



# Doncaster Bloodstock Sales Site SOUTH YORKSHIRE

*Archaeological Evaluation and Geophysical Survey*



**August 2006**

Hereford Archaeology Series 732



This report is produced by

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS LTD

Manager : A Boucher BSc MIFA  
Assistant manager: N. Oakey BA MA MIFA

UNIT 1, PREMIERE BUSINESS PARK,  
WESTFIELDS TRADING ESTATE,  
FARADAY ROAD, HEREFORD  
HR4 9NZ

Tel. (01432) 364901  
Fax. (01432) 364900

for: Doncaster Bloodstock Sales Ltd.  
Auction Mart Offices  
Hawick  
Roxburghshire  
TD7 9NW

---

*Archaeological Investigations Ltd is a trading company wholly owned by the Hereford City and County Archaeological Trust Ltd, a registered charity founded in 1997 to further the work of the City of Hereford Archaeological Committee (founded in 1974) throughout Herefordshire. The Company maintains a core staff with a broad range of expertise, whilst also making extensive use of specialist contract personnel. Besides working on the buried archaeology of Hereford and the country in general, the Company specialises in geophysical survey, historical illustration and the archaeological recording and analysis of standing buildings. Work is usually on a commission basis on behalf of organisations such as English Heritage, the National Trust, and the Landmark Trust. The Company also accepts commissions from local authorities and private developers and provides specialist consultancy advice in relation to archaeology in the planning process and general environmental issues.*

---

**Cover picture:**

***Doncaster Bloodstock Sales stable block currently on site***

---

Hereford City & County Archaeological Trust : Company Number 3283805  
Registered Charity Number 1060840  
Archaeological Investigations Ltd : Company Number 3356931 VAT 692 1750 23



# Doncaster Bloodstocks Sales Site South Yorkshire

## Archaeological Evaluation and Geophysical Survey

---

### Site Work

L. Craddock-Bennett BSc, Suzanne Reeve BA MA, S. Porter BSc

### Report

L. Craddock-Bennett,  
C. Rees BSc MA, and A. Boucher BSc MIFA

---

## Contents

1. Summary
  2. Introduction
  3. Aims and Objectives
  4. Method
  5. Historical Background
  6. Results
  7. Discussion
  8. Conclusion
  9. Bibliography
- Appendix 1: Site Archive  
Appendix 2: Context Database  
Appendix 3: Pottery Report  
Figures
- 

August 2006

©Archaeological Investigations Ltd



# Doncaster Bloodstock Sales Site

## SOUTH YORKSHIRE

(NGR SE 6010 0343)

### *Archaeological evaluation and Geophysical survey*

---

---

#### **1. Summary**

---

*The project was undertaken in response to proposals to develop the site for Doncaster Bloodstocks Sales Ltd.*

*The main aims were to investigate potential archaeology in the areas likely to be affected by the proposed development and to make satisfactory recordings of the findings.*

*A geophysical survey was carried out on the site that identified a number of anomalies which could be archaeological features.*

*Fifteen trenches were excavated to determine the nature of the anomalies discovered by the geophysical survey and assess areas that were apparently blank following this survey.*

*No significant archaeology was found. The majority of the linear features identified by the geophysics were nineteenth/twentieth century land drains.*

*One linear feature on the site contained no dating evidence and could possibly relate to field boundaries laid out in the early nineteenth century.*

*Three trenches contained plough marks cut into the natural subsoil, which may relate to the nineteenth century field systems.*



---

---

## **2. Introduction**

---

Archaeological Investigations Ltd. was commissioned through RMJM Architects on behalf of Doncaster Bloodstock Sales Ltd. to archaeologically evaluate the site at Doncaster Racecourse by means of Geophysical survey and trial trenching prior to expansion of the existing Bloodstock sales complex.

The geophysical survey was conducted by Bartlett Clark Consultancy and took place on August 3<sup>rd</sup> and August 4<sup>th</sup> and excavation took place between August 14<sup>th</sup> and August 23<sup>rd</sup> 2006.

The majority of the 3.8ha site is currently common land, used as a recreation ground by the public. Stable blocks belonging to Doncaster Bloodstock Sales occupy a central position within the study area. To the south and west the site is bounded by an asphalt access road running alongside the track at Doncaster Racecourse, to the north runs 'Leger Way' forming part of the A18. To the east, playing fields bound the study area (Fig. 1).

The site is on low lying flat ground ranging between 8.33m OSL in the east to 9.55m OSL in the west.

The geology of the site consists of a mottled yellow clay with micaceous inclusions.

The site was centred on OS reference SE 6010 0343. All levels were taken from a spot height of 8.3m OSL located on Lonsdale Avenue to the north-east of the site.

---

---

## **3. Aims and Objectives**

---

The aim of the project was to investigate the nature of and potential impact on any archaeological remains present by the proposed development and provide a satisfactory record of such.

The main objectives were to

- Identify the date and nature of features or deposits.
- Assess survival condition and significance of features, deposits or structures in the study area.
- Produce a record of the features and deposits.
- Assess, analyse and report on the findings of the work.



---

---

## **4. Method**

---

### **4.1 Geophysics**

---

A geophysical survey was undertaken, where access permitted, across the whole area of the site. The selected method was fluxgate gradiometry using 1m long Bartington sensors. Readings were collected on traverses spaced 1m apart and at intervals of 0.5m or less using continuous logging.

Data processing involved the application of some low level smoothing filters to remove high frequency background noise and assist in emphasising archaeological-type anomalies should they occur. Presentation of the data is in greyscale (Fig. 3) and X-Y graph formats (Fig. 2).

---

### **4.2 Evaluation trenches**

---

The positions of the fifteen trenches (Fig. 4) were largely determined by the results of the geophysical survey. Anomalies identified on the geophysical plot were targeted as suitable places to locate trenches. Each trench measured 25 metres in length and two metres in width, the aim being to evaluate 2% of the 3.8ha site. The trenches were located by measuring from fixed points identifiable on Ordnance Survey maps of the area. Disturbed topsoil was removed using a JCB excavator with a 1.5m toothless bucket. As no archaeological horizons were encountered, the trenches were machined down to the level of the undisturbed natural subsoil. A small sondage was excavated within the base of trench 1 to rule out the presence of archaeology at a greater depth.

All trenches were recorded according to the Archaeological Investigations Ltd. Site Manual. Due to the simple stratigraphy of the site a 1.0m long representative section of each trench was recorded. All trenches containing features were planned at a scale of 1:50. A general photograph of each trench was taken using 35mm colour and black and white film. Any features were also photographed.

Discrete features were half sectioned and a section drawing produced at a scale of 1:20. In the case of linear features a minimum of 20% of the fill was excavated and a section drawing produced. All finds were collected and context records produced. Environmental samples were taken of selected deposits.

Due to the public nature of the site all trenches were backfilled on the same day they were opened.

A Leica total station was used to create an accurate record of trench positions.



---

---

## 5. Historical Background (Boucher & Oakey 2005)

---

### 5.1 Prehistory (before AD 43)

---

Records of prehistoric activity within the region of the racecourse comprise isolated findspots and possible cropmarks traced from aerial photographs.

The findspots largely date from the early 20<sup>th</sup> century and none can be located with any degree of accuracy. For example SMR 00711/01 encompasses the alleged site of the recovery of flint axeheads in 1911, perpetuated on Ordnance Survey maps between 1931 and 1969. A reference in 1917 states “one of the finest polished axes ever found in Yorkshire was obtained on the Common, and is now in Doncaster Museum” (Jordan 1917, 359). However, this object was described as having been found “many years ago” and may refer to a “very fine greenstone axe head, found near the Doncaster race-course and presented to the museum by Miss Godfrey”. This is mentioned in a lecture by T. Sheppard delivered to Doncaster Scientific Society in 1901 and reported in a typescript of extracts from minutes of the society held at Doncaster Museum (Creighton n.d.).

More closely locatable is an assemblage of worked flint found in 1912 or 1913 during alterations to the Rose Hill section of the track (i.e. the southern part). This comprised several ‘blue’ flakes, a black flake and a knife in red flint (Jordan 1917, 359) and is registered on the SMR as 00719/01-3, although the indicated location appears too far south.

In 1913 Jordan reported to the Doncaster Scientific Society on other prehistoric finds that he had made whilst observing alterations to the Racecourse (typescript held in Doncaster Museum). These do not appear to have been included on the SMR. They included a retouched flake of black flint found near the stands; a circular disc of blue flint, also retouched (a scraper?); and a flake of chert (Creighton n.d.)

These finds form part of a series of observations and discoveries made by Jordan in the neighbourhood. SMR reference 03278 covers a series of artefacts found in Town Field. These include a flint scraper (1903-4), three worked flints including an ovoid knife (1907), a red flint knife (1914-15), and “a large piece of chert or flint which had the appearance of being a core from which flakes had been chipped” (1918-9) (Creighton n.d.). Other local prehistoric findspots include an axehead found during ploughing on Town Field in 1908 (SMR 00670/01); the butt of a Neolithic polished axe from near Cantley Lane (SMR 00713/01); and a barbed-and-tanged arrowhead from near Ellers Road (SMR 01075/01).

None of these artefacts has been recovered from controlled archaeological excavation, but the quantity of recovered material would imply some activity in the area during the Neolithic and Bronze Ages at least. The absence of proper field survey and the lack of any concentration of finds does not permit identification of any putative settlement sites, but the recovery of worked flint from near the stands raises the possibility of early prehistoric activity in the vicinity of the Site.

The minutes of the Doncaster Scientific Society also record Jordan’s comment in 1913 that, when turf was removed “on the far side of the Common, near the Sandall Beat road were seen



clear traces of the ancient mode of Terrace Farming, as carried out at Haxey today” (Creighton n.d.). This is expanded upon in an article of 1917 where Jordan describes

“... the discovery under the turf over a very large area, of long strips of land, like occupation plots, about forty feet wide and three to four hundred yards long. They were in the southern part of the Common, at the foot of Rose Hill, parallel to each other, and each plot extending in a southerly direction. I pointed this out to the Borough Surveyor, Mr Kirby, who said he had noticed similar plots near the grand stand, which had been covered up before I saw them” (Jordan 1917, 359).

The southern location accords with the ditches which showed as cropmarks in the area of the geophysical survey immediately to the south of the racecourse and the discovery of similar remains near the Grand Stand may suggest that an organised field system, probably of Late Iron Age or Romano-British date covered the area (Rylatt 2000, 12).

---

## 5.2 Romano-British (AD 43-410)

---

The incidence of casual finds of artefacts continues in the Romano-British period, particularly coins. Amongst those recovered from just outside the study area are a *dupondius* of Hadrian or Antoninus Pius (SMR 04315/01), a bronze *foliis* of Constantine (SMR 04320/01) and a coin of Marcus Aurelius (SMR 001807/01) to the south-east; a worn *sestertius* (SMR 01308/01) to the south-west; and an *as* of Antoninus Pius (SMR 03312/01) to the north-west. A further possible Roman coin from the study area was very corroded, but may be a *sestertius* (SMR 01806/01). It differs from the other coin finds, however, in that it was associated with a hearth uncovered at 18 Newmarket Street, Cantley. This hearth was c. 200m north-east of the location of the kilns and enclosure identified by geophysical survey (SMR 01209/01-04; Bartlett, 1973). It has been stated that survey in the field where geophysics took place recovered pottery of Iron Age and Romano-British date, including a sherd of 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD Samian (Rylatt 2000, 6).

These kilns immediately north-west of the railway cutting represent the most northerly and westerly known representatives of an extensive industrial complex. By 1980 excavation and geophysical survey had established the location of at least 67 pottery kilns over an area of c. 25km<sup>2</sup> (Buckland *et al* 1980, 145-6). Little evidence has been found of associated domestic settlement or other activities. The industry appears to have thrived from the 2<sup>nd</sup> to the early 4<sup>th</sup> century and, at least initially, must have served the local market represented by the fort and civilian settlement which underlay modern Doncaster. The fort was c. 2.25km west of the Site with the civilian settlement spreading to the south and east to within 2km of the Site (Buckland and Magilton 1986, 24 and interpretation of information from the SMR), and neither are described in any further detail in this report. The Site, thus, is located between the Roman settlement and the pottery industry.

The course of a major Roman road connecting Lincoln with York via river crossings at Doncaster and Castleford passes through the Study Area to the south of the Site. However, the precise alignment in this area has not been determined. One suggestion notes the road bearing east from Doncaster before swinging south across Belle Vue to join the A638 Bawtry Road (Rylatt 2000, 7). This would be 500m to the south of the Site at its nearest point. The alternative route, preferred by Margary (1957, 142) and Buckland and Magilton (1986, 208) approaches from the south-east along Cantley Lane and Bawtry Road before running across



Town Field (Fig. 2). This route runs immediately south of the Site. Both hypothetical routes are shown on a map of 1829.

A spur of this road has been postulated to fork off the Lincoln road and head northwards through Bessacarr Grange, its course being preserved by the eastern edge of Sandall Beat Wood (Margary 1957, 142). The existence of this road has not been substantiated and a possible agger was proved by excavation to be a drystone wall (White 1961, 21).

---

### 5.3 Anglo-Saxon and Early Medieval (AD 410-1066)

---

There is no evidence of Anglo-Saxon and Early Medieval activity on the Site or within the Study Area.

Evidence is slim for activity in the immediate locality during the immediate post-Roman period when it formed part of the kingdom of Elmet and evidence for subsequent Anglian activity is also sparse, but the fact that “the greatest concentration of Scandinavian place-names outside the vicinity of York itself occurs in the Doncaster area” suggests considerable Scandinavian settlement in the 9<sup>th</sup> century and later (Buckland *et al* 1989, 24). *Bessacarr*, for example, is a hybrid Scandinavian prefix and Old English suffix. It is possible that new *burgh* fortifications appeared at Doncaster at this time, but it is unlikely that the former area of Roman settlement, located as it was at a river crossing point, was ever totally unoccupied. The evidence from Domesday Book for the status of the settlement immediately prior to the Norman Conquest is “enigmatic” (*ibid.*, 31). Cantley is also mentioned in Domesday Book (Morris 1986, 379b). The Tithe Map of 1821 shows surviving strips on Town Field immediately to the north of the site. The date of the establishment of common fields is a matter of some contention, but comparative examples in other parts of the country (Oakey 2000) suggest that it is possible that this field system may have been established prior to the Norman Conquest.

---

### 5.4 Late Medieval (AD 1066-1540)

---

There is only circumstantial evidence of Later Medieval activity on the Site or within the Study Area.

The nearest contemporary evidence is a 14<sup>th</sup> century heraldic pendant found in Sandall Beat Wood in October 1986, which represents a piece of medieval horse furniture (SMR 02822/01).

Doncaster thrived as a market centre during the later medieval period, achieving its first charter in 1194, but settlement beyond the limits set by the town’s defences was not extensive and almost certainly did not extend as far as the Site (Buckland *et al*, 1989). A route to Lincoln is likely to have continued to run to the south of the Site, but Doncaster and Cantley Commons (shown on the 1821 Tithe Map) are probably of long establishment. The Tithe Map also shows surviving medieval strips on Town Field running to the northern edge of modern Leger Way and Longdale Avenue, but cultivation is likely to have ceased at this point. The Site of the racecourse (south of the present buildings) would have been common land, probably used for occasional grazing of livestock and other, foraging-style activities. Some more settled and intensive use of squatters cannot be excluded, but it is not apparent in the existing record.



---

---

## **6. Results**

---

### **6.1 Geophysics (Figs. 2 , 3 and 5)**

---

The site is mapped as lying on the older river gravel near where it joins boulder clay to the east. Surveys on the boulder clay using fluxgate gradiometry have successfully mapped sites on this latter geology such as Sites and Monuments Record 01209/02, south of the race course where ditches and kilns were located. Gradiometry is particularly appropriate as a method for locating kiln sites.

As the method employed is a highly sensitive means of measuring magnetism then the strongest responses are due to metal (more specifically iron objects) in the ground. Two large areas containing considerable quantities of iron were identified at the western end of the survey and along its northern edge towards the east end of the site. Two smaller areas of responses from iron objects were evident to the south of this latter area.

Other strong responses can be caused by buried services. These may be because the pipe is made of metal or fired clay, there is a current being passed through a cable causing magnetic disturbance, or simply that material that was used to backfill the service trench contained metal, metal waste or burnt material such as old tarmac. There were a number of possible service runs identified within the survey, fainter drain-type anomalies that are probably due to fired clay pipes, as well as broader and stronger responses from metal pipes or magnetic fill.

Out of the remaining responses, small isolated spots (too numerous to plot) identify the locations of sporadic metal objects (bottle tops etc..) within the topsoil.

At the eastern end of the survey four linear responses can be observed. These are lower in magnitude and more uniform in nature than those produced by services or metal objects. They are more akin to the types of responses that might be produced by buried archaeological ditches.

---

### **6.2 Evaluation trenches**

---

#### **6.2.1 Blank trenches ( 1 , 2 , 6 , 10 , 14)**

---

These trenches are characterised by a layer of mid brown silty loam topsoil sitting upon a yellow sandy clay subsoil which forms part of the natural geological strata of the site. The trenches contained no features, archaeological or otherwise. The topsoil measured between 0.25 and 0.5m, varying in depth across the site. The yellow clay subsoil showed no signs of having been disturbed so it is possible to confidently rule out the presence of archaeology within these trenches.



---

### 6.2.2 Trenches containing land drains ( 3 , 7 , 8 , 11 , 12 , 13 , 15 )

---

Land drains were prevalent on the playing field in the east of the site. The majority were constructed from unbonded terracotta clay pipe and would appear to be broadly contemporary. Within cut [702] ran a glazed stoneware drainage pipe. None of these land drains are likely to predate the nineteenth century.

---

### 6.2.3 Trenches containing undated features ( 3 , 4 , 5 , 7 , 8 , 9 , 11 , 12 , 15 )

---

Trench three contained a complex of features of uncertain function. Cut [302] was a curved linear feature approximately 4.8m in length entering and exiting the southern trench section. (Fig. 6). Excavation of a 0.6m wide section across the feature revealed pottery dating to the nineteenth century.

Cut [304] formed a right angle running into the southern trench section, it would appear that cut [305] is related to [304] as it mirrors the orientation of the right angle cut. The fills of these cuts contained nineteenth century pottery it is likely they were contemporary with [302].

In the western end of Trench 3, cut [306] was broadly square in plan and measured approximately 2m by 1.5m. Excavation of the feature failed to produce any dating evidence, but the presence of small coal fragments, as was also the case for the fills of features [302], [304], and [305] suggests that all the features within the trench were contemporary and nineteenth century in date.

Emerging from the south and east sections of Trench 15 was a curved cut [1503] which would appear to relate to a circular feature. No dateable finds were found within the fill, although the deposit was similar to others already securely dated to the post-medieval period.

Narrow shallow features which appear to be plough marks are present in three of the trenches (4 , 5 & 11). The marks range from 0.2 to 0.25m in width and cut the natural subsoil to a depth of 0.04 to 0.07m (Fig. 6). In all three cases the linear marks are on an east-west alignment. No pottery was found associated with these features to provide a date.

Four examples of linear features containing no dating evidence were found. Cut [705] ran on a broadly north-south alignment across the width of Trench 7. A substantial feature at 0.7m in width and 0.4m in depth (Fig. 7) it was filled with a very clean mid brown silty loam which was totally devoid of inclusions or finds. It is however, worth noting that it ran on the same orientation as two land drains which also crossed the width of Trench 7.

Cut [802] appears on the same orientation as [705] and could be a continuation of the same feature (Fig. 6). However, the fill of [802] was a sandy clay bearing the same inclusion of coal fragments identified in the post-medieval features on the site. Similarly, cut [903] bears all the hallmarks of a cut for a land drain, but no pipe was found upon excavation. Running on an east-west alignment the feature produced no dating evidence other than the presence of coal fragments which would appear to be synonymous with a nineteenth century date.

A narrower linear feature bearing resemblance to a land drain cut and fill is present in Trench 12 on a north-south alignment. Once again however the feature was devoid of any dating evidence.



---

---

## **7. Discussion**

---

The majority of activity on the site identified by the geophysical survey can be securely dated to the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. A small number of linear features however have failed to produce dating evidence and therefore are less easy to dismiss. Cuts [705] and [802] appear to run on the same alignment and both contain a relatively clean fill. Running on a broadly north-south alignment there is a possibility that they relate to field systems evident on an 1829 survey map (Fig. 9) and more clearly visible on the 1854 first edition Ordnance Survey Map (Fig. 10). These field boundaries are not marked on the 1821 tithe map of the area (Fig. 8), suggesting a formalisation of farming during the 1820's. The plough marks revealed in trenches 4 , 5 & 11 appear to run on the correct alignment to fit the shape of the field systems shown on the map of 1854, but once again dating evidence was not forthcoming so they could quite possibly relate to an earlier period of agriculture.

Other linear features that have failed to provide direct dating evidence can be tentatively dated by the appearance of their fills. [1203] and [903] both contain the same coal fragments within their fills that was also present in all the features positively dated through the presence of pottery to the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The appearance of these cuts gives the impression of land drains although the lack of ceramic piping within would suggest otherwise.

---

---

## **8. Conclusion**

---

The aim of the project was to investigate and assess the archaeological remains and the potential impact upon them by the proposed development.

The objectives were to identify the nature and date of findings, condition and significance of deposits and to record and report on what was present.

None of the trenches excavated contained significant archaeology. Most features could be positively dated to the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. A number of features contained no ceramic evidence. While some of these can be tentatively dated to the nineteenth and twentieth centuries by the nature of their fill, the possibility that others are earlier in date cannot be dismissed.

The most positive archaeology on the Site was plough scars present in three of the fifteen trenches. Running on a NE-SW alignment it is likely that they relate to field systems evident on the 1829 survey map of the area. These field systems are not present on the 1821 tithe map

---

---

## **9. Bibliography**

---

Boucher, A. and Oakey, N. (2005) Doncaster Racecourse Desk Based Assessment



---

---

## Appendix 1 Site Archive

---

- 4x Photographic Register
  - 1x Context Register
  - 1x Drawing Register
  - 34x Context Sheets
  - 5x Sheets of site drawings
  - 4x Sets of negatives and developed photos
  - 1x Copy of this report
- All pottery recovered from evaluation trenches



---

---

## Appendix 2 Context database

---



# Context Database

Trench	Context	Description	Length m		Width m		Depth m		Ceramic
			Covers Site	Site	Covers Site	Site	Covers Site	Site	
1	101	TOPSOIL. Mid brown silty loam. Firm but friable when broken. Red brick and other modern inclusions.							
2	201	TOPSOIL. Same as (101).							
3	301	TOPSOIL. Same as (101).							
	302	CUT. Curving linear in plan. Vertical sides in section. Not fully excavated (Modern). Filled by (309).	5	0.7			0.27	N.F.E.	-
	303	DEPOSIT. White, chalky clay. Variation in natural appearing in patches over site.							None
	304	CUT. Square in plan. Irregular flat base. Associated with cut [305] and possibly [302]. Filled by (307).	1	1			0.14		-
	305	CUT. Right angled cut to south. Irregular to north. Straight sides in section. Filled by (308).	1.6	1.75			0.04		-
	306	CUT. Sub square in plan. Vertical sides in section. Not fully excavated.	2	1.5			0.27	N.F.E.	None
	307	FILL. Mid brown sandy clay containing coal fragments <2% and rounded and sub-rounded stones 20-40 mm 5%.	1	1			0.14		Post-Med.
	308	FILL. Mid brown sandy clay containing coal fragments <2% and rounded and sub-rounded stones 20-40 mm 5%.	1.6	1.75			0.04		Post-Med.
	309	FILL. Mid brown sandy clay containing coal fragments <1% and rounded and sub-rounded stones 40-80 mm <5%	5	0.7			0.27	N.F.E.	Post-Med.
	310	FILL. Mid brown sandy clay containing coal fragments <1%. Similar fill to (307), (308), (309).	2	1.5			0.27	N.F.E.	None
4	401	TOPSOIL. Same as (101).							
	402	FILL. Mid brown silty loam fill of possible plough marks [403]. Very similar to topsoil (401).	20+	0.25			0.05		None
	403	CUT. Linear in plan. Shallow in profile with uneven base. Plough marks.	20+	0.25			0.07		-
	404	FILL. White and pale brown mottled silty/sandy clay. Very clean suggesting natural like (303). Possible stream bed?	2+	0.7			0.1		None
	405	CUT. Linear in plan. 45 degree sides to flat base. Filled by (404).	2+	0.7			0.1		-
5	501	TOPSOIL. Same as (101).							



**TrenchContext Description**

		Length m	Width m	Depth m	Ceramic	
6	502	FILL. Mid brown silty loam. Fill of ploughmarks [503]. Very similar to topsoil.	20+	0.25	0.07	None
	503	CUT. Linear in plan. Shallow break of slope to uneven base. Cut of plough marks.	20+	0.25	0.07	-
7	601	TOPSOIL. Same as (101).				
	701	TOPSOIL. Same as (101).				
	702	CUT/FILL. Linear trench containing 20th century drainage pipe.	10+	1	N.F.E.	Post-Med.
	703	CUT/HILL. Linear service trench containing land drain. Soft organic backfill.	10+	1	N.F.E.	Post-Med.
	704	FILL. Mid brown silty loam. Very clean fill with no inclusions. None of the coal associated with the post-med features.	2+	0.7	0.4	None
	705	CUT. Linear. 45 degree sides to concave base. Filled by (704). Running on same alignment as 702, 703.	2+	0.7	0.4	-
8	801	TOPSOIL. Same as (101).				
	802	CUT. Linear. 30 degree break to slightly concave base. Filled by (803).	2.52+	0.60	0.18	-
	803	FILL. Brown/orange sandy clay. Contains <1% small fragments of coal.	2.52+	0.60	0.18	None
	804	CUT. Irregular in plan and section. 45 degree break in east to flat base rising at 30 degrees to west. Filled by (805).	0.6	0.7	0.12	-
	805	FILL. Purple sandy clay containing rounded and sub-rounded stones (20-50mm). One fragment of coal within fill. Tree bole?	0.6	0.7	0.12	None
9	901	TOPSOIL. Same as (101).				
	902	FILL. Pale grey/brown mottled soft ash and silts. Some charcoal/coal flecks and pebbles.	2+	0.95	0.2	None
	903	CUT. Linear in plan. 45 degree sides to concave base. Filled by (902).	2+	0.95	0.2	-
	904	FILL. Mixed pale grey and brown silty loam.	0.6	0.6	0.1	None
	905	CUT. Circular in plan. Irregular, uneven sides and base. Filled by (904).	0.6	0.6	0.1	-
10	1001	TOPSOIL. Same as (101).				
11	1101	TOPSOIL. Same as (101).				



**TrenchContext Description**

		Length m	Width m	Depth m	Ceramic
12	1102	2+	0.2	0.04	-
	1103	2+	0.2	0.04	None
	1201				
	1202	2+	0.2	0.09	None
	1203	2+	0.2	0.09	-
13	1301				
14	1401				
15	1501				
	1502	0.95+	1+	0.16	None
	1503	0.95+	1+	0.16	-



---

---

**Appendix 3 Pottery report**

---



---

---

### **Appendix 3: A note on the pottery and ceramic building material from the proposed development at the Doncaster Bloodstock Sales area**

---

K H Crooks

#### **Summary**

Very few ceramic finds were recovered during the evaluation excavation; those that were present suggest a date in the 19<sup>th</sup> century or later, after the establishment of the racecourse. The majority of the ceramic material was recovered from the topsoil.

#### **Method**

Due to the obviously recent date of the pottery, material from the excavation topsoil was not all retained, though representative samples were collected. The pottery recovered was examined macroscopically; it was not examined microscopically or weighed, nor was full analysis carried out, as the material was clearly of recent date. In addition the quantities were small and much of the pottery was from the topsoil rather than from stratified contexts meaning that statistical comparisons would not be meaningful.

#### **The pottery**

A total of 18 sherds of pottery were recovered from the site. None of the pottery predated the 18<sup>th</sup> century and the majority dated to the 19<sup>th</sup> century or later.

The earliest pottery from the site included sherds of coarse redware, from contexts 701, 307 and 308. This pottery could be 19<sup>th</sup> century in date though it may have dated from as early as the 18<sup>th</sup> century. This type of material was fairly ubiquitous and the vessels represented may have been pancheons or storage jars.

Two complete stoneware ink pots were recovered from topsoil contexts 301 and 701.

Much of the remaining material from all contexts was machine-made whiteware or transfer-printed ware, all of which dated to the 19<sup>th</sup> century or later.

#### **The ceramic building material**

Two fragments of tile and a number of small pieces probably of brick were recovered from the site. A single fragment of a ceramic land drain pipe was also recovered from one of the large number of these features crossing the site.

One tile fragment from context 401 was machine made. The other (context 101 – topsoil), an unglazed fragment in an orange fabric showed evidence for knife trimming; the tile was oxidised throughout and a post-medieval date is suggested. The fragments thought to be brick were badly damaged. One piece had a surviving external surface suggesting that it was recent in date: no external surfaces survived on the other piece.

The piece of land drain from context 701 was of a red fabric and was also probably later post-medieval in date.

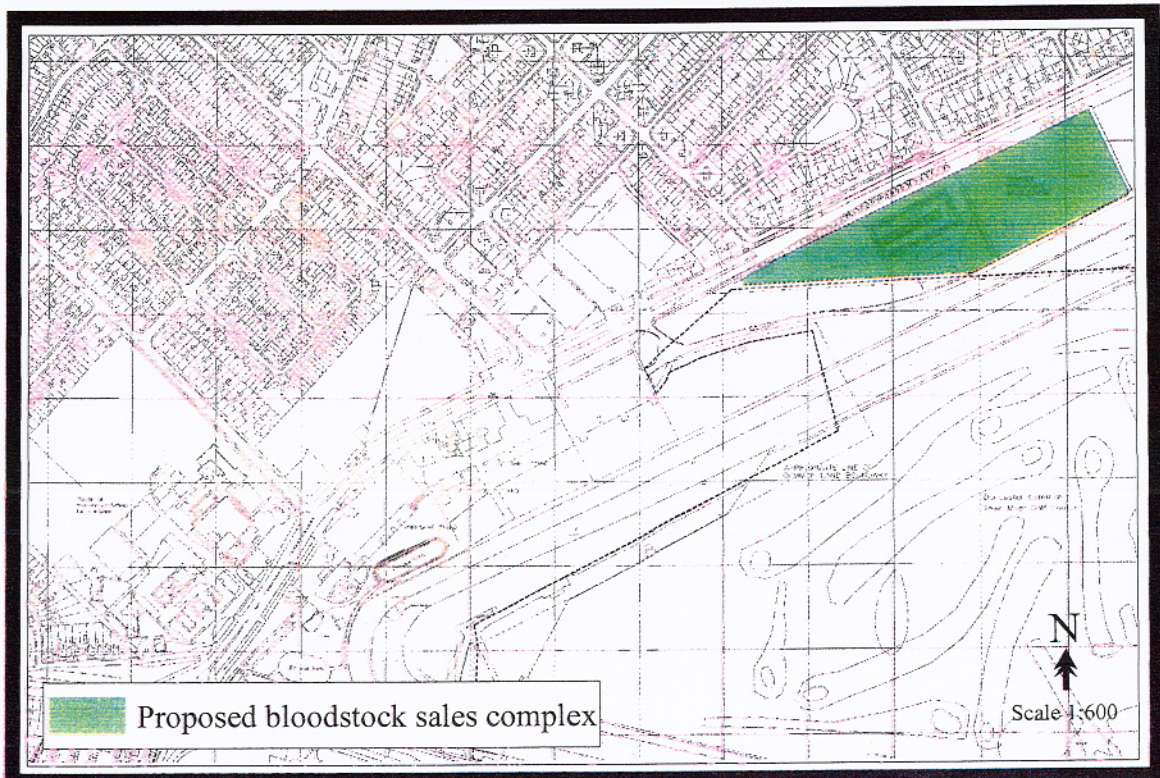
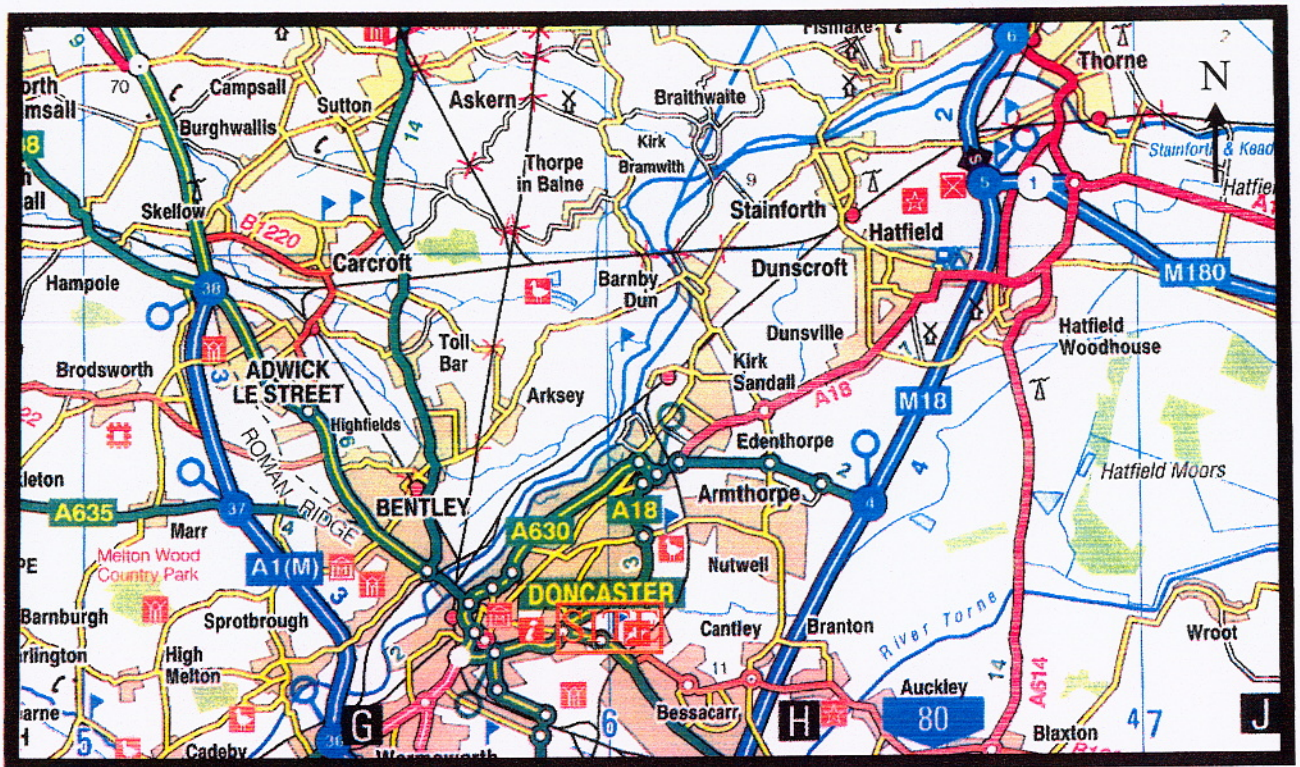
#### **Conclusion**

None of the pottery or tile recovered from the site suggested activity before the post-medieval period. The fact that finds were present in only small quantities and that many were from the



topsoil suggests that they may have been casually deposited on the surface or possibly, if the area had been ploughed it could have been imported with midden material during cultivation.



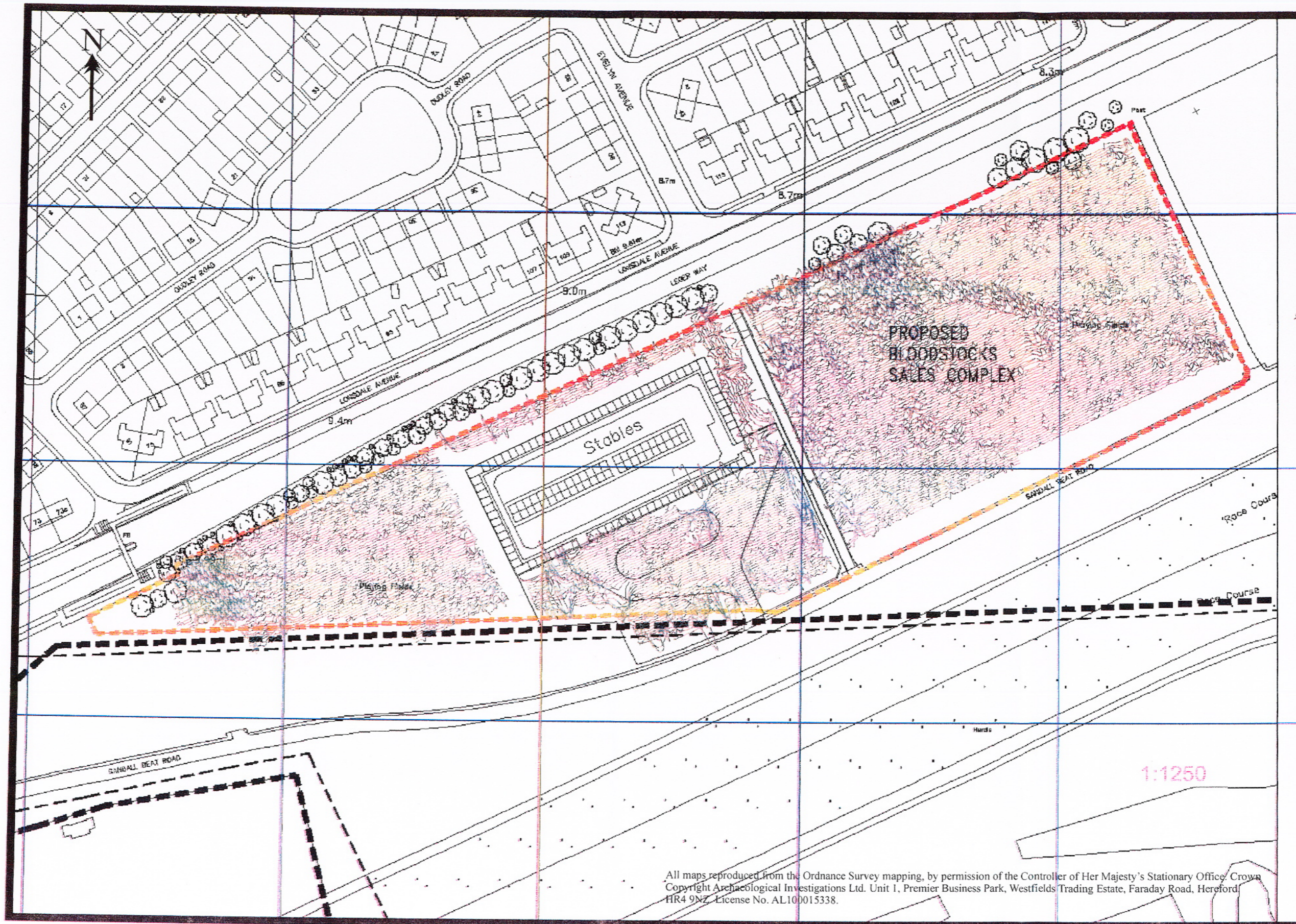


All maps reproduced from the Ordnance Survey mapping, by permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office. Crown Copyright Archaeological Investigations Ltd. Unit 1, Premier Business Park, Westfields Trading Estate, Faraday Road, Hereford. HR4 9NZ. License No. AL100015338.

Site Location Map

Figure 1

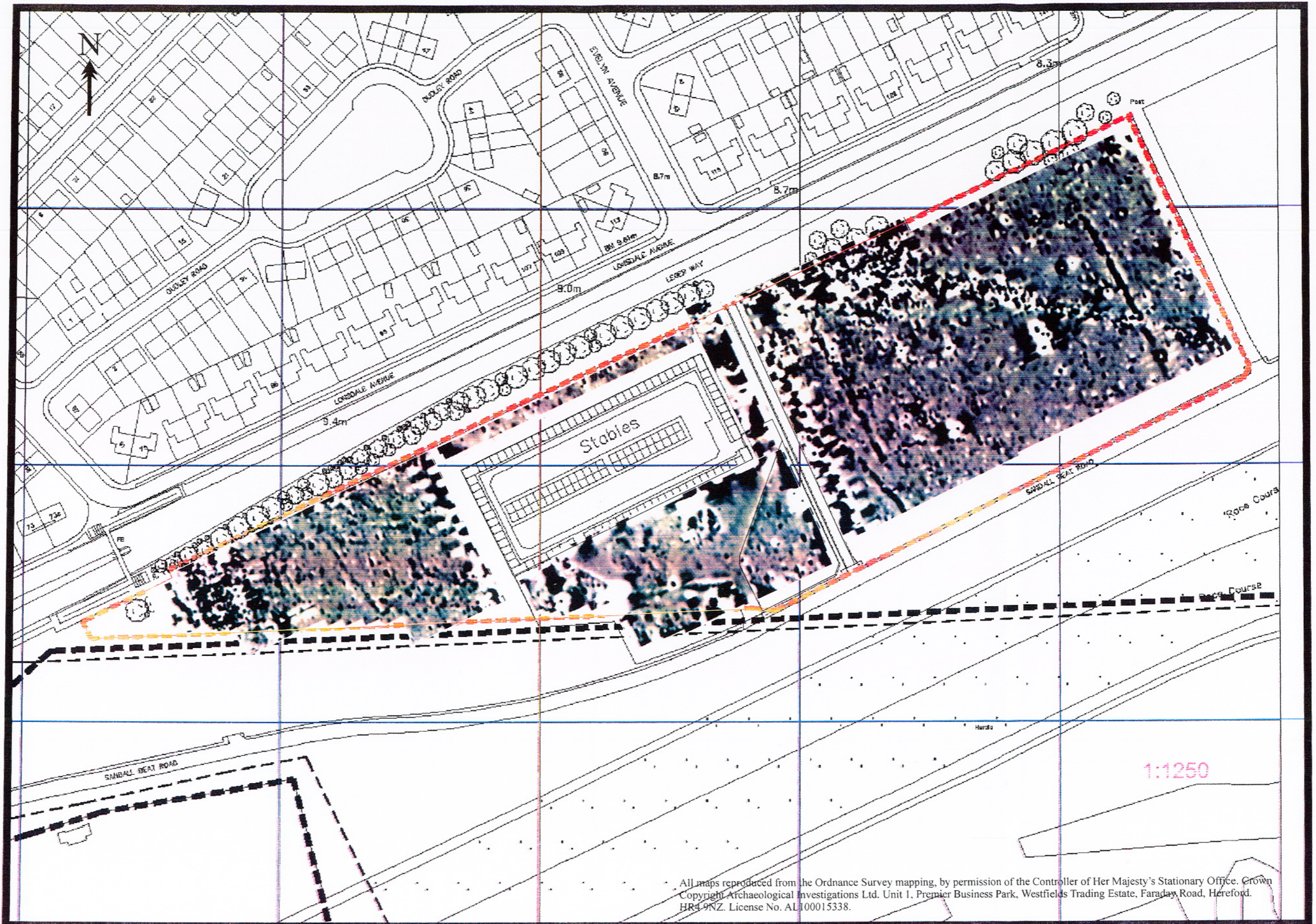




X-Y plot of geophysical results

Figure 2

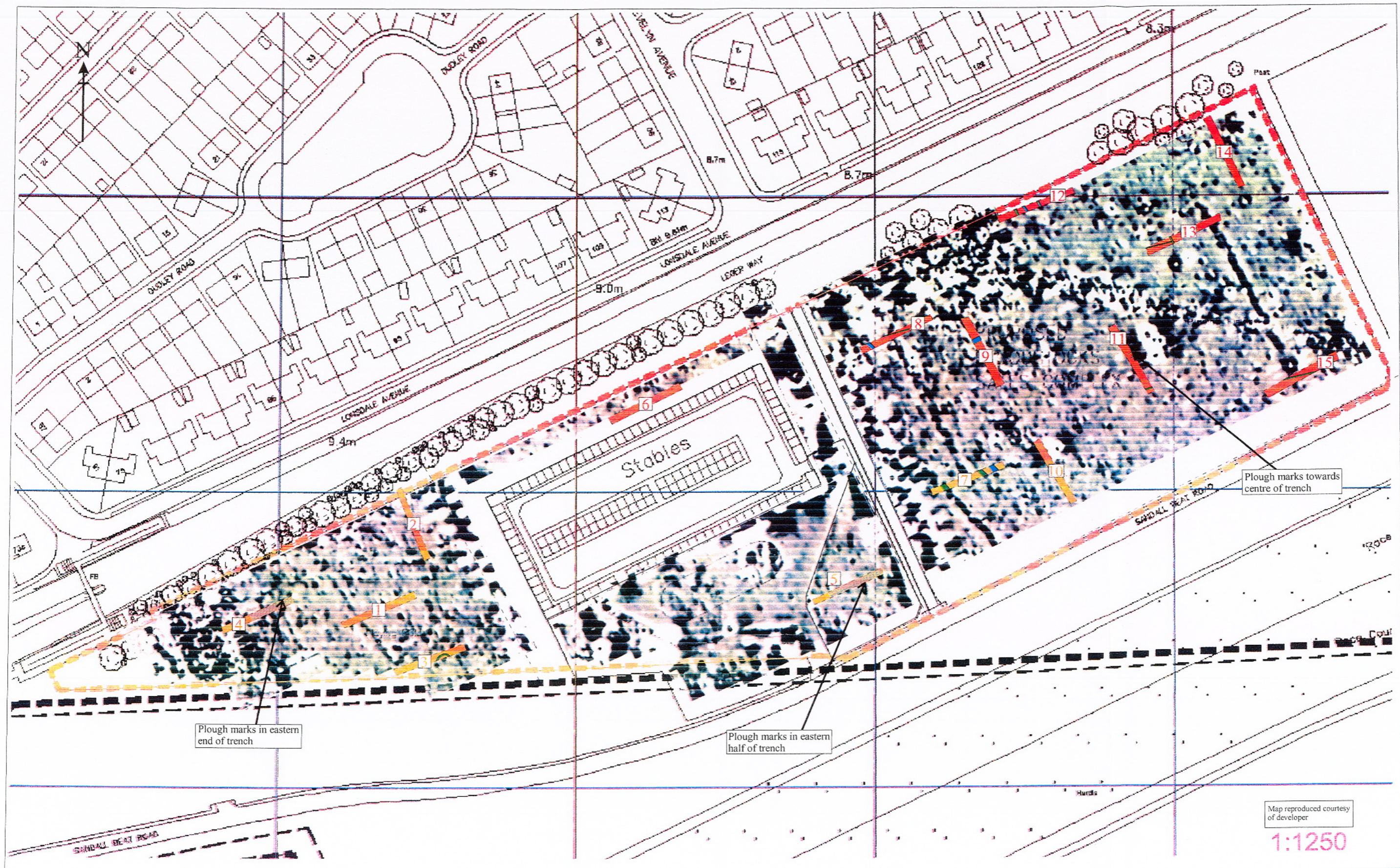




Greyscale plot of geophysical results

Figure 3



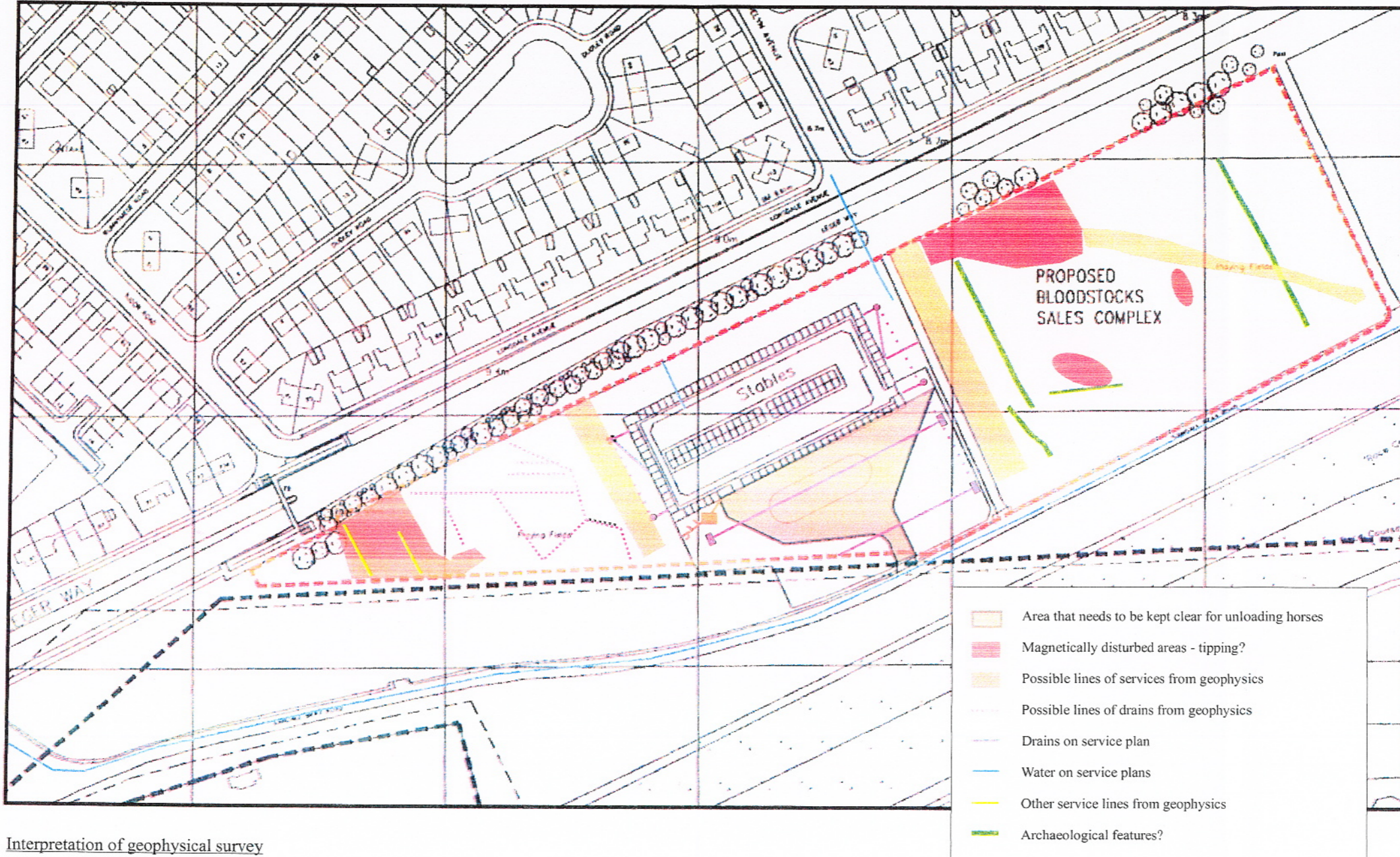


- Trenches
- Possible archaeological features
- Land drains and other modern features

Trench positions overlain onto geophysical survey

Figure 4





Interpretation of geophysical survey

Figure 5



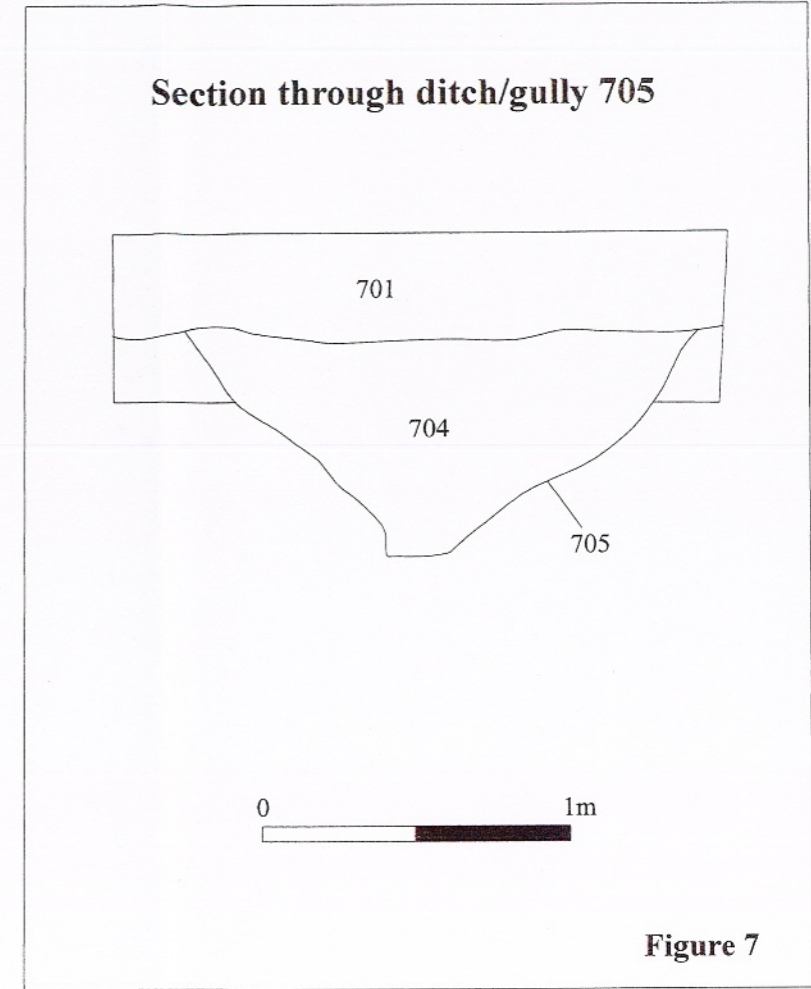
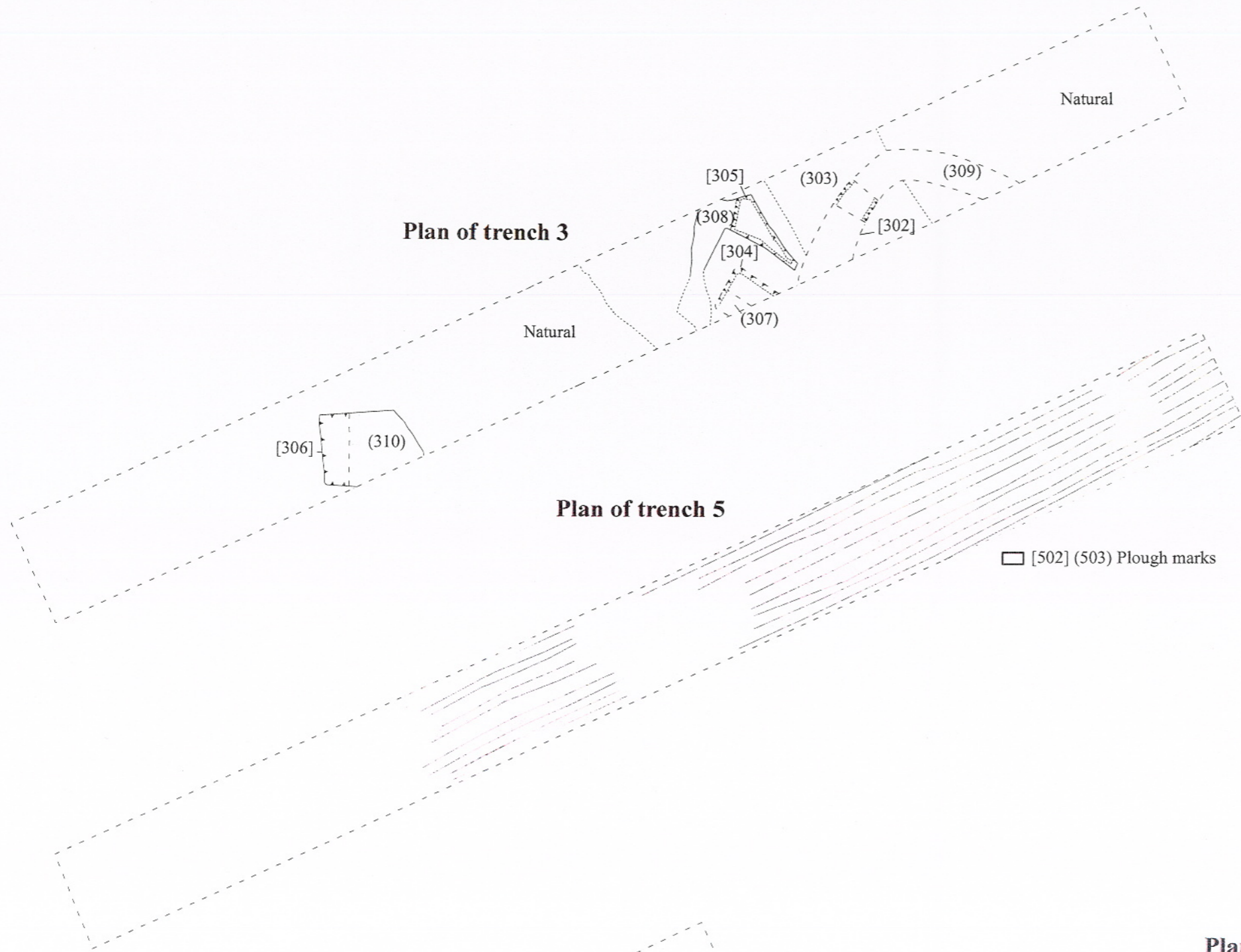
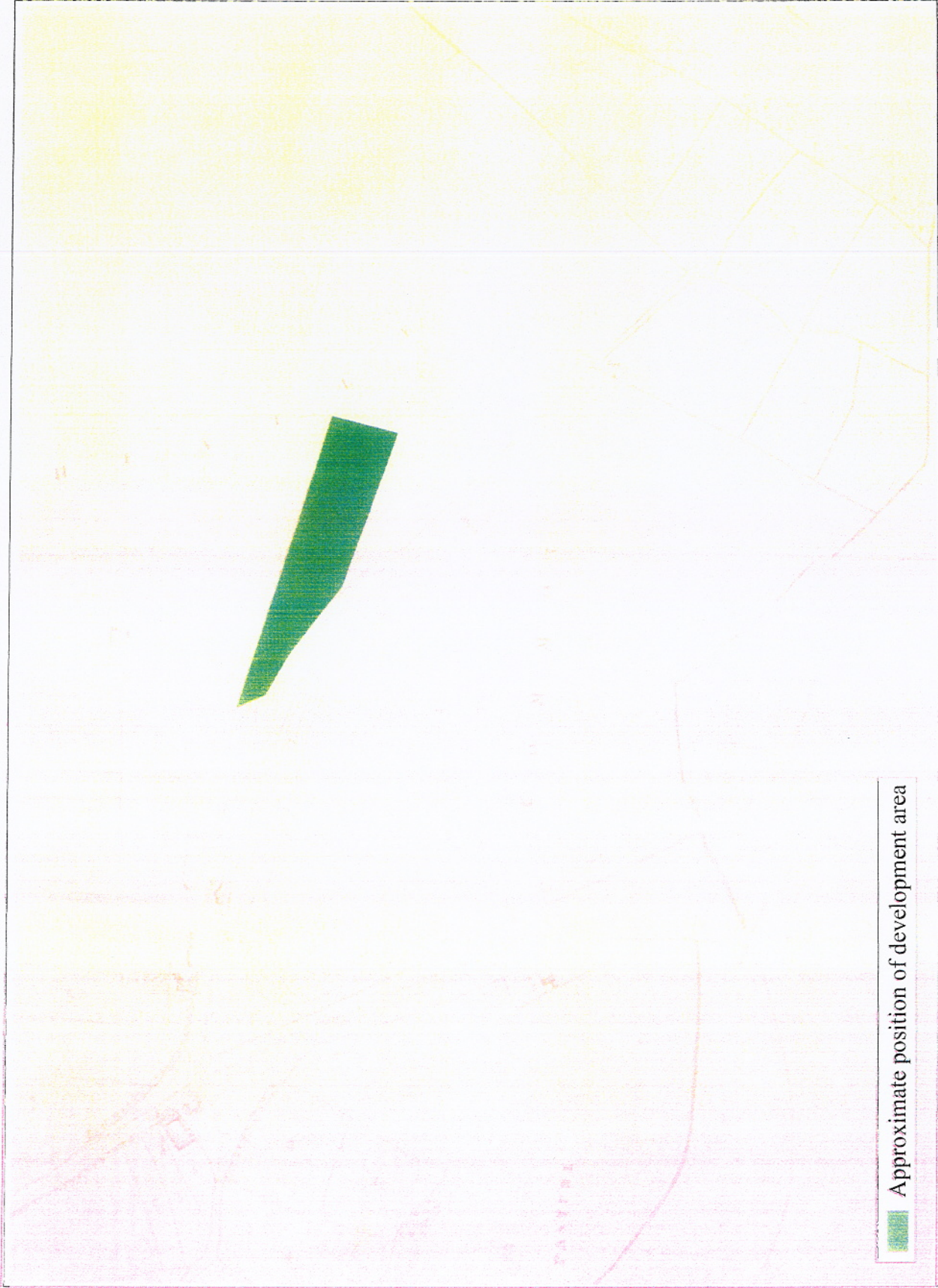


Figure 7



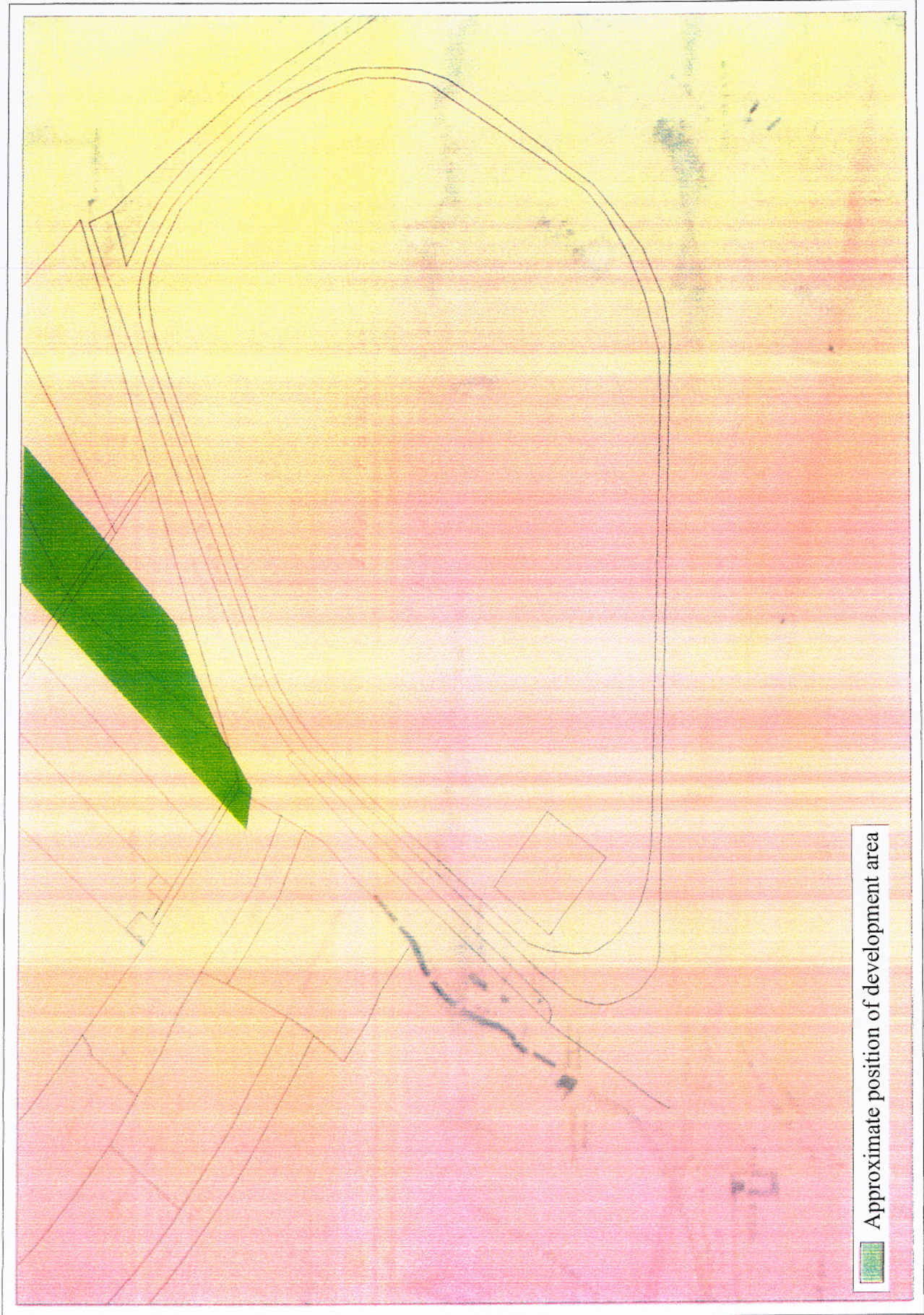
Figure 6





**Figure 8** Extract from the 1821 Tithe Map





**Figure 9** Extract from 1829 survey of the common and race ground



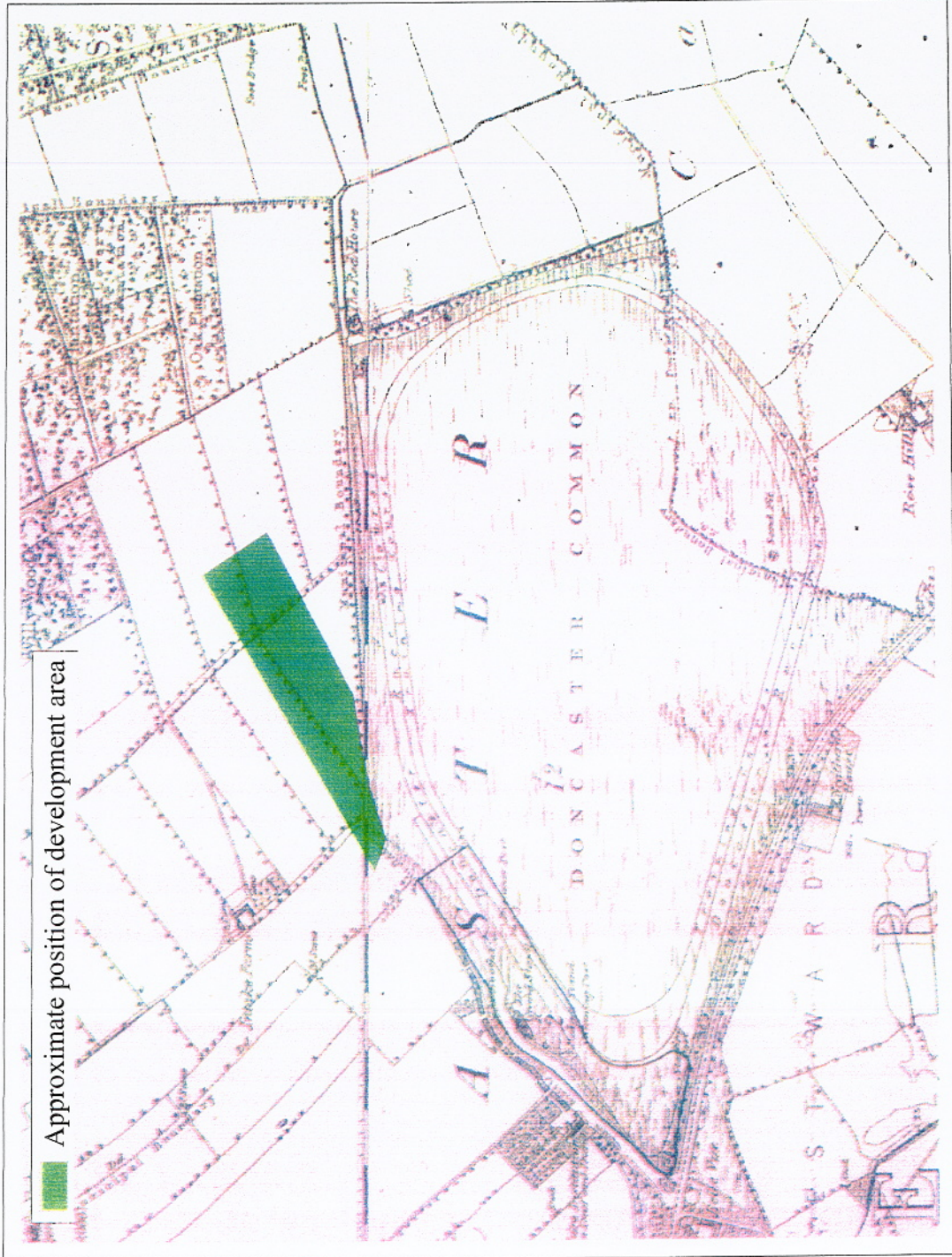


Figure 10 Extract from the 1854 1st edition Ordnance Survey Map