

**Planning Reference RR/2008/3237/P  
NGR: 578221,118000  
(TQ 78221 18000)**

**Project No. 3974  
Site Code: QHS 09**

**ASE Report No. 2009135  
OASIS id: archaeol6-**



**By Kathryn Grant, MSc, AIFA  
With contributions by  
Gemma Driver, Sarah Porteus,  
Elke Raemen and Caroline Russell**

**October 2009**

**An Archaeological Evaluation on land at The Queens Head  
Pub, Brede Lane, Sedlescombe, East Sussex**

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**October 2009**

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**Abstract**

*An archaeological evaluation was carried out by Archaeology South East on land adjacent to The Queens Head, Brede Lane, Sedlescombe, East Sussex (NGR: TQ 78221 18000) on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2009 for Pumphouse Designs on behalf of their client, L&H Properties.*

*Four archaeological trial-trenches were excavated to a cumulative length of 45m in advance of a proposed redevelopment. No archaeological features or deposits or deposits were encountered during the evaluation. A few post-medieval finds were recovered from the topsoil covering the site.*

*The natural geology comprising Ashdown Sands was encountered at a maximum height of 24.46m AOD in the northwest of the site, falling away to 20.46m AOD in the southeast. A head deposit was recorded in parts overlying the natural geology, which was itself sealed by subsoil and overlain by topsoil.*

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), a division of University College London Field Archaeology Unit (UCLFAU), was commissioned by Pumphouse Designs on behalf of their client, L&H Properties, to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land adjacent to The Queens Head, Brede Lane, Sedlescombe, East Sussex (NGR: TQ 78221 18000; Figure 1), hereafter referred to as 'the site'.

1.1.2 The evaluation was undertaken in a single phase of work in which four trial trenches, three measuring 10m in length, the fourth 15m, each with a width of 1.8m, were investigated (Figure 2). The trenches measured a cumulative length of 45m.

### 1.2 Planning Background

1.2.1 Outline planning permission was granted by Rother District Council (Planning Reference RR/2008/3237/P) for the construction of 3 dwellings and associated access road and parking spaces. The site lies within an area defined as 'archaeologically sensitive' by Rother District Council and therefore it was required that:

"No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has first been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority. Work shall be carried out only in accordance with such approved details.

Reason: The site lies within an archaeologically sensitive area.

1.2.2 Due to the archaeological potential of the site in its situation within the historic core of Sedlescombe and the likely impact on the archaeological resource as a result of the proposed development an archaeological strategy was recommended by Greg Chuter, East Sussex County Council (ESCC) Archaeologist, in his capacity as archaeological advisor to Rother District Council. An email was sent by Greg Chuter to Pumphouse Designs outlining the requirements for the archaeological mitigation works.

1.2.3 In response to Greg Chuter's email and following further discussion between Pumphouse Designs, ASE and ESCC a *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) for the work was prepared (ASE 2009). This document conformed to the relevant *Standards and Guidance* of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA 2001) and the ESCC *Standards for Archaeological Fieldwork, Recording, and Post-Excavation Work in East Sussex* (ESCC 1996).

1.2.4 The WSI was duly approved by the County Archaeologist prior to the commencement of archaeological works. All fieldwork undertaken during the evaluation works was carried out in accordance with the *WSI* (unless

otherwise specified below).

### **1.3 Aims and Objectives**

1.3.1 The purpose of the archaeological investigation, as set out in the *WSI* (ASE 2009), was to ascertain the character, quality and degree of survival of any archaeological remains on the site and to record any such archaeological features that may be impacted by the scheme. The findings from the archaeological evaluation have been considered within this document with a view to assessing the potential impact of development upon any revealed archaeological remains.

#### 1.3.2 Research Aims

- To understand the prehistoric, Romano British, medieval and post-medieval development of land use in the area

#### 1.3.3 Specific Research Objectives of the works

- To investigate the medieval and post-medieval development of the site, and the development of Sedlescombe
- To investigate the potential Romano-British activity on the site associated with the adjacent Roman road and in particular the iron working industry known in the area.
- To investigate potential prehistoric activity on the site.

1.3.4 The evaluation set out to determine, as far as was reasonably possible, the location, form, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains, irrespective of period, liable to be threatened by the proposed development.

### **1.4 Scope of the Report**

1.4.1 This document presents the results of the archaeological evaluation carried out on land adjacent to the Queens Head, Brede Lane, Sedlescombe, which was carried out on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2009.

1.4.2 The fieldwork was undertaken by Kathryn Grant (Archaeologist/Field Officer) with the assistance Rob Cole (Archaeologist/Surveyor). The project was managed by Jon Sygrave (Project Manager) and Dan Swift (Post-Excavation Manager).



## 2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

### 2.1 Geology and Topography

- 2.1.1 The proposed development site lies within the historic core of Sedlescombe and is bounded by Brede Lane to the west, the Queens Head Public House to the south, a Doctors surgery to the north and buildings to the east. The site is centred at TQ 78221 18000.
- 2.1.2 According to the British Geological Survey (BGS 1996), the site lies on Ashdown Sand Formation overlain in parts by head deposits.
- 2.1.3 Prior to the commencement of fieldwork on site map regression and an advanced archaeological background study were undertaken. This information is presented below.

### 2.2 Archaeological and Historical Synopsis by Caroline Russell

- 2.2.1 A 1km search radius of the East Sussex Historic Environment Record (HER) was undertaken around the site.
- 2.2.2 Little is known of the prehistoric period within the study area. There is, for instance, no settlement evidence and prehistoric findspots are scarce. Two stone axe heads were dug up in the garden of Oak Cottage in c. 1945, c. 0.94km to the southeast of the Site (MES2412). In addition, two flint scatters were uncovered during the excavation of the Mountfield - Hastings pipeline (the route of which is located to the southwest of Sedlescombe). One flint scatter included a Mesolithic microlith (MES3412) whilst the other was Neolithic in date and comprised amongst other material, two blades, a scraper and a tranchet arrowhead. A single Greek coin dated 350 BC, almost certainly Late Iron Age or Romano-British in origin, was also found during this pipeline excavation (MES3413). At an evaluation on the site of a post-medieval tannery (see below), located c. 0.27km to the south of the site, a Bronze Age or Iron Age organic-rich peat deposit was encountered within two of its six trenches. The Rye - Uckfield ridgeway and the Fairlight - Battle - Netherfield ridgeway are both trackways of potential Roman origin, but possibly with prehistoric antecedents (MES4994 and MES3434 respectively).
- 2.2.3 Evidence of Romano-British activity within the study area is further enhanced by a single findspot, a Roman road and a bloomery. One piece of Samian Ware was dug up in Oak Cottage garden (MES2412) and the Roman Road (Margary No. 13) passes through Sedlescombe on the way from Rochester - Maidstone - Hastings (MES2461). The route through the village and beyond to both the north and south is defined as an Archaeologically Sensitive Area (Figure 10), widened in part to incorporate the settlement itself with its medieval origins (see below). There is, however, indirect evidence of permanent Romano-British occupation in the form of a long established bloomery, located c. 0.65km to the southeast of the Site (MES2572). This site was indicated by an extensive cinder spread with tile fragments and Hadrianic coins.

- 2.2.4 The Anglo-Saxon period is restricted in evidence to the findspot of a metal vessel containing a large hoard of silver pennies (MES2411). This was discovered in 1876 by a labourer working on drainage, c. 0.16km to the west of the site. Of the two or three thousand pieces recovered, 1136 were catalogued, all of which were Edward the Confessor (1042 - 66). It seems likely that this hoard was part of the bullion reserve of the Hastings mint at the time of the Norman invasion.
- 2.2.5 In the medieval period, a tannery and bark mill, owned by the monks of Battle Abbey until the Dissolution, was sited alongside the stream of Iltonsbath, next to Sedlescombe (MES2456). This general area continued to be used as a tannery into the post-medieval period, as an evaluation of land to the immediate north of the medieval tannery uncovered later post-medieval evidence of tannery associated structures within two of its six excavated trenches (MES8484 and EES14423). This later tannery is depicted on the 1843 tithe map as the plot named 'Tannery Field', although documentary sources indicate it was in use since c. 1630 (David Martin pers. comm.).
- 2.2.6 The village of Sedlescombe has late medieval origins. Eight 15<sup>th</sup> century buildings still stand on The Street (DES3430, DES3432, DES3448, DES3454, DES3455, DES3984, DES3987 and DES3999). They include amongst their number Manor Cottages (DES3984), a Grade I Listed jettied house which is one of the finest timber framed buildings in Sussex, and the Grade II\* Listed Parish Church of St. John the Baptist (DES3999), which may date as early as the 14<sup>th</sup> century. The other six buildings are Grade II Listed houses (where specified).
- 2.2.7 There are three 16<sup>th</sup> century buildings within the study area: two Grade II buildings on The Street (DES3453 and DES3447) and a Grade II\* building on Stream Lane (DES3423).
- 2.2.8 There is a greater number of 17<sup>th</sup> century Listed Buildings within Sedlescombe (DES3408, DES3428, DES3429, DES3433, DES3435, DES3436, DES3451, DES3452, DES3990, DES3998 and DES4000). These houses, cottages and barns stand mostly on The Street but also on Hawkshurst Road and Crazy Lane.
- 2.2.9 The closest to the site is Brickwall Hotel (DES3429), previously known as Brickwall House, which is sited on the corner of Brede Lane. All eleven buildings are Grade II Listed. From the late 17<sup>th</sup> century to the 19<sup>th</sup> century, a Gunpowder Works was recorded at the village (MES2463).
- 2.2.10 The other Listed Buildings within Sedlescombe are predominantly 18<sup>th</sup> century in date: the barn on Stream Lane (DES4004), the two farmhouses on Brede Lane (DES3405 on DES3421), a house on Hawkshurst Road (DES3407) and eight or nine houses on The Street (DES3431, DES3433, DES3434, DES3437, DEES3439, DES3450, DES3985, DES3991 and DES3992). All the buildings are, once again, Grade II Listed.
- 2.2.11 Four Listed Buildings are 19<sup>th</sup> century in date: three houses (DES3415, DES3427 and DES3988) and a pump house (DES3989), all of which stand on The Street.

- 2.2.12 The concentrated number of listed buildings within the centre of Sedlescombe means that it has Conservation Area status (Figure 3).

### **2.3 Cartographic Evidence: Map Regression** by Caroline Russell

- 2.3.1 Figure 1 shows the present day location of the site.
- 2.3.2 The Ordnance Survey Draft 1-inch map of c.1800 (Figure 8) shows the site to stand within a rectangular field, to the south side of a road now known as 'Brede Lane'. This street runs northeast from a road ('The Green') that diverts away from the main thoroughfare ('The Street') of the village of Sedlescombe Street. A building stands on the corner of Brede Lane.
- 2.3.3 The Site was still not built upon by 1843, when the tithe map for the parish of Sedlescombe was drawn up (Figure 9). The site lies within plot 366, an irregular shaped field with a large field to both its north and east (plots 366 and 367 respectively) and a long narrow plot with a dwelling house to its south (plot 434). The building noted previously on the corner of Brede Lane is the 'Queen's Head' (plot 125). Most dwelling houses that line The Street have at least one associated building, agricultural or other.
- 2.3.4 The 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map of 1874-1875 (Figure 10) shows no change to have occurred to the site. An old hundred boundary is seen to pass directly in front of it, along Brede Lane. A tank stands close to the east side of the field with the site. Woodland borders the east corner of this field and is found to enclose the settlement itself, particularly its east side. In addition to the housing, the village is seen to comprise a second inn (Coach and Horses Inn), two smithys, powder mills, a nursery, a post office and a mixed sex school. Brickwall House is sited on the corner of Brede Lane, opposite the Queen's Head. A lodge to the south side of Sedlescombe Bridge, beside the entrance to a tree lined avenue, implies the presence of a possible manor house to the southeast of Sedlescombe Street.
- 2.3.5 The other five OS maps (Figures 11-15), dated between 1898 and 1977, reveal that the field with the Site underwent little alteration during this span of time. The tank was relocated to the north corner of the field by 1909 (Figure 12). The next change to the site took place sometime between 1952 and 1977 when the field was parcelled into two (Figures 14 and 15).

### **2.4 Summary of Archaeological Potential**

- 2.4.1 The rich historical background of the study area, in addition to the varied findspots and listed buildings, indicated that there was distinct potential for archaeological remains to be uncovered at the site.
- 2.4.2 Historic-map regression also demonstrated sparse activity on the site itself within the last few centuries. Since the site seems to have remained unused, the result of such little disturbance may suggest optimum survival of earlier remains.

### **3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1 Methods Employed**

- 3.1.1 The evaluation work comprised four archaeological trenches (three measuring 10m in length, the fourth 15m, each with a width of 1.8m) which were excavated under constant archaeological supervision to a cumulative length of 45m using a 17 tonne mechanical tracked excavator fitted with a 1.80m wide toothless ditching bucket to minimise damage to deposits. The trenches were positioned across the development area so as to ensure that an optimum sample of the area was uncovered (Figure 2).
- 3.1.2 A Risk Assessment of the fieldwork to be carried out was produced prior to any work on site.
- 3.1.3 Prior to the commencement of site work, the area was fenced-off and secured by contractors.
- 3.1.4 Although no service plans were available of the site, ASE was informed by the client that no services, with the exception of a mains sewer known to cross the eastern boundary of the area, exist on the site. However, all trenches were CAT scanned prior to machine excavation and all excavation was proceeded with due caution. No services were encountered during the archaeological works.
- 3.1.5 The trenches were located using a Topcom GR3 Global Positioning System (GPS).
- 3.1.6 The excavations were taken down to the top of the underlying geology or to the surface of any significant archaeological deposit; whichever was higher. When removed, topsoil, subsoil and made ground deposits were kept separate to ensure that they could be redeposited stratigraphically during the backfilling process for optimum reinstatement. Revealed surfaces were manually cleaned in an attempt to identify individual archaeological features. The sections of the trenches were selectively cleaned to observe and record their stratigraphy. The removed spoil was scanned for the presence of any stray, unstratified artefacts which were recovered and bagged for dating and analysis.
- 3.1.7 The trenches were planned and levelled using a GPS. A digital photographic record was maintained throughout the evaluation in addition to a full black and white (monochrome) and colour (35mm transparency) SLR photographic record of all of the trenches.
- 3.1.8 Where only simple stratigraphic sequences were revealed, representative sections (c.1.0m wide) at the end of each trench were drawn. Due to their simplicity these sections will be kept as part of the archive for the site but have not been included within this report. Each trench was fully recorded on trial trench record sheets and ASE context sheets.
- 3.1.9 Each deposit uncovered during the archaeological trial-trenching was assigned its own unique context number system prefixed with the trench

number.

3.1.10 Due to the nature of the deposits uncovered, no environmental samples were collected during the evaluation. .

3.1.11 On completion of all excavation and recording, the County Archaeologist, Greg Chuter (ESCC) was informed. Permission was obtained for the contractors to backfill and reinstate.

### 3.2 The Project Archive

3.2.1 The project archive is currently held at offices of ASE. The contents of the archive are tabulated below for reference in this report (Table 1).

3.2.2

Number of Trenches	4
Number of Contexts	16
No. of files/paper record	1 file
Plan and sections sheets	Trial-trench record forms only
Bulk Samples	None
Photographs	4 on b&w film, 4 on colour film & 20 digital colour Photographs
Bulk finds	1 small box
Registered finds	None

Table 1: Quantification of the site archive

## 4.0 RESULTS

### 4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 All of the four archaeological trial-trenches (Figure 2) excavated during the evaluation were negative of archaeological remains. No archaeological features or deposits were uncovered during the archaeological works. Only topsoil finds were recovered from the site. The deposits encountered in each trench were the same and have been described in 4.2 where the details of each trench are presented in order.

### 4.2 The Deposits

4.2.1 Natural geology [003] comprising light yellowish-orange Ashdown Sands were encountered across the site with a minimum height of 20.46m AOD in the southeast and a maximum height of 24.46m AOD in the northwest. In the lower lying parts of the site (towards the east), a mid yellowish-brown sandy silt Head deposit [004] was observed overlying [003]. This was in turn overlain by lightly compacted light yellowish brown fine silty sandy subsoil [002] with rare sub-rounded pebbles, which was seen directly over the top of natural in the highest areas of site (e.g. in the northeast) where [004] was not observed. Sealing the subsoil in all of the trenches was a loose light grey fine sandy silt topsoil [001] with occasional rooting, rare sub-rounded stones and rare ceramic building materials (CBM) animal bone and clay tobacco pipe (CTP).

4.3 **Trench 1** (cover image) measuring 15m northwest-southeast with a maximum depth of 0.77m, was located along the western part of the site. No archaeology was revealed within this trench. The recorded contexts from this trench have been tabulated and are summarised below (Table 2).

#### 4.3.1

Number	Type	Description	Deposit Thickness (m)	Height m AOD
1/001	Deposit	Topsoil	0.20 - 0.25	24.17 - 24.86
1/002	Deposit	Subsoil	0.20 - 0.25	23.97 - 24.61
1/003	Deposit	Natural	-	23.42 - 24.26
1/004	Deposit	Head Deposit	0.37m	23.77

Table 1: List of Recorded Contexts for Trench 1

#### 4.3.2 Summary

Natural geology was encountered at 23.42m AOD in the southeast of the trench and 24.26m AOD in the northwest. The head deposit was only present in the deeper south-eastern end of the trench. A rooty tree-bole was located in the middle of this trench and in the northern section.

**4.4 Trench 2** (Figures 4 and 5) measuring 10m north-south with a maximum depth of 1.00m, was located along the southern half of the site. No archaeology was revealed within this trench. The recorded contexts from this trench have been tabulated and are summarised below (

Table 2).

4.4.1

Number	Type	Description	Deposit Thickness (m)	Height m AOD
2/001	Deposit	Topsoil	0.20 – 0.26	23.45 – 24.13
2/002	Deposit	Subsoil	0.11 – 0.15	23.19 – 23.93
2/003	Deposit	Natural	-	22.60 – 23.00
2/004	Deposit	Head Deposit	0.42 – 0.50	22.77 – 23.43

Table 2: List of Recorded Contexts for Trench 2

4.4.2 Summary

Natural geology was encountered at 22.60m AOD in the south of the trench and 23.00m AOD in the north. Due to the fact that this trench was on the slope, the overburden deposits were more substantial and the head deposit was revealed across the whole trench.

**4.5 Trench 3** (Figure 6) measuring 10m north-south with a maximum depth of 0.69m, was located along the northern half of the site. No archaeology was revealed within this trench. The recorded contexts from this trench have been tabulated and are summarised below (

Table 3).

4.5.1

Number	Type	Description	Deposit Thickness (m)	Height m AOD
3/001	Deposit	Topsoil	0.19 – 0.27	23.99 – 24.56
3/002	Deposit	Subsoil	0.16 – 0.20	23.80 – 24.29
3/003	Deposit	Natural	-	23.15 – 23.89
3/004	Deposit	Head Deposit	0.11 – 0.31	23.61 – 24.00

Table 3: List of Recorded Contexts for Trench 3

#### 4.5.2 Summary

Natural geology was encountered at 23.15m AOD in the south of the trench and 23.89m AOD in the north. The Head deposit was only present in the deeper south-eastern end of the trench.



- 4.6 Trench 4** (Figure 7) measuring 10m northeast-southwest with a maximum depth of 0.8m, was located east of Trench 3 in the central part of the proposed development. The recorded contexts from this trench have been tabulated and are summarised below (

Table 4).

4.6.1

Number	Type	Description	Deposit Thickness (m)	Height m AOD
4/001	Deposit	Topsoil	0.15 – 0.20	21.56 – 23.05
4/002	Deposit	Subsoil	0.14 – 0.20	21.41 – 22.85
4/003	Deposit	Natural	-	20.46 - 22.11
4/004	Deposit	Made Ground	0.16 – 0.38	21.25 – 22.61

Table 4: List of Recorded Contexts for Trench 4

4.6.2 Summary

Natural geology was encountered at 20.46m AOD in the southeast of the trench and 22.11m AOD in the northwest. Due to the fact that this trench was on the slope, the overburden deposits were more substantial and the head deposit was revealed across the whole trench.

## 5.0 THE FINDS

- 5.0.1 A small assemblage of finds, mainly consisting of ceramic building material (CBM), recovered from topsoil. An overview can be found in Table 6. In addition, a clay tobacco pipe stem fragment (wt <2g) with maker's marks was assigned a unique Registered Finds number (RF <1>) and was recorded individually. The assemblage is too small to be of any potential for further analysis and no further work is required.

Context	CBM	Wt (g)	Bone	Wt (g)
1/001	1	74		
2/001	6	726		
3/001	1	128		
4/001	5	244	1	22

Table 6: Quantification of the finds

## 5.2 The Ceramic Building Material by Sarah Porteus

- 5.2.1 Ceramic building material (CBM) was recovered from the topsoil [001] of trenches 1 to 4. The material is all of later post-medieval or modern date. A single fragment of 18<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> century date peg tile in a fine orange fabric (T2) with sparse fine quartz and fine red and black iron rich inclusions was recovered from [1/001]. Context [2/001] contained four fragments of 19<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> century date peg tile in fabrics T1, an orange fabric with abundant fine sand and moderate red and black iron rich inclusions and sparse calcareous inclusions and T2. A fragment of brick of 66mm thickness in a fine orange fabric with sparse coarse silt and fine mica inclusions of 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> century date was also recovered from [2/001]. An over-fired peg tile fragment with square peg hole in a fabric with cream silt banding and moderate black and red iron rich inclusions (T3) from context [3/001] is of 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> century date. Peg tile in fabrics T1, T2 and T3 were also present in context [4/001] with two fragments of 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> century peg tile in fine orange fabric with moderate fine quartz, T4, and fine reddish orange fabric T5 with very fine calcareous speckling and red and black iron rich inclusions.

## 5.3 The Animal Bone by Gemma Driver

- 5.3.1 Context [4/001] produced one fragment of bone. The bone has been identified as an unfused sheep tibia. The proximal end of the bone has been sawn off. There is no evidence of pathology, gnawing or burning on the bone.

## 5.4 The Mould-Marked Clay Tobacco Pipe by Elke Raemen

- 5.4.1 A clay tobacco pipe fragment (RF <1>), consisting only of the spur and a small section of the stem, was recovered from [4/001]. The spur sides contain the maker's initials "JS" moulded in relief. The pipe may be by James Shoemith, who is recorded working in Fairlight Down between 1841 and 1854, and in Ore between 1862 and 1866 (Atkinson 1976:16).

## 6.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

- 6.1 A reminder of the specific research objectives of the project as outlined in the *WSI* (ASE 2009) is set out below:
- To investigate the medieval and post-medieval development of the site, and the development of Sedlescombe
  - To investigate the potential Romano-British activity on the site associated with the adjacent Roman road and in particular the iron working industry known in the area.
  - To investigate potential prehistoric activity on the site.
- 6.2 Considering the site's location within a conservation area and the fact that the site has been little disturbed and was consequently thought to have archaeological potential, it is surprising that no archaeological features and only a small quantity of artefacts were uncovered during the evaluation
- 6.3 The recovered post-medieval material is consistent with a normal background scatter possibly deposited as waste material through agricultural manuring,
- 6.4 Since no evidence of prehistoric, Romano-British, medieval or post-medieval activity other than these stray finds was encountered at the site, the development of Sedlescombe cannot be assessed.
- 6.5 Given the complete absence of archaeological activity within the trenches, it is reasonable to conclude that the site was not occupied in the past and has perhaps only ever functioned as agricultural land, therefore, the proposed development is unlikely to impact any archaeology.

## REFERENCES

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ASE would like to thank Philip Dann and Steve Fasey of Pumphouse Designs for commissioning the work and Greg Chuter of ESCC for his guidance throughout the project.

**SMR Summary Form**

Site Code	QHS 09					
Identification Name and Address	Queens Head, Brede Lane, Sadlescombe					
County, District &/or Borough	East Sussex					
OS Grid Refs.	NGR: TQ 78221 18000					
Geology	Ashdown sands					
Arch. South-East Project Number	3974					
Type of Fieldwork	<b>Eval.</b>	Excav.	Watching Brief	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green Field	Shallow Urban	Deep Urban	Other		
Dates of Fieldwork	<b>Eval.</b> <b>07/09/09</b>	Excav.	WB.	Other		
Sponsor/Client	Pumphouse Designs on behalf of LHS Properties					
Project Manager	Jon Sygrave					
Project Supervisor	Kathryn Grant					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA	IA	RB
	AS	Med	<b>PM</b>	<b>Modern</b>		
100 Word Summary.						
<p>An archaeological evaluation was carried out by Archaeology South East on land adjacent to The Queens Head, Brede Lane, Sedlescombe, East Sussex (NGR: TQ 78221 18000) on 7th September 2009 for Pumphouse Designs on behalf of their client, L and H Properties. Four archaeological trial-trenches were excavated to a cumulative length of 45m in advance of a proposed redevelopment. No archaeological features or deposits or deposits were encountered during the evaluation. A few unstratified finds were recovered from the topsoil covering the site. The natural geology comprising Ashdown Sands was encountered at a maximum height of 24.46m AOD in the northwest of the site, falling away to 20.46m AOD in the southeast. A Head deposit was recorded in parts overlying the natural geology, which was itself sealed by subsoil and overlain by topsoil.</p>						

**OASIS Form****OASIS ID: archaeol6-64165****Project details**

Project name	The Queens Head, Brede Lane, Sedlescombe
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation was carried out by Archaeology South East on land adjacent to The Queens Head, Brede Lane, Sedlescombe, East Sussex (NGR: TQ 78221 18000) on 7th September 2009 for Pumphouse Designs on behalf of their client, L and H Properties. Four archaeological trial-trenches were excavated to a cumulative length of 45m in advance of a proposed redevelopment. No archaeological features or deposits or deposits were encountered during the evaluation. A few unstratified finds were recovered from the topsoil covering the site. The natural geology comprising Ashdown Sands was encountered at a maximum height of 24.46m AOD in the northwest of the site, falling away to 20.46m AOD in the southeast. A Head deposit was recorded in parts overlying the natural geology, which was itself sealed by subsoil and overlain by topsoil.
Project dates	Start: 07-09-2009 End: 07-09-2009
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	QHS 09 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	RR/2008/3237/P - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Conservation Area
Current Land use	Other 13 - Waste ground
Methods & techniques	'Sample Trenches'
Development type	Small-scale (e.g. single house, etc.)
Prompt	Planning condition

**Project location**

Country	England
Site location	EAST SUSSEX ROTHER SEDLESCOMBE The Queens Head, Brede Lane, Sedlescombe
Postcode	TN33 0

Site coordinates TQ 78221 18000 50.9332743908 0.536641574156 50 55 59 N  
000 32 11 E Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 20.46m Max: 24.46m

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**Project creators**

Name of Organisation Archaeology South East

Project brief originator Archaeology South East

Project design originator East Sussex County Council

Project director/manager Jon Sygrave

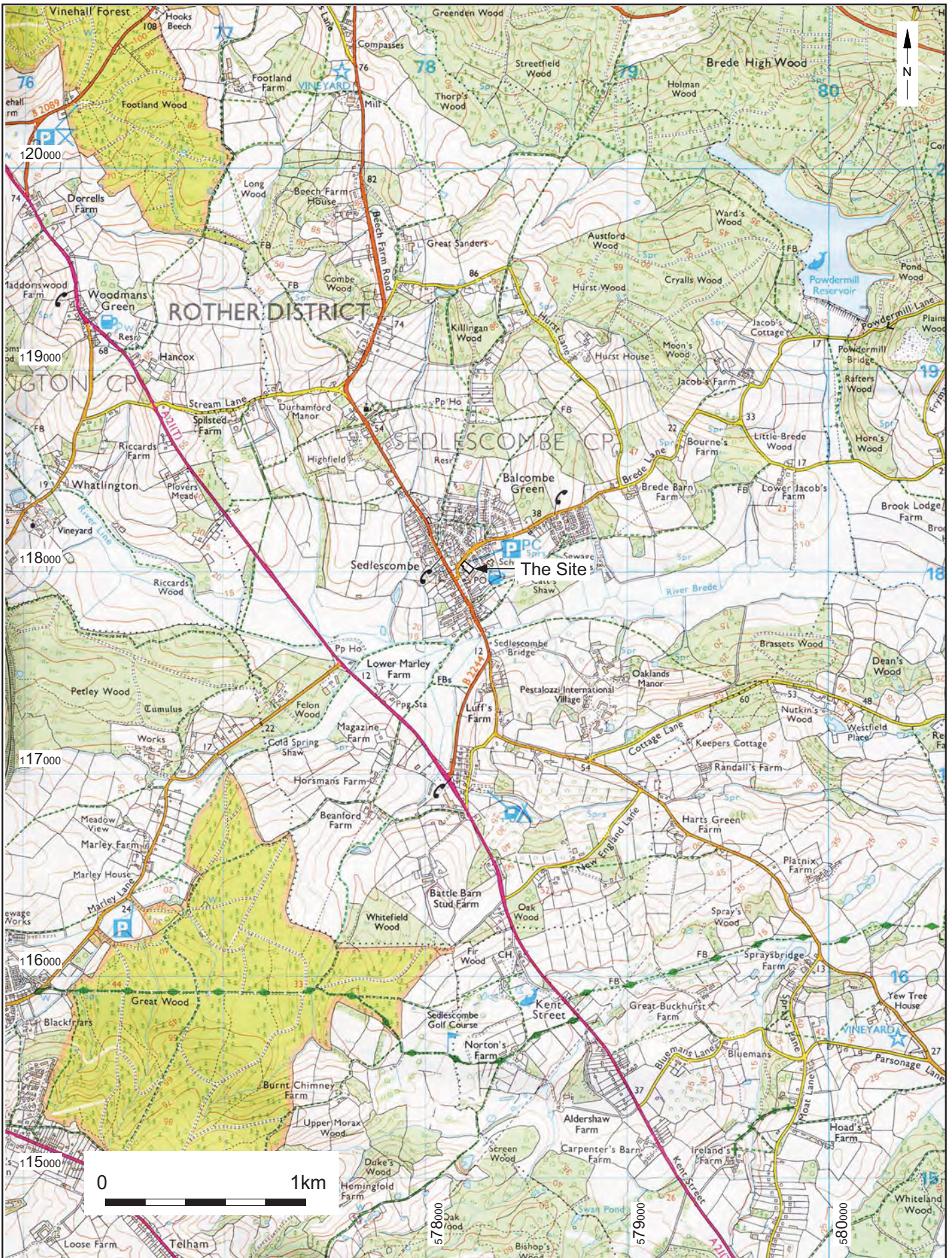
Project supervisor Kathryn Grant

Type of sponsor/funding body Pump House Designs

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Entered by Kathryn Grant (kathryn.grant@ucl.ac.uk)

Entered on 8 September 2009



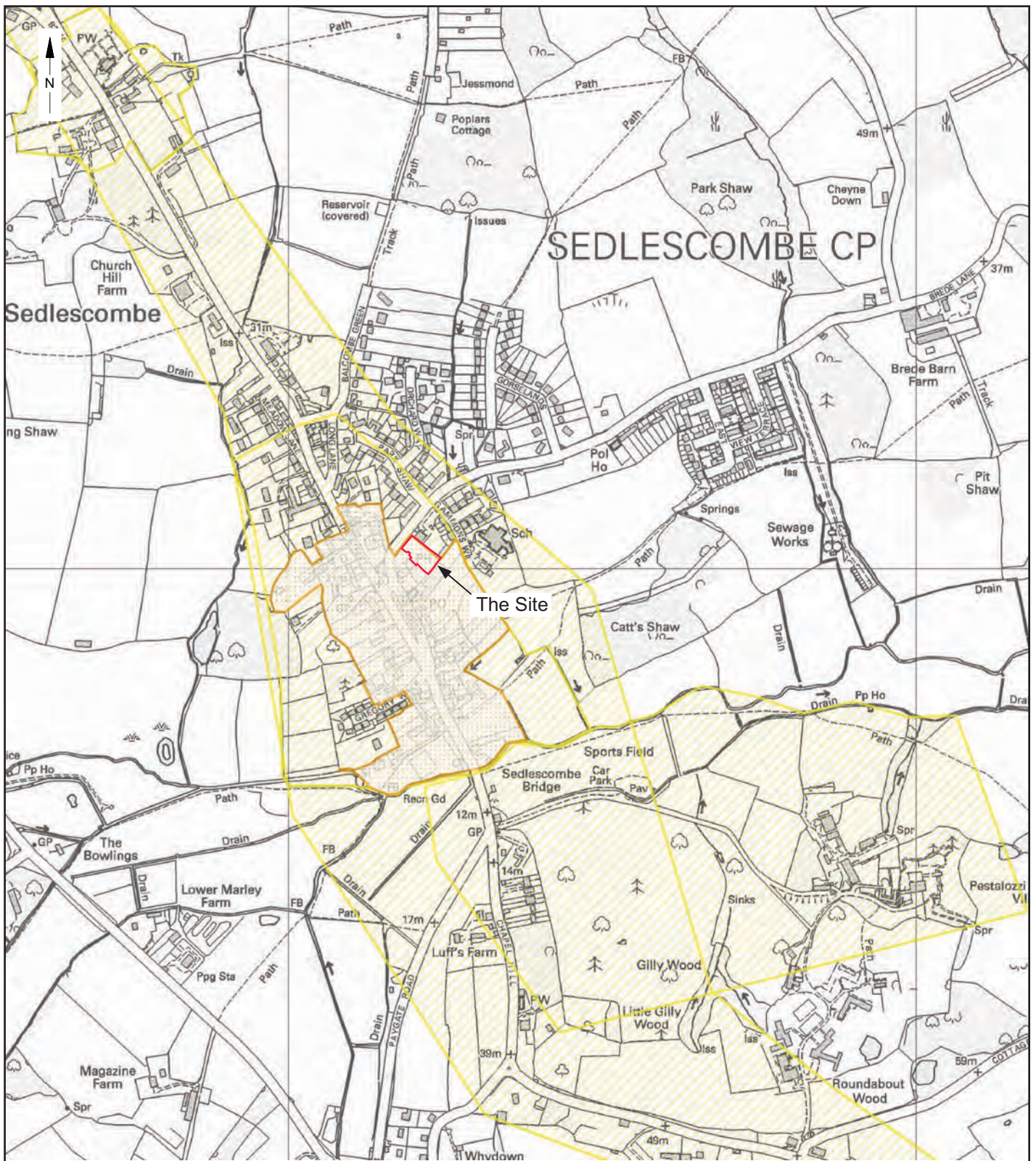
© Archaeology South-East		Queens Head, Brede Lane, Sedlescombe	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 3974	Sept 2009	Site location	
Report Ref: 2009143	Drawn by: JLR		






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© Archaeology South-East		Queens Head, Brede Lane, Sedlescombe		Fig. 2
Project Ref: 3974	Sept 2009	Proposed development showing evaluation trenches		
Report Ref: 2009143	Drawn by: JLR			



-  Scheduled Ancient Monuments (RO)
-  Registered Parks and Gardens (RO)
-  Registered Battlefields (RO)
-  Conservation Areas (RO)
-  Archaeologically Sensitive Areas (RO)

0 500m

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Project Ref: 3974	Sept 2009	Archaeologically Sensitive Areas and Conservation Areas	
Report Ref: 2009143	Drawn by: JLR		



Fig. 4: The site



Fig. 5: Trench 2, looking north

© Archaeology South-East		Queens Head, Brede Lane, Sedlescombe	Figs. 4 & 5
Project Ref: 3974	Sept 2009		
Report Ref: 2009143	Drawn by: JLR		

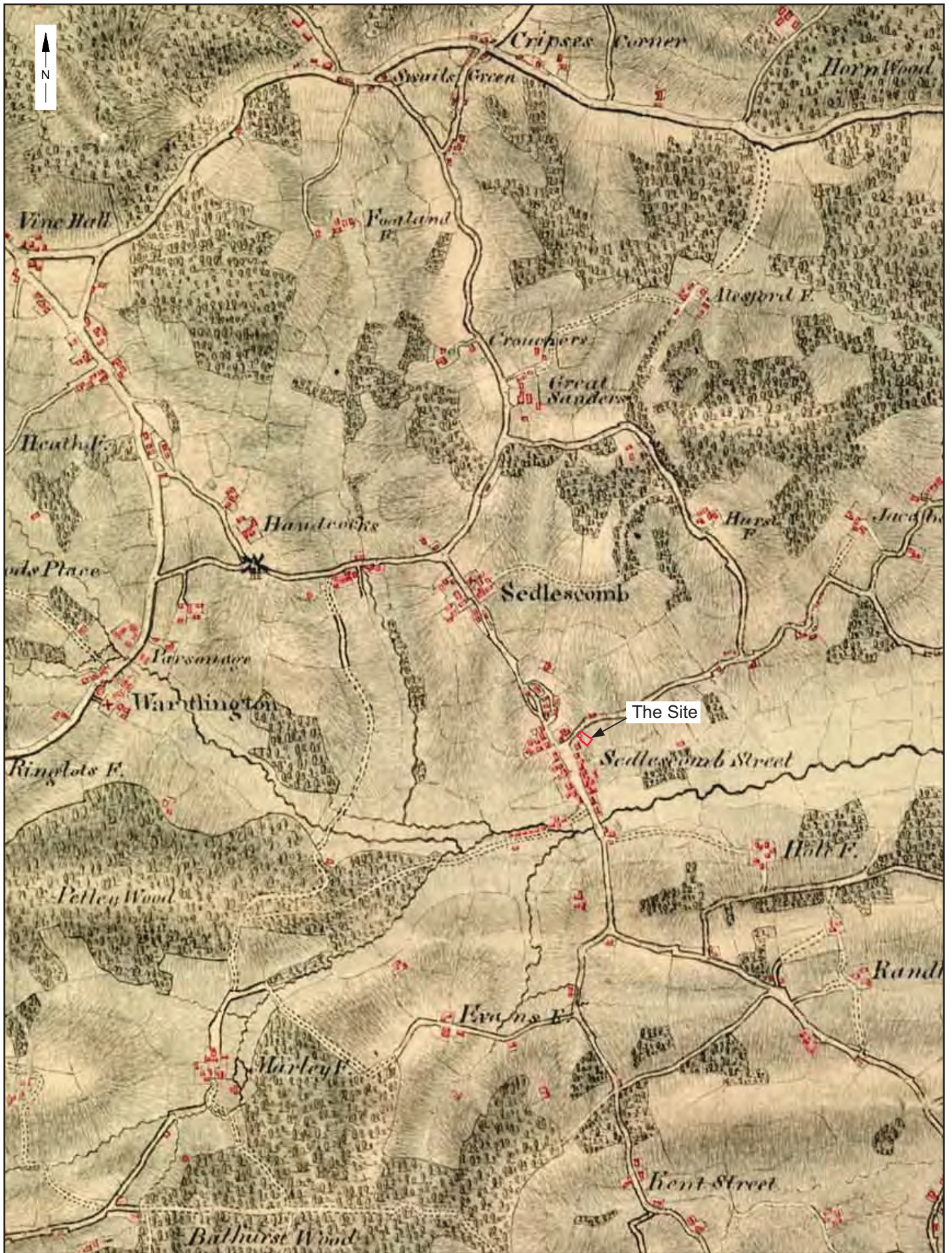


Fig. 6: Trench 3, looking north

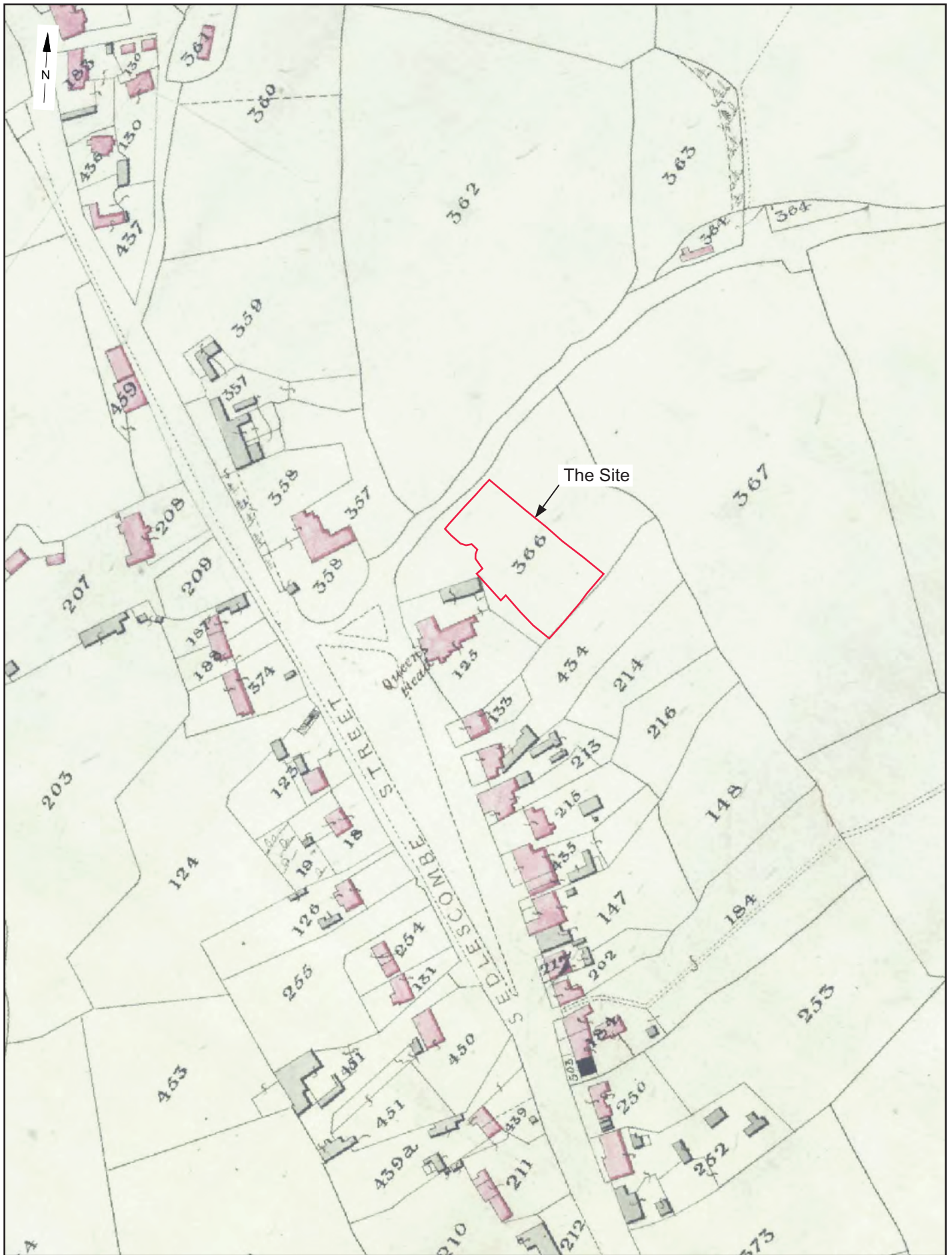


Fig. 7: Trench 4, looking north-west

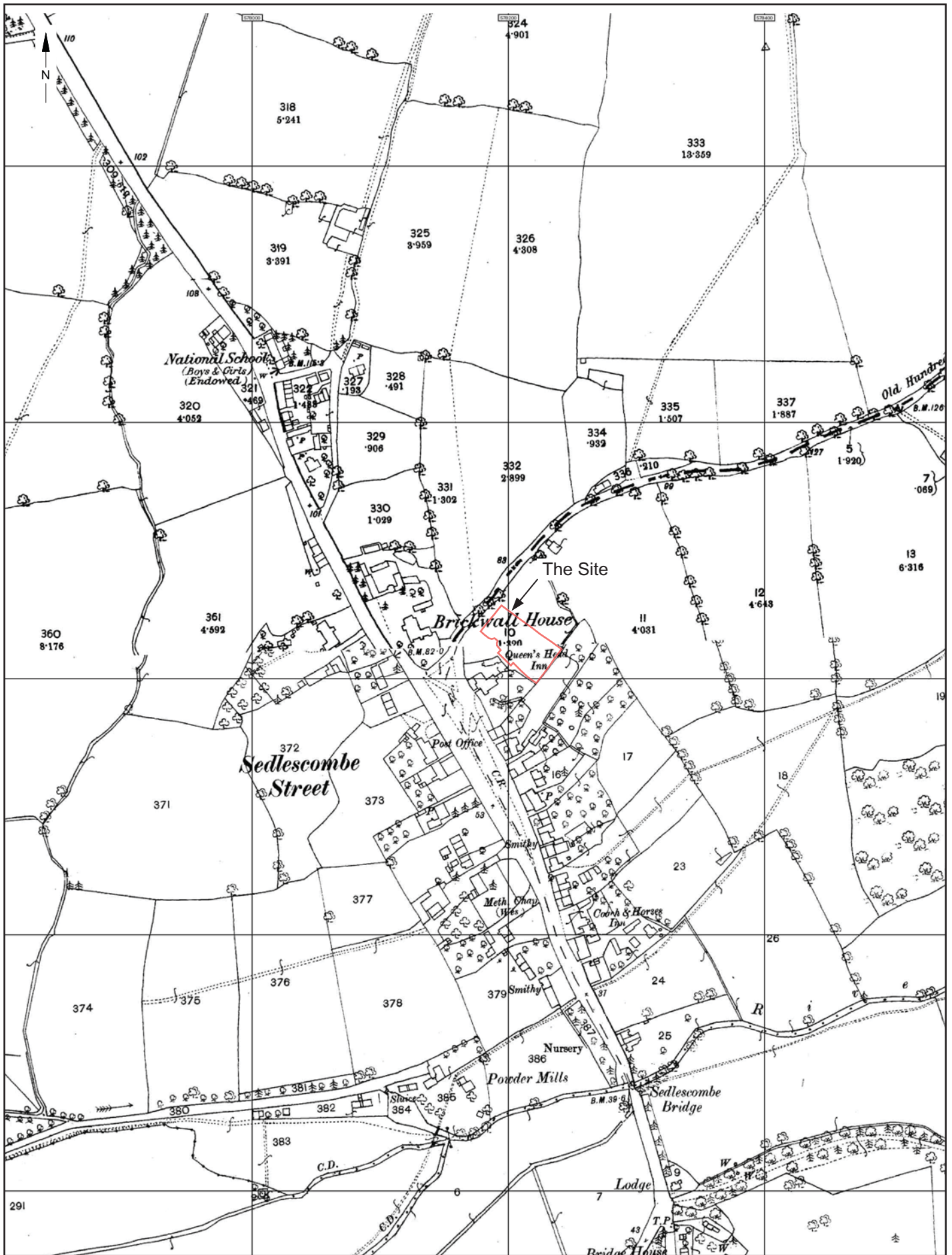
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Project Ref: 3974	Sept 2009		
Report Ref: 2009143	Drawn by: JLR		



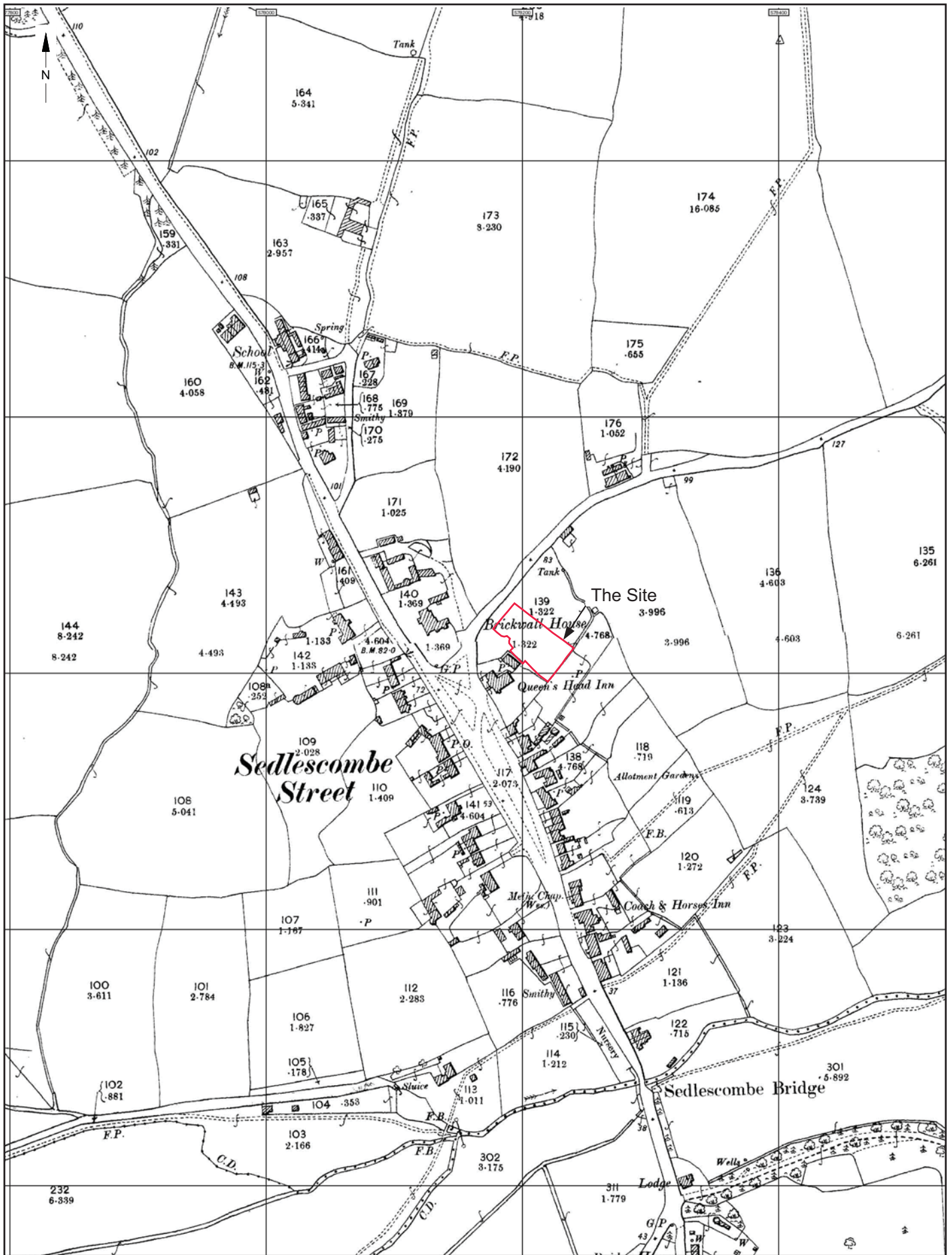
© Archaeology South-East		Queens Head, Brede Lane, Sedlescombe	Fig. 8
Project Ref: 3974	Sept 2009	OS Draft 1-inch (Old Series), c. 1800	
Report Ref: 2009143	Drawn by: JLR		



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Project Ref: 3974	Sept 2009	Sedlescombe Tithe, 1841	
Report Ref: 2009143	Drawn by: JLR		

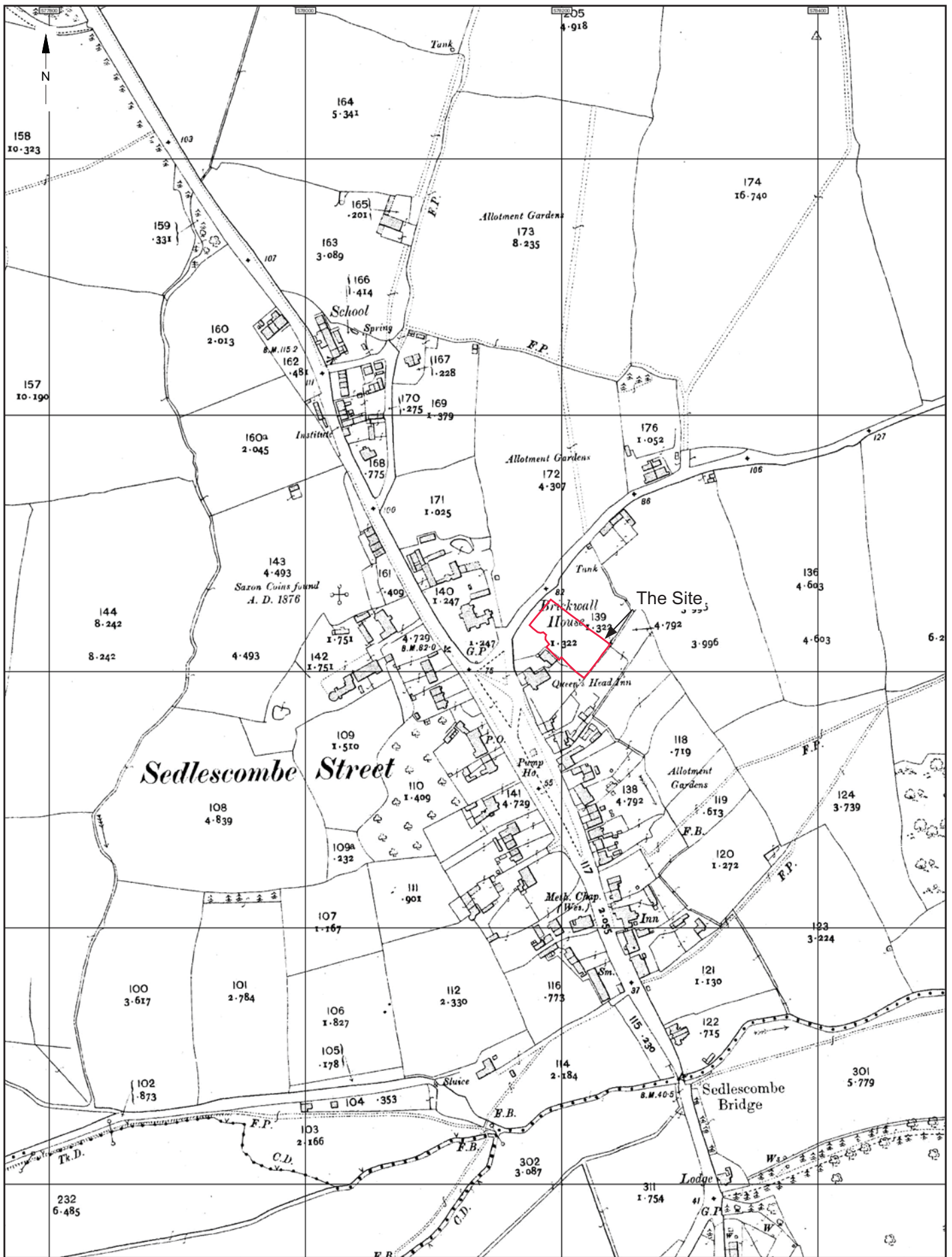


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Project Ref: 3974	Sept 2009	OS 25-inch, 1874-1875	
Report Ref: 2009143	Drawn by: JLR		

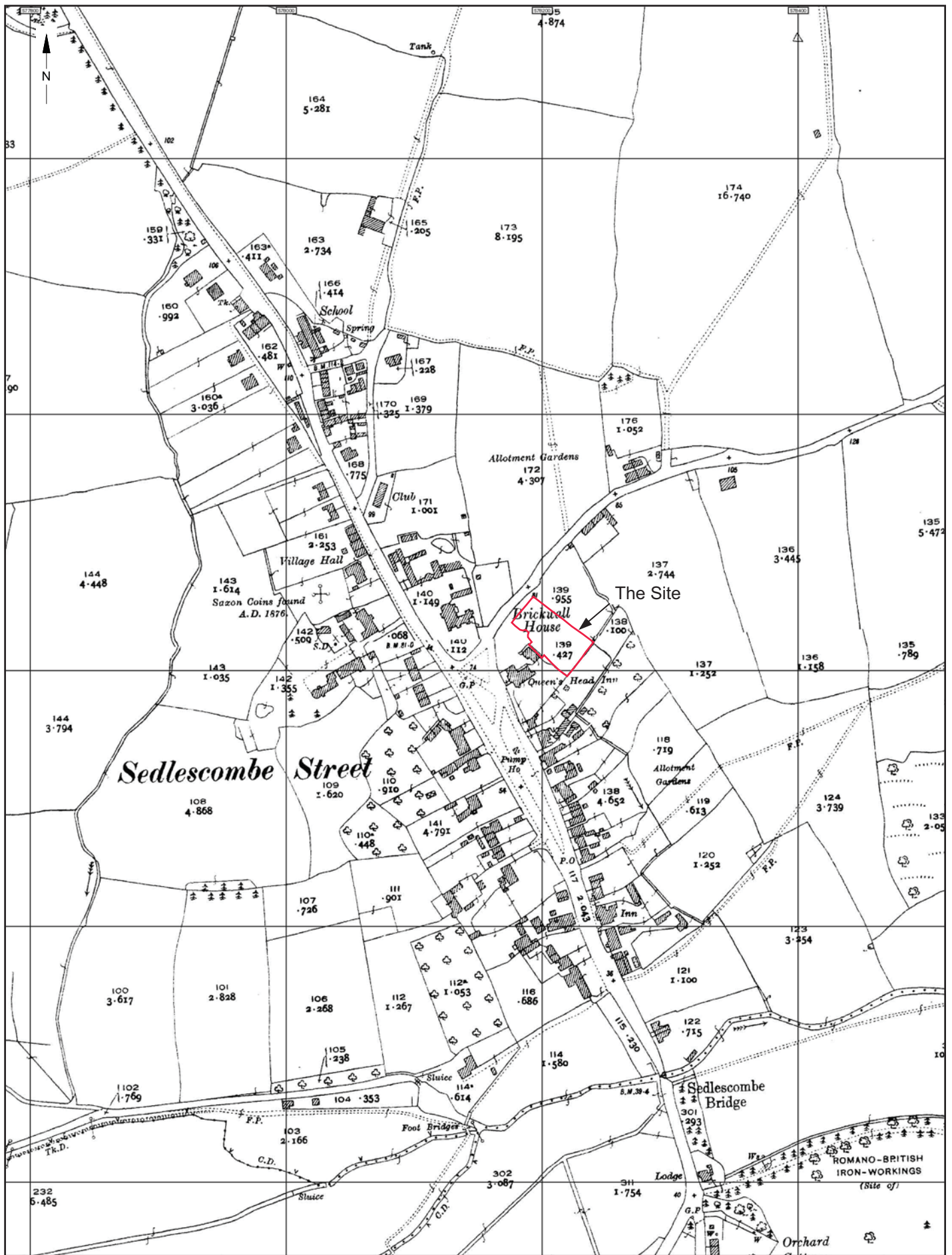


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Project Ref: 3974	Sept 2009	OS 25-inch, 1898-1899		
Report Ref: 2009143	Drawn by: JLR			

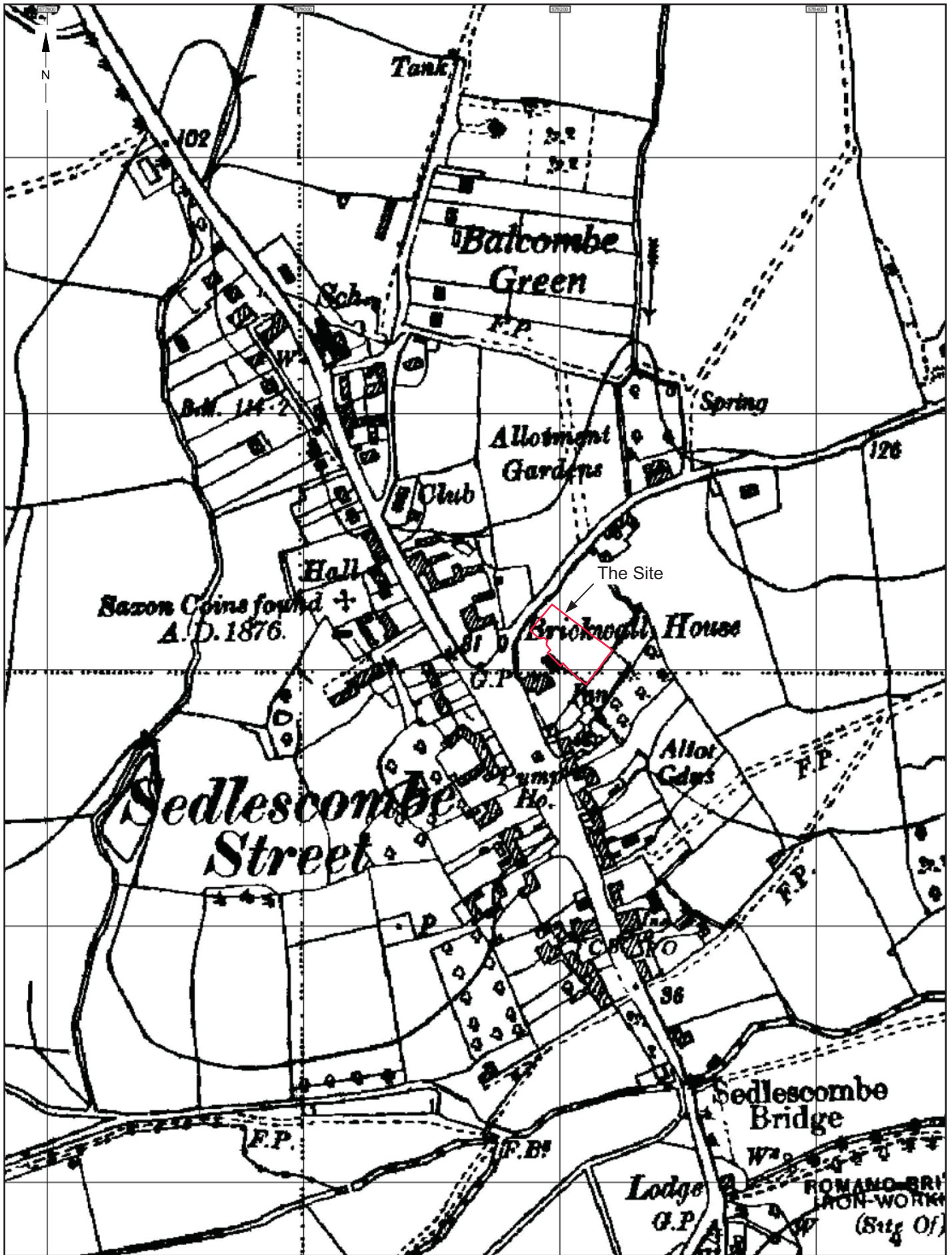




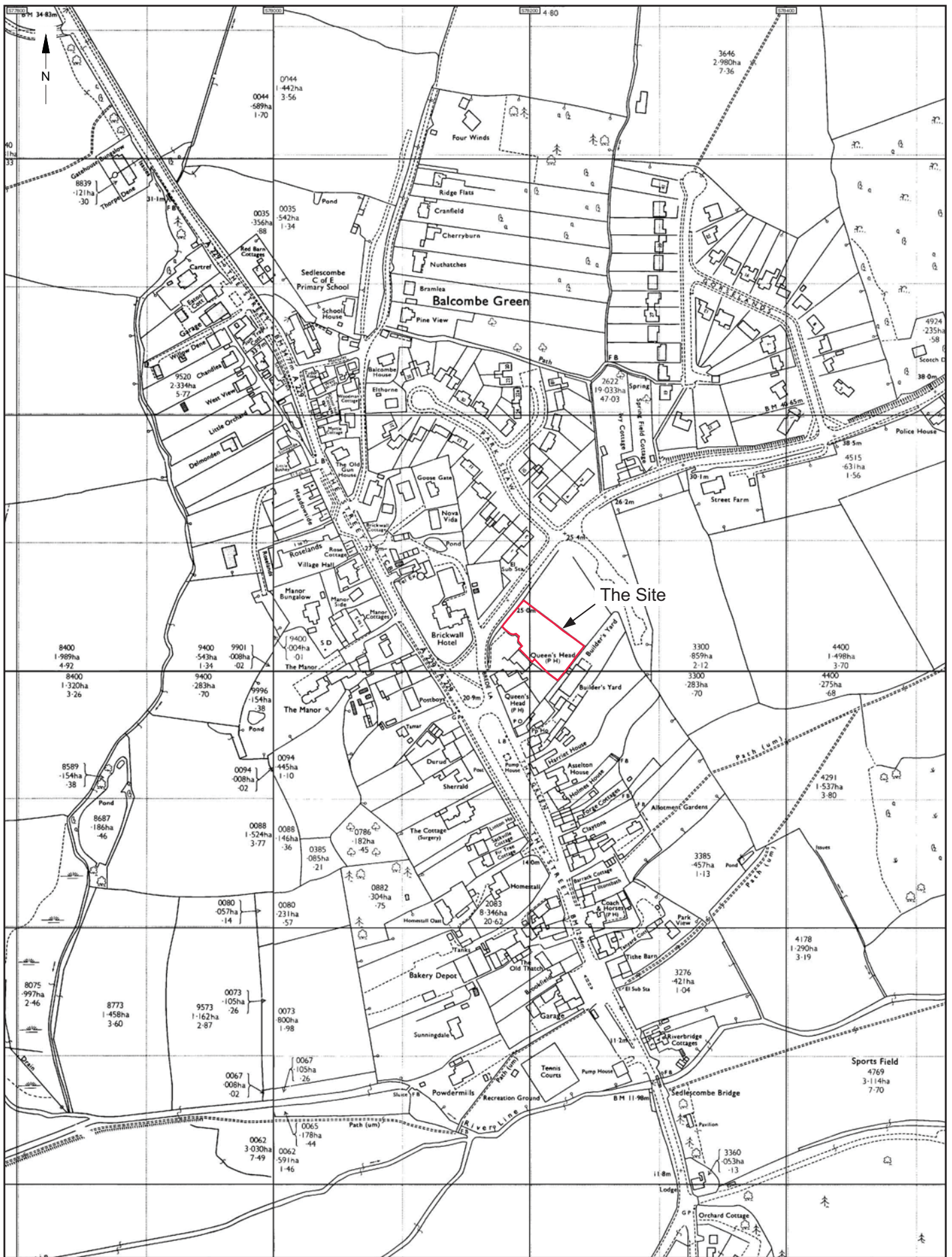
© Archaeology South-East		Queens Head, Brede Lane, Sedlescombe		Fig. 12
Project Ref: 3974	Sept 2009	OS 25-inch, 1909		
Report Ref: 2009143	Drawn by: JLR			



© Archaeology South-East		Queens Head, Brede Lane, Sedlescombe		Fig. 13
Project Ref: 3974	Sept 2009			
Report Ref: 2009143	Drawn by: JLR	OS 25-inch, 1929		



© Archaeology South-East		Queens Head, Brede Lane, Sedlescombe		Fig. 14
Project Ref: 3974	Sept 2009	OS 25-inch, 1952		
Report Ref: 2009143	Drawn by: JLR			



© Archaeology South-East		Queens Head, Brede Lane, Sedlescombe	Fig. 15
Project Ref: 3974	Sept 2009	OS 25-inch, 1977	
Report Ref: 2009143	Drawn by: JLR		

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