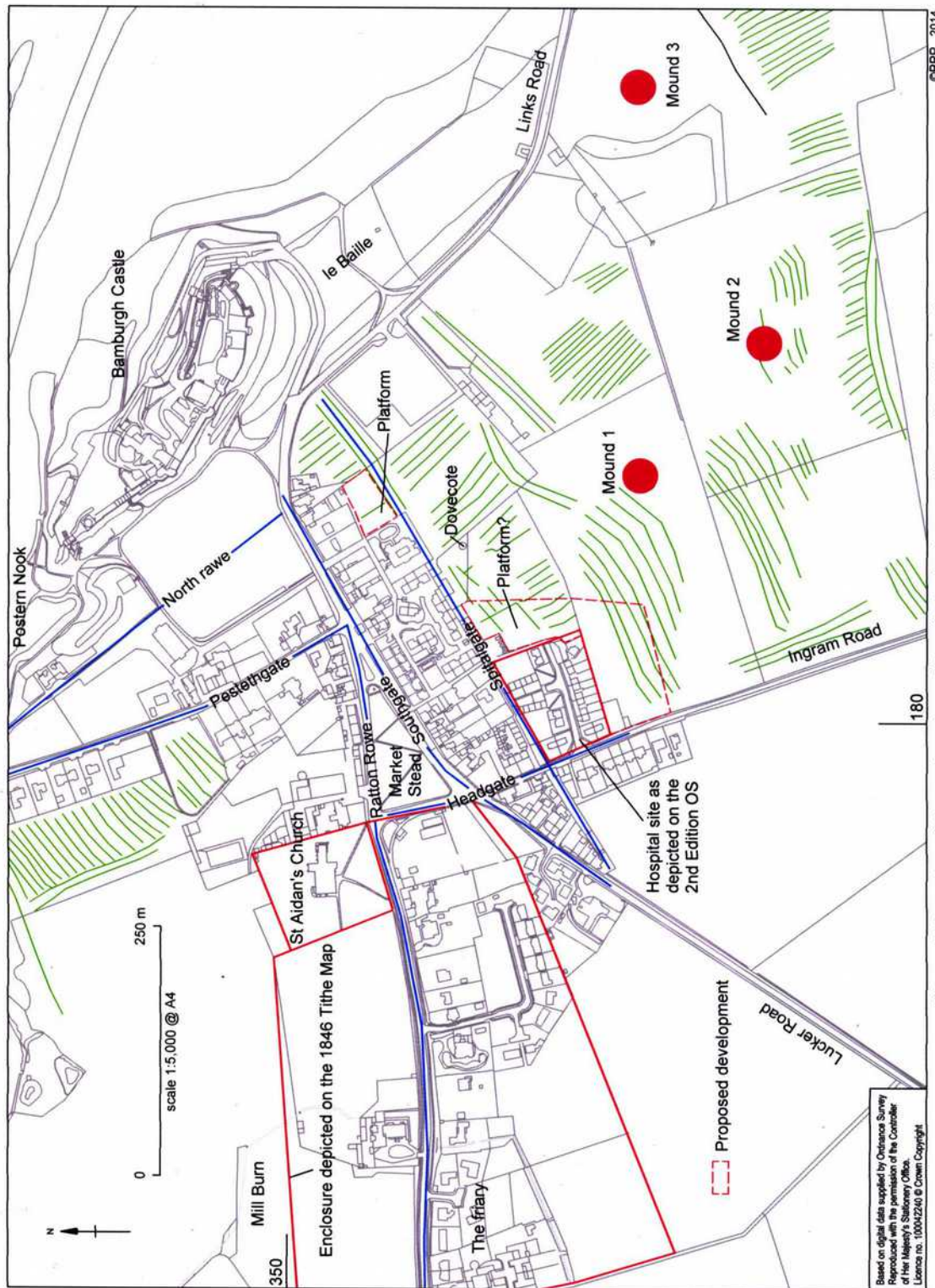


Figure 5 Location of the earthworks and best fit for the layout of the medieval borough

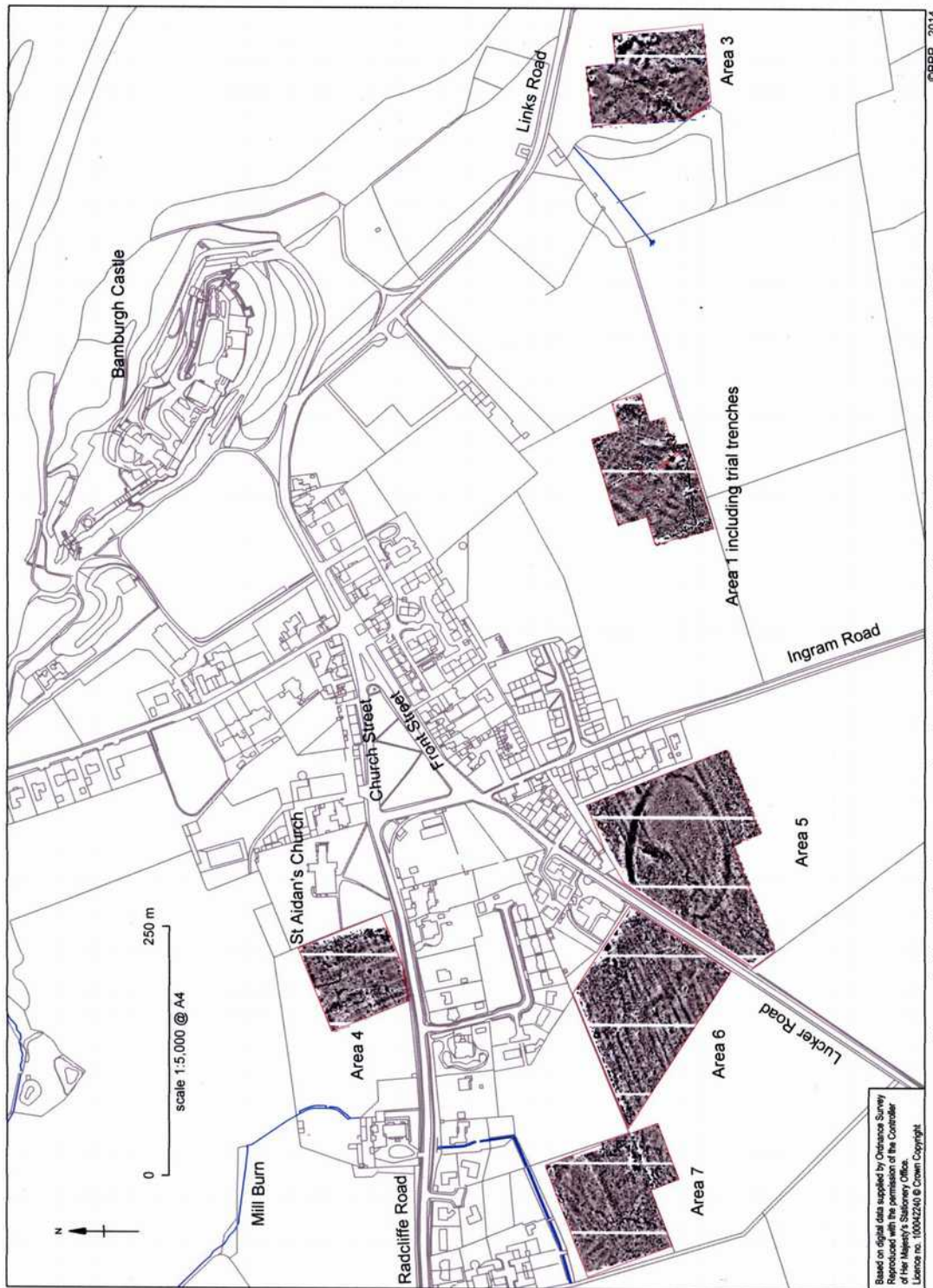
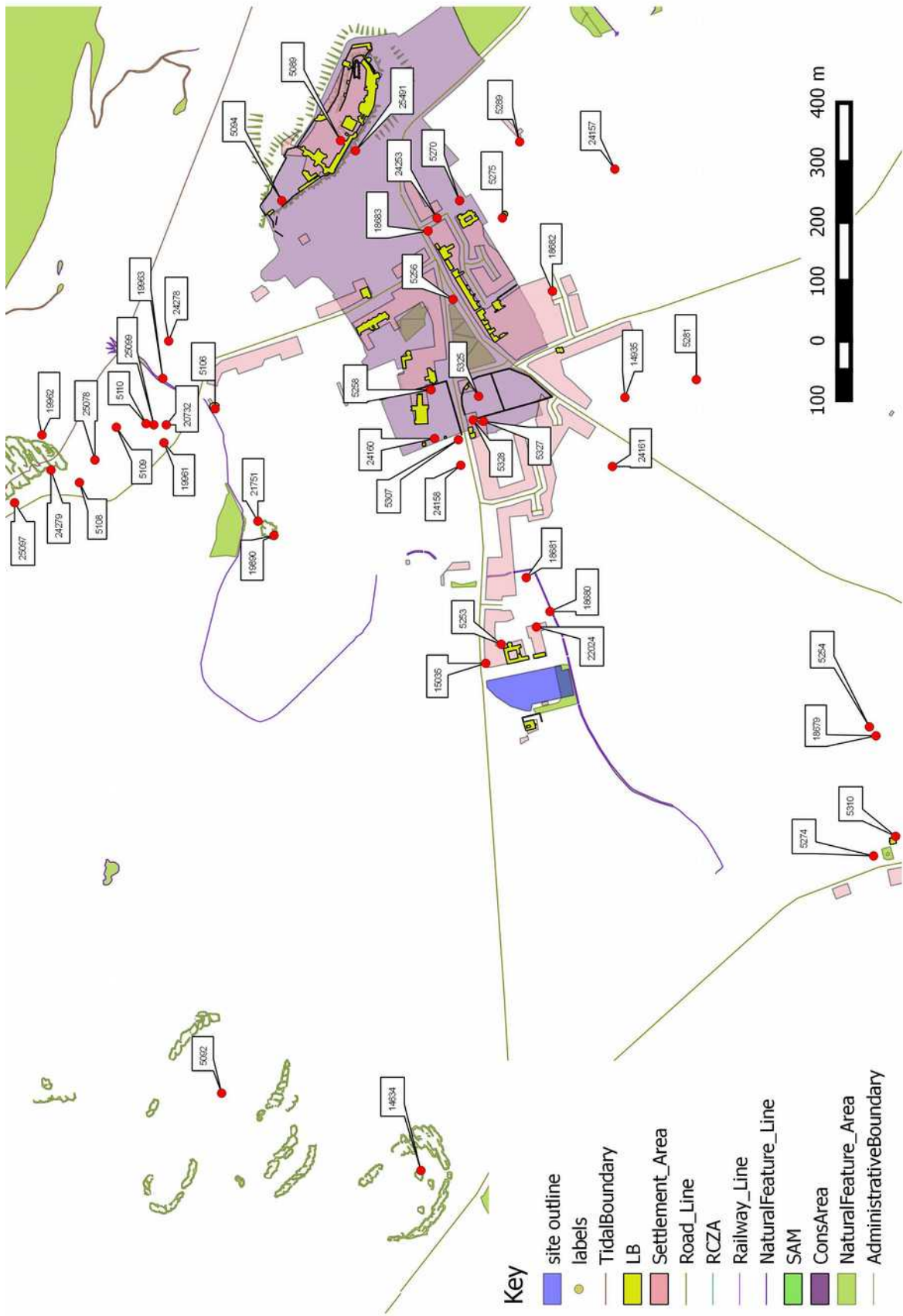


Figure 6 Geophysical survey undertaken in 2004 by TimeScope Archaeological Survey for BRP





BRP 2014

Figure 7: Plan of the Historic Environment Record features



*Plate 1: View of the site area, facing south*



*Plate 2: View of the site area, facing north-east*





*Plate 3: Site area showing the distance from Bamburgh Castle, facing east-south-east,*



*Plate 4: Site area, facing north-west, The Friars within the trees.*