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## ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

**LAND SOUTH OF SCHOOL ROAD, RISBY,  
BURY ST. EDMUNDS, SUFFOLK**

### **AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**

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NGR: TL 80051 66219	Report No. 3939
District: St Edmundsbury	Site Code: RBY 042
Approved: Claire Halpin MIFA	Project No. P4534
Signed:	Date: Revised Nov 2011

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## OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

<b>Project details</b>			
Project name	<i>Land South of School Road, Risby, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk. An Archaeological Evaluation</i>		
<p><i>In October 2011, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation on land south of School Road, Risby, Suffolk (NGR: TL 8005 6622). The evaluation was conducted in advance of the submission of a planning application to construct a pre-school with associated access road and 25 residential dwellings.</i></p> <p><i>The site is in an area of archaeological importance recorded on the County Historic Environment Record being close to the historic core of Risby, and approximately 180m from the Grade I listed medieval church of St Giles. Roman remains including a prone skeleton, a burnt clay patch, slag and pottery were found beneath the church nave (SHER RBY 024). An evaluation 130m to the west of the site identified three linear features containing medieval pottery (SHER RBY 038). The 1904 OS map shows a structure, a windpump and paths on the site.</i></p> <p><i>The evaluation revealed a distinct concentration of 17 features in the northern area of the site adjacent to School Road. Five large pits (F1016, F1018, F1038, F1040 and F1042) and several smaller pits were located within an area defined by a ditch (F1012) and gullies (F1022, F1024 and F1044). Three features were located in the south-western area of the site comprising a large post-medieval boundary ditch (F1004) and two undated pig burials (F1008 and F1010). The features in the northern area were predominantly medieval (12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>).</i></p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	10 <sup>th</sup> October – 20 <sup>th</sup> October 2011		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	N	Future work	TBC
P. number	4534	Site code	RBY 042
Type of project	<i>Archaeological Evaluation</i>		
Site status	-		
Current land use	<i>Agricultural</i>		
Planned development	<i>Pre-school with access and 25 new residential dwellings</i>		
Main features (+dates)	<i>Pits, ditches and gullies</i>		
Significant finds (+dates)	<i>Medieval (12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> C) pottery, animal bone</i>		
<b>Project location</b>			
County/ District/ Parish	<i>Suffolk</i>	<i>St Edmundsbury</i>	<i>Risby</i>
HER/ SMR for area	<i>Suffolk Historic Environment Record</i>		
Post code (if known)	<i>IP28 6RP</i>		
Area of site	<i>1.74 ha</i>		
NGR	<i>TL 8005 6622</i>		
Height AOD (max/ min)	<i>Approximately 65-70 m AOD</i>		
<b>Project creators</b>			
Brief issued by	<i>Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team (Jess Tipper)</i>		
Project supervisor/s (PO)			
Funded by	<i>Pigeon (Risby) Ltd</i>		
Full title	<i>Land South of School Lane, Risby, Suffolk. An Archaeological Evaluation</i>		
Authors	<i>Adams, M. Thompson, P.</i>		
Report no.	3939		
Date (of report)	<i>Revised November 2011</i>		

# LAND SOUTH OF SCHOOL ROAD, RISBY, BURY ST. EDMUNDS, SUFFOLK

## AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

### SUMMARY

*In October 2011, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation on land south of School Road, Risby, Suffolk (NGR: TL 8005 6622). The evaluation was conducted in advance of the submission of a planning application to construct a pre-school with associated access road and 25 residential dwellings.*

*The site is in an area of archaeological importance recorded on the County Historic Environment Record being close to the historic core of Risby, and approximately 180m from the Grade I listed medieval church of St Giles. Roman remains including a prone skeleton, a burnt clay patch, slag and pottery were found beneath the church nave (SHER RBY 024). An evaluation 130m to the west of the site identified three linear features containing medieval pottery (SHER RBY 038). The 1904 OS map shows a structure, a windpump and paths on the site.*

*The evaluation revealed a distinct concentration of 17 features in the northern area of the site adjacent to School Road. Five large pits (F1016, F1018, F1038, F1040 and F1042) and several smaller pits were located within an area defined by a ditch (F1012) and gullies (F1022, F1024 and F1044). Three features were located in the south-western area of the site comprising a large post-medieval boundary ditch (F1004) and two undated pig burials (F1008 and F1010). The features in the northern area were predominantly medieval (12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>).*

### 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In October 2011, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation on land south of School Road, Risby, Suffolk (NGR TL 80051 66219; Figs.1-2). The evaluation was commissioned by Pigeon (Risby) Ltd and conducted in advance of the submission of a planning application to construct a pre-school with associated access road and 25 residential dwellings.

1.2 The project was carried out in accordance with a brief issued by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team (SCC AS-CT) (Jess Tipper, dated 22/08/2011), and a specification compiled by AS (dated 30/09/2011) and approved by SCC AS-CT. It followed the procedures outlined in the Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct, Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (revised 2008). It also adhered to the relevant sections of *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).

1.3 The principal objectives of the evaluation were:

- To establish whether any archaeological deposit exists in the area, with particular regard to any which are of sufficient importance to merit preservation *in situ*
- To identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit within the application area, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.
- To evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits, along with the potential for the survival of environmental evidence
- To provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.
- To establish the potential for survival/significance of any palaeoenvironmental deposits.

#### *Planning Policy Context*

1.4 PPS5 (2010) states that those parts of the historic environment that have significance because of their historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest are heritage assets. The Planning Policy Statement aims to deliver sustainable development by ensuring that policies and decisions that concern the historic environment recognise that heritage assets are a non-renewable resource, take account of the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits of heritage conservation, and recognise that intelligently managed change may sometimes be necessary if heritage assets are to be maintained for the long term. It aims to conserve England's heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance. It states that opportunities to capture evidence from the historic environment and to contribute to our knowledge and understanding of our past, and to make this publicly available, should be taken, particularly where a heritage asset is to be lost.

## **2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE**

### **2.1 Location**

2.1.1 Risby is a small village located 5km west of Bury St Edmunds. The site is immediately south of School Road on the east side of the village, and it comprises a 1.74 hectare area of rough grass/scrub.

## **2.2 Topography, geology and soils (Fig. 1)**

2.2.1 The site is situated at 65-70m AOD on soils comprising the Melford Series defined as Typical Argillic Brown Earth. These are loamy or loamy over clayey soils found on agricultural lands below 300m, with a subsurface horizon showing significant clay enrichment. The soil overlies chalky till and solid geology of Upper Cretaceous Chalk.

## **2.3 Archaeological and historical background (Fig. 2)**

### *Prehistoric (< 500,000 BC – AD 43)*

2.3.1 A Neolithic arrowhead was found in onion beds 300m south-east of the site (RBY 026), and a possible Bronze Age ring ditch, approximately 25m in diameter, is recorded 1km to the north-west (RBY 015). A mound c.15m in diameter, possibly with a square tower on top, is shown in the Old Rectory gardens on 1888 and 1904 OS maps, but is gone by 1926. This could potentially also be a Bronze Age burial mound, but may be a post-medieval garden feature (RBY 024). Two abraded sherds of late Bronze Age/early Iron Age pottery were found in two possibly natural features 300m to the east of the site (RBY 033), and an evaluation at Risby Business Park at the west end of the village recovered a small quantity of Iron Age pottery (RBY 034).

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

2.3.2 Roman remains were reported from the west end of the church nave including a prone human burial, pottery and slag (RBY 024). A Roman bronze brooch was found in the garden at Driftwood 300m west of the site (RBY 018).

### *Anglo-Saxon (AD 410-1066)*

2.3.3 A linear earthwork called the Black Ditches is located near Cavenham, 2.5km north-west of the site and is the most easterly of five such west facing banks and ditches, the Devils Dyke near Newmarket being the best known. They are believed to date from the late Roman period or later and were probably territorial boundaries (West 1988). The name Risby derives from Old Scandinavian *hris* or *ryth* and *by* meaning 'farmstead or village among the brushwood or beside a clearing' (Mills 1991). Risby was located in the Thingoe Hundred which is also a Scandinavian word and the names reflect the presence of Danish invaders settling in the 9<sup>th</sup> century.

### *Medieval (AD 1066-1539)*

2.3.4 The earliest surviving record for Risby is in the 1086 Domesday Survey. By 1066 the manor had been granted by Edward the Confessor to the monks of Bury St Edmunds abbey. In 1086 it contained 3.5 acres of meadow, 3 cobs, 12 cattle, 30 pigs, 90 sheep and 32 goats and had a recorded population of 26 (Goult 1990). There were two subsequent sub-manors, Charmans recorded in 1112 and Cold Hall founded c.1261. The site lies within the medieval core of the village (which has two main foci) with the Grade I

listed church of St Giles located 180m to the north-east. The latter comprises a nave, chancel, west tower, south porch and vestry, and has flint walls with limestone dressing and a plain tiled roof (RBY 024; British Listed Buildings). The bulk of the church dates between the 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> centuries with 19<sup>th</sup> century additions or modifications and its main features are the round tower and medieval wall paintings (RBY 024). The rectory is first mentioned in 1254 (Goult 1990). An archaeological evaluation on land north of School Road, 130m west of the site, found three linear features containing medieval material indicating a phase of activity from the 12<sup>th</sup> century. These lay c.25m north from the road frontage and may simply represent former field boundaries in the area of open farmland between the two settlement cores of the village. Alternatively they may indicate activity to the rear of potential occupation along the road. The road frontage itself could not be investigated however due to the presence of overhead electricity cables (RBY 038). The archaeological evaluation at Risby Business Park identified an infilled pond and some medieval pottery (RBY 034), and medieval and post-medieval pottery was found during archaeological monitoring in the north-west part of the village approximately 380m away (RBY 036).

#### *Post-medieval to modern (AD 1539-1900)*

2.3.5 During the early post-medieval period c.1500 and 1640 Risby parish was primarily a sheep and corn district with barley the main cereal crop, but it was also used for wood pasture. Ancient woodland is recorded at Oak Pin, to the north of the village (RBY 027) Old Broom Wood to the north-east (RBY 028), and at Risby Little Wood, the latter also has an undated substantial bank and ditch on its north-western side (RBY 031). In 1818 Risby parish was mainly used for crop growing most notably barley, wheat, turnips and clover and in 1831 approximately two thirds of the occupations recorded in the village worked in agriculture (Goult 1990). A brick works is shown on early OS maps close to the Newmarket road (RBY 040). In 1871 the village population reached 423 and then fell to 351 in 1901 before steadily growing to reach 676 in 1981. By 1937 the main crops grown were barley, wheat and sugar beet. There are five listed buildings within 500m of the site with the closest the Grade II listed early 17<sup>th</sup> century timber-framed Quays Farmhouse notorious in the 1930s for the unsolved murder of its occupant by poisoning. An archaeological monitoring and recording at Glebe House, near the church, noted no archaeological features or finds (McCall 2010).

## **2.4 The site**

2.4.1 Hodkinson's map of 1783 shows Risby in relation to Bury St Edmunds, with pockets of woodland particularly to the south (Fig. 4). St Giles church is shown with houses to the south adjacent to the site, while the main part of the village is separate to the west. Quays Farm was part of the messuage of the Hengrave Hall estate owned by the Gage family since the 17<sup>th</sup> century. The 1801 enclosure map shows the layout of the fields around the site approximately as they are today (Fig. 5). A plan of Quays Farm dated c.1816 shows that it was then also known as Turnpike Farm and Risby Farm (as opposed to Risby Hall Farm) and was occupied by Sir Henry Roper. The part

of the site fronting School Lane to the west of the farmhouse probably forms part of the backyard pasture of 2 acres, 3 rods and 1 perch directly associated with Quays Farm. The main part of the site to the rear (south) of Quays Farm is called First Home Pasture and comprises 4 acres, 1 rod and a perch (Ref: 712/68). The farm's lands also include the three fields in a row to the east of First Home Pasture (as seen on the tithe map below Fig. 6). Another early 19<sup>th</sup> century plan of Quays Farm shows Home Pasture Field extending further south than the enclosure map to enclose 5 acres 3 rods and 31 perches (Ref: 712/72).

2.4.2 The 1839 tithe map (Fig. 6) shows the site still devoid of buildings although a pond is shown on the north-eastern edge, by the farmhouse, and School Road is named Church Lane. The main field to the rear of Quays Farm is now named Stable Meadow and is the same size as it was in c.1816. The smaller part of the site immediately west of the farmhouse is named Stackyard Pasture. At this time Quays Farm was occupied by John Denton Paine and owned by Sir Thomas Bartholomew Gage. White's Directory of Suffolk records that John D. Paine still occupied Quays Farm in 1846 and it was still in the family in 1879, as Kelly's Post-Office Directory lists a John George Paine at the farm. A sales particular dated 1889, 1893 (ref: 449/3/14) shows that a George John Paine, possibly the same person as above, paid a yearly tenancy for Quays Farm of £400. It is described as a convenient dwelling house containing 3 sitting rooms, 2 kitchens, 6 bedrooms plus other rooms. The homestead included sheds, barns, stables and 6 cottages and gardens for labourers. The arable and pasture land comprised 485 acres, 2 rods and 2 perches. The main field that makes up the site was again used as meadow.

2.4.3 The 1890 OS map shows Quays Farm and a school adjacent to the site, and ponds across Church Lane to the north. The site contains a building or structure on its eastern edge with a track running south (Fig. 7). The 1904 OS map shows a structure on the north part of the site west of Quays Farm, and a windpump on the main part of the site (Fig. 8). A path crosses the site diagonally from north-west to south-east. The 1937 Kelly's Post-Office Directory shows Quays Farm was occupied by William Murfitt who was poisoned there the following year. The 1938 OS map shows more structures on the site while at least one from the earlier maps has disappeared (Fig. 9).

2.4.4 Other documents at the Bury St Edmunds Record Office that may provide further information relating to the land around Quays Farm are 449/4/23 (Manor of Hengrave 1813-94), 449/4/18 (The Manor of Hengrave (1675), 1707), 449/4/25 (Mortgages of Risby Hall and Quays Farm 1841-69). Sales particulars for 1952 of Hengrave Estate including Quays Farm are located at the English Heritage National Monuments Record (SB00524).

### **3 METHODOLOGY**

3.1 The ground conditions were not appropriate for fieldwalking and in agreement with Jess Tipper of SCC AS-CT this part of the evaluation was not undertaken.



3.2 Eleven trial trenches providing a c.5% sample of the site were excavated using a 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. The trench locations were approved by Suffolk County Council, Archaeological Service Conservation Team. The individual trenches were linear in plan and were 40m in length. They were all 2m in width and arranged in a grid pattern (Fig. 2). Minor alterations were made to the location of Trenches 1 and 2 due to the presence of mature trees and power lines in the northern part of the site.

3.3 Undifferentiated overburden was removed under close archaeological supervision using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. Thereafter, all further investigation was undertaken by hand. Exposed surfaces were cleaned as appropriate and examined for archaeological features and finds. Deposits were recorded using *pro forma* recording sheets, drawn to scale and photographed. Excavated spoil was checked for finds and the trenches were scanned by metal detector.

## 4 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

Individual trench descriptions are presented below.

### Trench 1 (Figs. 2 & 10, DP 1 – 3)

<i>Sample Section 1A: West End, North Facing</i>			
<i>0.00m = 63.30m AOD</i>			
0.00m – 0.11m	–	L1000	Topsoil. Mid to dark yellow brown, friable, sandy silt
0.11m – 0.25m	–	L1001	Subsoil. Mid to light brown grey, friable, silt
0.25m+		L1003	Natural.
<i>Sample Section 1B: East End, North Facing</i>			
<i>0.00m = 65.39m AOD</i>			
0.00m – 0.22m	–	L1000	Topsoil. As Above.
0.07m – 0.34m	–	L1005	Subsoil. As Above.
1.30m +		L1003	Natural. As Above.

*Description: Trench 1 contained Ditch F1012, three rectangular pits (F1016, F1018 and F1038), a ?Well (F1014), a gully (F1036), and pits (F1020 and F1032)*

Ditch F1012 was linear in plan (2.10 x 0.84 x 0.15m), orientated N/S. It had shallow sides and an irregular concave base. Its fill, L1013, was a mid yellow brown, compact, clay silt with moderate medium flint and small chalk. No finds were present.

?Well F1014 was circular in plan (0.66+ x 0.48+ x 1.42m (augured depth)). It had steep sides and an unknown base. Its fill, L1015, was a mid grey brown, compact, clay silt with occasional small flint and chalk flecks. Three sherds of

medieval pottery (12<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> C) and a struck flint (6g) were recovered from L1015. F1014 was cut by Pit F1016.

Pit F1016 was rectangular in plan (4.28+ x 0.63 x 0.68m). It had steep sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1017, was a mid yellow brown, compact clay silt with moderate chalk flecks and nodules and occasional angular flint. Finds recovered from this deposit comprise 38 sherds of medieval pottery (181g; late 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> C), a flint thumbnail scraper (9g) and slag (299g). F1016 cut Well F1014.

Pit F1018 was rectangular in plan (5.50+ x 2.10+ 0.58m). It had steep near vertical sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1019, was a mid yellow brown with patches of orange mottling, compact, clay silt with occasional charcoal flecks and moderate chalk and flint nodules. L1019 contained a residual sherd of Roman pottery and medieval pottery (85g; mid 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> C), CBM (4g), animal bone (1g), struck flint (4g), slag (1095g) and iron nails (5g). F1018 was cut by Gully F1036.

Pit F1020 was oval in plan (0.39 x 0.25 x 0.11m). It had steep sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1021, was a mid brown grey, firm clay silt with occasional charcoal flecks. L1021 contained a sherd of Roman pottery (5g) and animal bone (22g).

Pit F1032 was oval in plan (1.38 x 1.04 x 0.21m). It had steep sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1033, was mid yellow brown, firm clay silt with occasional charcoal flecks and moderate chalk flecks. No finds were present in the fill.

Gully F1036 was linear in plan (2.58 x 0.30 x 0.23m) orientated NW/SE. It had vertical sides and flattish base. Its fill, L1037, was a mid orange brown, compact silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and flint stones. It cut Pits F1018 and F1038. No finds were present.

Pit F1038 was rectangular in plan (1.80+ x 0.82+ x 0.31m) orientated NW/SE. It had vertical sides and a flattish base. It contained two fills. Its basal fill, L1039, was mid brown orange, firm sandy clay with occasional charcoal flecks. The upper fill, L1046, was a brown, firm, sandy clay. F1038 was cut by Gully F1036. No finds were present.

## **Trench 2** (Figs. 2 & 11, DPs 4 & 5)

<i>Sample Section 2A: North End, West Facing</i>		
<i>0.00m = 66.85m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.16m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above Tr.1.
0.16 – 0.36m	L1001	Subsoil. As Above Tr.1.
0.36m+	L1003	Natural. As Above Tr.1.

<i>Sample Section 2B: South End, West Facing</i> <i>0.00m = 68.04m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.20m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above Tr.1.
0.20 – 0.36m	L1001	Subsoil. As Above Tr.1.
0.36 – 0.52m	L1002	Subsoil. Light orange grey, firm, clay silt with occasional rounded flint and chalk.
0.52m+	L1003	Natural. As Above Tr1.

*Description: Trench 2 contained three gullies (F1022, F1024 and F1044), three small pits (F1026, F1028 and F1034), two large pits (F1040 and F1042), a shallow depression (F1030) and a modern animal burial (unexcavated).*

Gully F1022 was linear in plan (2.00+ x 0.81 x 0.25m), orientated WNW/ESE. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1023, was a mid yellow brown, hard clay silt with occasional chalk and flint. It was cut by shallow Depression F1030. No finds were present.

Gully F1024 was linear in plan (2.00 x 1.12 x 0.22m), orientated E/W. It had moderately steep sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1025, was a mid yellow brown, hard, clay silt with occasional chalk and flint. It cut Pits F1026 and F1028. No finds were present.

Pit F1026 was oval in plan (0.66 x 0.50 x 0.30m). It had steep sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1027, was a mid yellow/grey brown, firm silty clay. It was cut by Gully F1024. No finds were present.

Pit F1028 was circular in plan (0.64 x 0.70 x 0.22m). It had shallow sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1029, was a mid yellow/grey brown, hard silty clay with occasional chalk and flint stones. It was cut by Gully F1024. No finds were present.

Depression F1030 was an irregular linear feature in plan (2.00 x 1.20 x 0.08m), orientated E/W. It had shallow irregular sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1031, was a mid yellow/grey brown, firm clay silt with occasional chalk and flint gravel. No finds were present.

Pit F1034 was sub-circular in plan (0.94 x 0.84 x 0.10m). It had shallow sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1035 was a mid yellow brown, compact clay silt with occasional medium flint and chalk stones. L1035 contained burnt stone (371g).

Large Pit F1040 was sub-rectangular in plan (0.55+ x 0.90+ x 0.58m). It had steep sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1041, was a mid yellow brown, compact clay silt with moderate chalk flecks and occasional flint stones. It was cut by Pits F1028 and F1042. No finds were present.

Large Pit F1042 was sub-rectangular in plan (2.55 x 1.50+ x 0.91m). It had steep sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1043, was a mid orange brown, compact clay silt with moderate chalk flecks and occasional flint and chalk stones. L1043 contained six sherds of medieval pottery (40g; mid 12<sup>th</sup> – mid

14<sup>th</sup> C) and animal bone (159g). Pit F1042 cut Pit F1040 and was cut by Gully F1044.

Gully F1044 was linear in plan (2.00 x 0.86 x 0.24m), orientated E/W. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1045, was a mid yellow brown, compact clay silt with occasional chalk flecks and flint stones. L1045 contained two sherds of medieval pottery (3g; mid 12<sup>th</sup> – mid 14<sup>th</sup> C) and animal bone (76g). F1044 cut large Pit F1042.

### Trench 3 (Fig. 2)

<i>Sample Section 3A: West End, North Facing</i>		
<i>0.00m = 68.40m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.20m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above Tr.1.
0.20 – 0.36m	L1001	Subsoil. As Above Tr.1.
0.36 – 0.44m	L1002	Subsoil. As Above Tr. 2.
0.44m+	L1003	Natural. As Above Tr.1.

<i>Sample Section 3B: East End, North Facing</i>		
<i>0.00m = 68.66m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.20m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above Tr.1.
0.20 – 0.36m	L1001	Subsoil. As Above Tr.1.
0.36 – 0.44m	L1002	Subsoil. As Above Tr.2.
0.44m+	L1003	Natural. As Above Tr.1.

*Description:* No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 3.

### Trench 4 (Fig. 2)

<i>Sample Section 4A: North End, West Facing</i>		
<i>0.00m = 68.75m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.28m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above TR1.
0.28 – 0.55m	L1001	Upper Subsoil. As Above TR1.
0.55 – 0.68m	L1002	Lower Subsoil. As Above TR 2.
0.68m+	L1003	Natural. As Above TR1.

<i>Sample Section 4B: East End, North Facing</i>		
<i>0.00m = 69.39m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.20m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above TR1.
0.20 – 0.38m	L1001	Upper Subsoil. As Above TR1.
0.38 – 0.45m	L1002	Lower Subsoil. As Above TR 2.
0.45m+	L1003	Natural. As Above TR1.

*Description:* No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 4.

**Trench 5** (Fig. 2)

<i>Sample Section 5A: North End, West Facing</i> <i>0.00m = 68.04m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.16m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above Tr.1.
0.16 – 0.37m	L1001	Subsoil. As Above Tr.1.
0.68m+	L1003	Natural. As Above Tr.1.

<i>Sample Section 5B: South End, West Facing</i> <i>0.00m = 68.39m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.18m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above Tr.1.
0.18 – 0.38m	L1001	Upper Subsoil. As Above Tr.1.
0.38 – 0.48m	L1002	Lower Subsoil. As Above Tr. 2.
0.48m+	L1003	Natural. As Above Tr.1.

*Description:* No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 5.

**Trench 6** (Fig. 2)

<i>Sample Section 6A: West End, North Facing</i> <i>0.00m = 69.12m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.18m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above Tr.1.
0.18 – 0.38m	L1001	Subsoil. As Above Tr.1.
0.38 – 0.46m	L1002	Subsoil. As Above Tr.2.
0.46m+	L1003	Natural. As Above Tr.1.

<i>Sample Section 6B: East End, North Facing</i> <i>0.00m = 69.52m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.16m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above Tr.1.
0.16 – 0.34m	L1001	Subsoil. As Above Tr.1.
0.34 – 0.48m	L1002	Subsoil. As Above Tr.2.
0.48m+	L1003	Natural. As Above Tr.1.

*Description:* No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 6.

**Trench 7** (Figs. 2 & 11, DP 6)

<i>Sample Section 7A: West End, South Facing</i> <i>0.00m = 70.46m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.15m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above Tr.1.
0.15 – 0.40m	L1001	Subsoil. As Above Tr.1.
0.40 – 0.52m	L1002	Subsoil. As Above Tr.2.
0.52m+	L1003	Natural. As Above Tr.1.

<i>Sample Section 7B: East End, South Facing</i> 0.00m = 68.92m AOD		
0.00 – 0.14m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above Tr.1.
0.14 – 0.35m	L1001	Subsoil. As Above Tr.1.
0.35 – 0.42m	L1002	Subsoil. As Above Tr.2.
0.42m+	L1003	Natural. As Above Tr.1.

*Description:* Trench 7 contained Ditch F1004 and two animal burials (F1008 and F1010).

Ditch F1004 was linear in plan (2.10+ x 1.94 x 0.82m), orientated NE/SW. It had steep sides and a concave base. Its upper fill, L1007, was mid orange brown, compact silty clay with occasional charcoal, chalk and flint stones. L1007 contained five sherds of residual medieval pottery (12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> C), post-medieval CBM (64g), a shotgun cartridge (3g), a fragment roofing slate (93g), and coke/clinker (12g). The middle fill, L1006, was a mottled mid yellow and orange brown, compact, sandy clay with occasional charcoal flecks and frequent flint and chalk. A ferrous metal cart wheel rim was present within the section (DP 6). The basal fill, L1005, was a dark brown grey, firm organic clay silt with occasional flint, chalk and charcoal flecks. No finds were present.

Animal Burial Pit F1008 was sub-oval in plan (0.61 x 0.44 x 0.10m). It had vertical sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1009, was a mid orange grey, firm silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks. L1009 contained the bones from an immature pig (251g; Animal Bone report Appendix 5).

Pit F1010 was sub-rectangular in plan (0.83 x 0.40 x 0.10m). It had vertical sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1011, was a mid orange grey, firm silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks. L1011 contained the bones from three foetal or neonate pigs (62g; Animal Bone report Appendix 5) and iron wire (3g).

### **Trench 8** (Fig. 23)

<i>Sample Section 8A: North End, West Facing</i> 0.00m = 69.00m AOD		
0.00 – 0.20m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above Tr.1.
0.20 – 0.38m	L1001	Subsoil. As Above Tr.1.
0.38 – 0.48m	L1002	Subsoil. As Above Tr. 2.
0.48m+	L1003	Natural. As Above Tr.1.

<i>Sample Section 8B: South End, West Facing</i> 0.00m = 69.17m AOD		
0.00 – 0.18m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above Tr. 1.
0.18 – 0.34m	L1001	Subsoil. As Above Tr.1.
0.34 – 0.44m	L1002	Subsoil. As Above Tr. 2.
0.44m+	L1003	Natural. As Above Tr.1.

*Description:* No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 8.

### Trench 9 (Fig. 2)

<i>Sample Section 9A: North End, West Facing</i> <i>0.00m = 69.46m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.18m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above Tr.1.
0.18 – 0.34m	L1001	Subsoil. As Above Tr.1.
0.34 – 0.44m	L1002	Subsoil. As Above Tr.2.
0.44m+	L1003	Natural. As Above Tr.1.

<i>Sample Section 9B: South End, West Facing</i> <i>0.00m = 69.67m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.20m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above Tr.1.
0.20 – 0.36m	L1001	Subsoil. As Above Tr.1.
0.36 – 0.50m	L1002	Subsoil. As Above Tr.2.
0.50m+	L1003	Natural. As Above Tr.1.

*Description:* Trench 9 contained two modern postholes (not recorded). No archaeological features or finds were present.

### Trench 10 (Fig. 2)

<i>Sample Section 10A: North End, West Facing</i> <i>0.00m = 68.92m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.20m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above Tr.1.
0.20 – 0.36m	L1001	Subsoil. As Above Tr.1.
0.36 – 0.42m	L1002	Subsoil. As Above Tr. 2.
0.42m+	L1003	Natural. As Above Tr.1.

<i>Sample Section 10B: South End, West Facing</i> <i>0.00m = 69.16m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.20m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above Tr. 1.
0.20 – 0.34m	L1001	Subsoil. As Above Tr.1.
0.34 – 0.42m	L1002	Subsoil. As Above Tr. 2.
0.42m+	L1003	Natural. As Above Tr.1.

*Description:* No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 10.

### Trench 11 (Fig. 2)

<i>Sample Section 11A: West End, North Facing</i> <i>0.00m = 69.46m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.18m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above Tr.1.
0.18 – 0.40m	L1001	Subsoil. As Above Tr.1.
0.40 – 0.50m	L1002	Subsoil. As Above Tr.2.
0.50m+	L1003	Natural. As Above Tr.1.

<i>Sample Section 11B: East End, North Facing</i>		
<i>0.00m = 69.96m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.18m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above Tr.1.
0.18 – 0.38m	L1001	Subsoil. As Above Tr.1.
0.38 – 0.50m	L1002	Subsoil. As Above Tr.2.
0.50m+	L1003	Natural. As Above Tr.1.

*Description:* No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 11.

## **5 CONFIDENCE RATING**

5.1 It is not felt that any factors restricted the identification of archaeological features or the recovery of artefacts and/or ecofacts during the evaluation.

## **6 DEPOSIT MODEL**

6.1 Topsoil L1000 was the uppermost layer across the site. It was a mid to dark yellow brown, friable sandy silt (0.14m to 0.28m). It overlay Subsoil L1001 a mid to light brown grey, compact, clay silt with occasional flint and chalk. Subsoil L1001 overlay Subsoil L1002 a light orange grey, firm clay silt with occasional rounded flint stones and chalk. L1002 was absent from the northern area of the site in Trench 1 and the northern half of Trench 2. The Natural Drift Geology was present below Subsoil L1002 and was a light orange with yellow/white patches, firm sandy clay with moderate flint. In Trench 1 it was entirely a light yellow white, firm, chalky clay with moderate flint.

## **7 DISCUSSION**

### *Summary of the archaeology*

7.1 The recorded archaeological features are tabulated:



Trench	Feature	Description	Spot Date
1	F1012	Ditch	-
	F1014	?Well	Mid 12 <sup>th</sup> – 13 <sup>th</sup> C
	F1016	Large Pit	Late 12 <sup>th</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup> C
	F1018	Large Pit	Mid 12 <sup>th</sup> – Mid 14 <sup>th</sup> C
	F1020	Pit	?Roman
	F1032	Pit	-
	F1036	Gully	-
	F1038	Large Pit	-
2	F1022	Gully	-
	F1024	Gully	-
	F1026	Pit	-
	F1028	Pit	-
	F1030	Shallow Depression	-
	F1034	Pit	-
	F1040	Large Pit	-
	F1042	Large Pit	Mid 12 <sup>th</sup> – mid 14 <sup>th</sup> C
	F1044	Gully	Mid 12 <sup>th</sup> – mid 14 <sup>th</sup> C
	Unexcavated	Anthrax Disposal Pit	1930's AD
7	F1004	Ditch	Post – medieval
	F1008	Animal Burial	Post-medieval /modern
	F1010	Animal Burial	Post-medieval /modern

7.2 The evaluation revealed a distinct concentration of 17 features in the northern area of the site (Trenches 1 and 2) adjacent to School Road (Fig.2). Five large pits (F1016, F1018, F1038, F1040 and F1042) and several smaller pits were located within an area defined by Ditch F1012 and gullies (F1022, F1024 and F1044). Three features was located in the south-western sector of the site comprising a large post-medieval boundary ditch (F1004) and two post-medieval or modern animal burials (F1008 and F1010). Five of the features in the northern area were medieval in date (12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> C AD). Pit F1020 contained a sherd of Roman pottery. Medieval Pit F1018 contained a residual sherd of Roman pottery. Pits F1014, F1016 and F1018 (all Tr.1) each contained a residual struck flint.

7.3 The pottery assemblage comprised 71 sherds of pottery, weighing 331g, predominantly medieval (12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> century). Excluding the post-medieval or modern features two features (F1042 and F1044 (both Tr.2) contained the majority of animal bone (235g), smaller quantities were also recovered from the medieval features F1016, F1018 and F1020 (all Tr.1).

#### *Interpretation of the site: archaeology and history*

7.4 The site had good potential for medieval and later archaeological remains, primarily due to its close proximity to School Road and St. Giles Church. There was also a lesser potential for evidence of prehistoric, Roman and Anglo-Saxon activity.

7.5 The principal features are the large Pits F1016, F1018, F1038, F1040 and F1042, and ?Well F1014 dated to the medieval period (12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> century) and located adjacent to School Road. Ditch F1012 (Tr.1) and Gullies F1022, F1024 and F1044 (Tr.2) appeared to form a boundary, possibly a plot located off School Road. Large Pits F1040 and F1042 and ?Well F1014 were cut by medieval features suggesting the presence of at least two phases of activity.

7.6 Ditch F1004 indicates the presence of a post-medieval boundary on an alignment which did not readily tie in with the cartographic evidence. The animal burials (F1008 & F1010 Tr.7) were undated but were likely post-medieval or modern.

7.7 The findings of the evaluation have supported the archaeological potential suggested in the brief and combines with the known medieval activity in the area, such as that 130m to the west RBY 038, to increase understanding of the medieval period in Risby. It has demonstrated that the medieval activity is limited to the northern area of the site adjacent to the road. The location of the site within the medieval core of the village indicates that it is likely that further work at this site will contribute to a greater understanding of character and form of medieval Risby. This is of particular significance as both Wade (in Brown & Glazebrook 2000, 25) and Medlycott & Brown (2008, 96) identify the further study of medieval rural settlements as important research subjects for the eastern counties. The identification of this activity will contribute to the existing corpus of information regarding medieval rural settlement in East Anglia and may be incorporated into the creation and testing of settlement diversity models (Wade in Brown & Glazebrook 2000, 25). It is possible that through characterisation of the activity identified at this location that the site may contribute to related research subjects identified by both Wade (in Brown & Glazebrook 2000, 23-26) and Medlycott and Brown (2008, 96-98) such as demographics/population density, agricultural production or craft and industry.

## **8 DEPOSITION OF ARCHIVE**

8.1 Archive records, with an inventory, will be deposited at the County Historic Environment Record. The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency. In addition to the overall site summary, it will be necessary to produce a summary of the artefactual and ecofactual data.

8.2 The archive will be deposited within six months of the conclusion of the fieldwork. It will be prepared in accordance with the UK Institute for Conservation's *Conservation Guideline No.2* and according to the document *Deposition of Archaeological Archives in Suffolk* (SCC AS Conservation Team, 2008).

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## APPENDIX 1 HER INFORMATION

SHER Number	National Grid Reference	Details
<i>Prehistoric 700,000 BC – AD 43</i>		
RBY 026	8035 6595	Leaf shaped arrowhead found in a garden
RBY 033	8041 6631	An evaluation identified to possibly natural features containing two abraded sherds of late Bronze Age/early Iron Age pottery
RBY 034	792 663	An evaluation at Risby Business Park located a small quantity of handmade Iron Age and medieval pottery, an infilled pond and two post-medieval ditches. The centre of the site was severely truncated
<i>Roman AD 43-410</i>		
RBY 018	7965 6635	Bronze brooch from Driftwood
<i>Medieval 1066-1539</i>		
RBY 024	8022 6637	Church of St Giles
RBY 036	7961 6657	Risby Manor South: archaeological monitoring during construction of an extension revealed only medieval and post-medieval pottery, animal bone and post-medieval CBM
<i>Post-medieval 1539-1900</i>		
RBY 040	7999 6579	'Risby Nursery Works (Brick)' with 'kiln', 'clay pit. And 'sand pits' shown on 1885 map
<i>Modern 1900+</i>		
RBY 030	7956 6585	Post-medieval milestone shown on 1960 and 1983 OS maps
<i>Multi-period</i>		
RBY 038	7987 6639	Land North of School Road: evaluation identified three linear features containing medieval material c.35m north from the road frontage which may represent former field boundaries
<i>Undated</i>		
RBY 028	8025 6745	Old Broom ancient woodland
RBY 031	7995 6696	Risby Little Wood ancient woodland with a substantial bank and ditch on the NW side visible from road
RBY 032	8019 6639	Small mound c.15m diameter with a square building on top shown in garden south of the rectory on 1880s and 1904 OS maps

## APPENDIX 2 LISTED BUILDINGS

Listed Building Number	National Grid Reference	Name
283785	80242 66323	Church Cottages
283783	80219 66377	St Giles Church
283784	80222 66320	Church House and St Giles Cottage
283797	80096 66341	Quays House
383798	80280 66369	The Gate House Cottage

## APPENDIX 3 CARTOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Figure	Map	Date	Source/Reference	Scale
1	Site location	Modern	(OS Explorer)	1:25,000
2	Detailed site location	Modern	The Client	1:2,500
3	HER information (AS)	Modern	SHER	1:10,000
4	Hodkinson's Map of Suffolk	1783	BRO	
5	Enclosure map	1801	BRO: FL618/1/4	
6	Tithe map	1839	BRO: EL129/3/2	
7	OS Map	1890	BRO: XLIII. NE & BRO: XLIV.NW	1:2,500
8	OS Map	1904	BRO: XLIII.4 & XLIV.1	1:10,560
9	OS Map	1938	BRO: XL.IV NW	1:10,560

**APPENDIX 4 FINDS CONCORDANCE**

Feature	Context	Trench	Description	Spot Date	Pottery	CBM (g)	A.Bone (g)	Other	
1004	1007	7	Ditch	12 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup>	(5) 5g	64		Shotgun Shell 3g	
								Coke 12g	
								Slate 93g	
								Fe Fragment 9g	
1008	1009	7	Pit				251		
1010	1011	7	Pit				62	Fe Wire 3g	
1014	1015	1	?Well	Mid 12 <sup>th</sup> -13 <sup>th</sup>	(3) 13g			S.Flnt (1) 6g	
1016	1017	1	Pit	Late 12 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup>	(38) 181g		10	Flint Scraper 9g	
								Slag 299g	
1018	1019	1	Pit	Mid 12 <sup>th</sup> -13 <sup>th</sup> /mid 14 <sup>th</sup>	(15) 85g	4	1	Fe Nails 5g	
								S.Flnt (1) 4g	
								Slag 1095g	
1020	1021	1	Pit	Mid to late 1 <sup>st</sup> century	(2) 4g			22	
1034	1035	2	Pit						B.Stone 371g
1042	1043	2	Pit	Mid 12 <sup>th</sup> – 13 <sup>th</sup> /mid 14 <sup>th</sup>	(6) 40g			159	
1044	1045	2	Gully	Mid 12 <sup>th</sup> -13 <sup>th</sup> /mid 14 <sup>th</sup>	(2) 3g			76	

## **APPENDIX 5      SPECIALISTS' REPORTS**

### **The Roman Pottery**

*Andrew Peachey*

The trial trench evaluation recovered two sherds (6g) of Roman pottery in a slightly abraded condition. Pit F1020 (L1021) contained a body sherd (5g) of Southern British 'Belgic' grog-tempered ware that probably dates to the mid to late 1<sup>st</sup> century AD. Medieval Pit F1018 (L1019) contained a very small residual body sherd (1g) of Lezoux Samian ware that would have been produced in the 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD.

### **The Medieval Pottery**

*Peter Thompson*

The evaluation recovered 38 sherds of medieval pottery, weighing 317g, from five features. The assemblage is in overall good condition with only slight to moderate abrasion, suggesting that much of the pottery is in a primary deposition. Only one rim sherd was present. The pottery is quantified below by feature.

The demonstrably earliest sherd is a St Neots ware from Pit F1016. The bulk of the assemblage comprises medieval coarse wares which are dominated by a grey ware with micaceous surfaces and white quartz inclusions. The fabric is almost identical with Hedingham coarse fine ware and so was probably imported from around Sible Hedingham. The fabric however, also has similarities with one of the local Bury St Edmunds fabrics (Spoilheap Archaeology), and it is possible that it was produced there, although the town has no published medieval kiln sites.

Pit F1014 contained a glazed sherd of Hedingham fine ware containing Rouen-style applied white slip line and dot decoration suggesting a date of the late 12<sup>th</sup> to late 13<sup>th</sup> centuries (Cottar 2000). Three oxidised sherds from Pit F1016, one with glaze and one with all over white slip, are probably Colchester wares dating between the late 12<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> centuries, although the ware is not particularly common until the mid 13<sup>th</sup> century.

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### **Web Site**

[www.spoilheap.co.uk](http://www.spoilheap.co.uk) – Bury coarse ware

Type	Feature	Context	Amount	Date	Comment
Ditch	1004	1007	1x4g MCW4	12 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup>	
Pit	1014	1015	1x6g MCW4 1x5g MCW6 1x1g HFW	Mid 12 <sup>th</sup> -13 <sup>th</sup>	Rouen style white slip lines and applied dots
Pit	1016	1017	1x2g SNEOT 1x2g MCW1 4x12g MCW2 1x3g MCW3 1x7g MCW4 1x1g MCW5 24x142g HCWF 4x9g COL	Late 12 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup>	MCW2: short everted rim to neckless jar HCWF: x1 slightly sagging base, x1 body sherd with wavy line deco COL x1 white slip, x1 glazed
Pit	1018	1019	1x2g MCW1 1x6g MCW 4 8x64g HCWF 1x7g MCW5	Mid 12 <sup>th</sup> -13 <sup>th</sup> /mid 14 <sup>th</sup>	
Pit	1042	1043	6x39g HCWF	Mid 12 <sup>th</sup> – 13 <sup>th</sup> /mid 14 <sup>th</sup>	
Gully	1044	1045	2x5g HCWF	Mid 12 <sup>th</sup> -13 <sup>th</sup> /mid14 <sup>th</sup>	

**KEY:**

SNEOT: St Neots ware 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>

HFW: Hedingham fine ware (Cottar 2000) mid 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>/mid 14<sup>th</sup>

HCWF: Hedingham fine coarseware (Cottar 2006) mid 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>/mid 14<sup>th</sup>

MCW1: Common sub-rounded sub-angular grey, white and clear and occasional pink quartz. Occasional burnt organics and calcitic inclusions. Sparse platy shell on external surface 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>

MCW2: Fabric similar to HCWF with occasional white quartz or calcitic inclusions. Thin sherds, pale brown surfaces and pale grey cores mid 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>

MCW3: Fine sandy fabric with rare other inclusions such as chalk or clay pellets 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>

MCW4: Sandy matrix with sparse to common coarse rounded to sub-rounded Quartz 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>

MCW5: Sparse to moderate medium to coarse rounded coloured quartz. Voids and fine white calcareous inclusions 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>

MCW6: Sandy matrix with sparse to moderate medium quartz and occasional other inclusions of clay pellets, calcareous and ferruginous material. Oxidised surfaces and pale grey core 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>

COL: Colchester ware (Cottar 2000) late 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>

**The Struck Flint**

*Andrew Peachey*



The trial trench evaluation recovered three residual flakes (19g) or un-patinated struck flint including a blade, thumbnail scraper and debitage flake.

Pit F1018 (L1019) contained a residual blade (4g) with a prepared (abraded) striking platform and traces of wear on one straight lateral edge that is typical of earlier Neolithic flint technology.

Pit F1016 (L1017) contained a residual thumbnail scraper (9g) formed by the application of steep, abrupt re-touch around the curving distal end and lateral edges of an un-corticated flake. This type of scraper is characteristic of early Bronze Age flint technology, and the irregular debitage flake (6g) contained in Pit F1014 (L1015) probably has similar origins.

### **The Ceramic Building Materials**

*Andrew Peachey*

The trial trench evaluation recovered a total of 12 fragments (68g) of highly abraded post-medieval CBM. Ditch F1004 (L1007) contained 11 very small fragments (64g) in an orange-red, sand-tempered fabric with at least two fragments derived from 12-14mm flat tile, probably peg tile. A further fragment (4g) of comparable form and fabric was contained in Pit F1018 (L1019).

### **The Animal Bone**

*Julia E. Cussans*

Approximately 340 animal bones were recovered from 7 contexts (six pit fills and one gully fill). Mammal bones came from cattle, sheep/goat, pig and dog; a single bird bone was also recovered. The majority of the bones belonged to pig and came from just two of the pits. Pit F1008 (L1009) contained the remains of a single immature (less than 6 months old) pig; the bones were in excellent condition and no butchery marks were present. The bones included limb and foot bones, ribs and vertebrae; no bones of the head were present. The single bird bone also came from this deposit. Pit F1010 (L1011) contained the semi-complete remains of three foetal or neonate pigs; bones included skulls, mandibles, limb bones, ribs and a few vertebrae; no foot bones were noted but these are likely to have been extremely small. The preservation was again excellent and no butchery marks were noted.

Pit F1042 L1043 contained the partial remains of what appeared to be a single, adult dog including limb, foot and rib bones. The bones were in excellent condition, one limb bone had a minor pathology on it and no butchery was observed. The remaining four contexts contained much smaller quantities of bone in a generally poorer condition including some abraded and dog gnawed bones; a single burnt bone was also present.

Pit F1008 L1009, Pit F1010 L1011 and Pit F1042 L1043 are potentially interesting as associated bone groups (possible special deposits/animal

burials) and represent primary deposition. The other remains are of less interest and likely represent secondary deposition in the majority of cases.

## **Plant Remains**

*John Summers*

### **Introduction**

Eleven samples were taken during the trial trenching. In total 170 litres of sediment were sampled and processed. This report presents the results of an archaeobotanical assessment of the material intended to assess the potential of the samples and the deposits present at the site.

### **Methodology**

Samples were processed at Archaeological Solutions Ltd offices in Bury St. Edmunds using a Siraf style flotation tank. The light fractions were washed onto a mesh of 250µm (microns), while the heavy fractions were sieved to 500µm.

Once dry, the light fractions were rapidly scanned under a low power stereo microscope (x20 magnification). Remains encountered were identified and recorded using a semi-quantitative scale (X = present; XX = common; XXX = abundant). Reference literature (Cappers *et al.* 2007) and a reference collection of modern seeds were consulted where necessary. Potential contaminants, such as modern roots, seeds and invertebrate fauna were also recorded in order to gain an insight into possible disturbance of the deposits.

### **Results**

The material identified is detailed in Table 1. Most of the plant remains are in the form of carbonised grains and seeds, as well as charcoal. Four samples contained remains which appeared to have been preserved by waterlogging.

#### *Cereals*

Cereal grains were relatively common, being present in five of the 11 samples. Two main cereal types were identified in the samples: hulled barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) and free-threshing wheat (*Triticum aestivum* type). Some of the wheat grains were plump and rounded and could have been of a dense-eared type (*T. aestivo-compactum* type). This is a type of wheat which becomes more common in the Medieval period. Other wheat grains were more slender, suggesting a mixed wheat population.

No chaff elements were present, although there is frequently a preservation bias against such elements due to their lower resilience during carbonisation (Boardman and Jones 1990).

#### *Wild taxa*

Few seeds of wild taxa were present. Identifiable taxa were present only in Sample 6 of L1019, being represented by daisy family (Asteraceae) and dock (*Rumex* sp.). It would seem likely that these represent weeds of cultivated ground, probably being associated with the cereals recovered from the same sample.

#### *Waterlogged plant remains*

Although modern seeds were present in the majority of samples, there were some remains which appeared to have been preserved by waterlogging. A number of taxa were represented, including dead-nettle (*Lamium* sp.), nettle (*Urtica* sp.), campion (cf. *Silene* sp.), dock (*Rumex* sp.) and goosefoot family (Chenopodiaceae). Most of these occupy waste ground, with some, such as nettles, preferring nitrogen rich soils. The majority were from the fills of ditch F1004 and could represent the seeds of plants growing on the ditch margins.

#### *Charcoal*

Charcoal over 2mm was recorded since such material has the potential to be identified further. Six samples contained large charcoal fragments. Only those in Samples 1 (L1013), 4 (L1009) and 6 (L1019) were considered to represent charcoal that could be identified further. The concentration of charcoal fragments was not high but could be used to inform about fuel selection and the exploitation of local woodland resources.

#### *Contamination:*

Modern roots, burrowing molluscs and seeds (predominantly Chenopodiaceae). Such material suggest the potential for bioturbation, which can cause the movement of small items within the stratigraphic profile.

### **Discussion**

The most productive samples for carbonised macrofossils were those from the large pits and ?Well F1014. The occurrence of artefactual remains in these deposits may indicate the presence of domestic midden material resulting from nearby occupation. Ditch F1012 (L1013) also seems to have received occupation debris, perhaps washed in from surrounding ground surfaces.

The relatively good preservation of cereal remains and their frequency suggests that any further work at the site would be likely to produce good assemblages of carbonised macrofossils to allow the analysis of food plants utilised and the arable economy of the site.

If further work were to be conducted at the site, attention should also be paid to the potential presence of waterlogged deposits. Such deposits could

facilitate the preservation of palaeoenvironmental indicators (e.g. pollen and insect remains), as well as other organic materials. Based on present data, ditch feature F1004 had the highest potential for such material, with other pit features producing little evidence of waterlogging.

## **References**

Boardman, S. and Jones, G. 1990, 'Experiments on the effects of charring on cereal plant components' *Journal of Archaeological Science* 17, 1-11

Cappers, R.T.J., Bekker R.M. and Jans J.E.A. 2006, *Digital Seed Atlas of the Netherlands. Groningen Archaeological Studies Volume 4*, Barkhuis Publishing, Eelde

Site code	Sample number	Context	Feature	Feature type	Spot date	Volume (litres)	Cereals			Wild taxa	Charcoal		Contaminants				Comments
							Cereal grains	Cereal chaff	Notes		Charcoal>2mm	Notes	Roots	Molluscs	Modern seeds	Insects	
RBY042	1	1013	1012	Ditch	-	20	0-5	-	<i>Triticum aestivum</i> type; cf. <i>T. dicoccum/spelta</i>	-	-	XX	XX	X	-	-	Cereal grains well preserved. Some molluscs could be archaeological.
RBY042	2	1005	1004	Ditch	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	XX	XX	-	-	Poss. waterlogged seeds ( <i>Lamium</i> sp.; <i>Rumex</i> sp.; <i>Chenopodium</i> sp.; cf. <i>Silene</i> sp.; <i>Sambucus</i> sp.)
RBY042	3	1007	1004	Ditch	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	XX	-	-	No carbonised material
RBY042	4	1009	1008	Animal burial	-	10	-	-	-	-	XX	XX	X	XX	-	-	Abundant mammal bone (neonatal pig - JC). Poss. waterlogged seeds ( <i>Lamium</i> sp.; cf. <i>Silene</i> sp.)
RBY042	5	1011	1010	Animal burial	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	XX	-	X	-	-	Abundant mammal bone. Burnt bone. Poss. waterlogged seeds ( <i>Lamium</i> sp.; cf. <i>Silene</i> sp.)
RBY042	6	1019	1018	Large pit	Mid 12th-13th/mid 14th century	20	0-5	-	<i>Hordeum vulgare</i> ; <i>T. aestivum</i> type.	<i>Rumex</i> sp.; Asteraceae indet.	XX	XX	X	X	-	-	Many silt lumps. Cereal distorted and partially 'clinkered'.
RBY042	7	1015	1014	?Well	Mid 12th-13th century	20	0-5	-	<i>H. vulgare</i>	-	X	XX	-	X	-	-	Silt lumps
RBY042	8	1017	1016	Large pit	Late 12th-14th century	20	5-10	-	<i>H. vulgare</i> ; <i>T. aestivum</i> type	-	-	XX	XX	-	-	-	Some grain well preserved. Some wheat grains quite plump - cf. <i>T. aestivum compactum</i> type
RBY042	9	1033	1032	Pit	-	20	-	-	-	-	-	XX	XX	X	-	-	Only small charcoal fragments present
RBY042	10	1035	1034	Pit	-	10	-	-	-	-	X	XX	X	XX	-	-	Poss. waterlogged seeds ( <i>Polygonum</i> sp.; <i>Urtica</i> sp.; cf. <i>Silene</i> sp.)
RBY042	11	1043	1042	Large pit	Mid 12th-13th/mid 14th century	20	0-5	-	Fragments only	Indet.	XX	XX	XX	XX	-	-	-

Table 1: Results of the assessment of the bulk samples

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



1  
Features in Tr. 1, looking west



2  
F1014 and F1016, Tr. 1, looking south



3  
F1018, Tr. 1, looking south



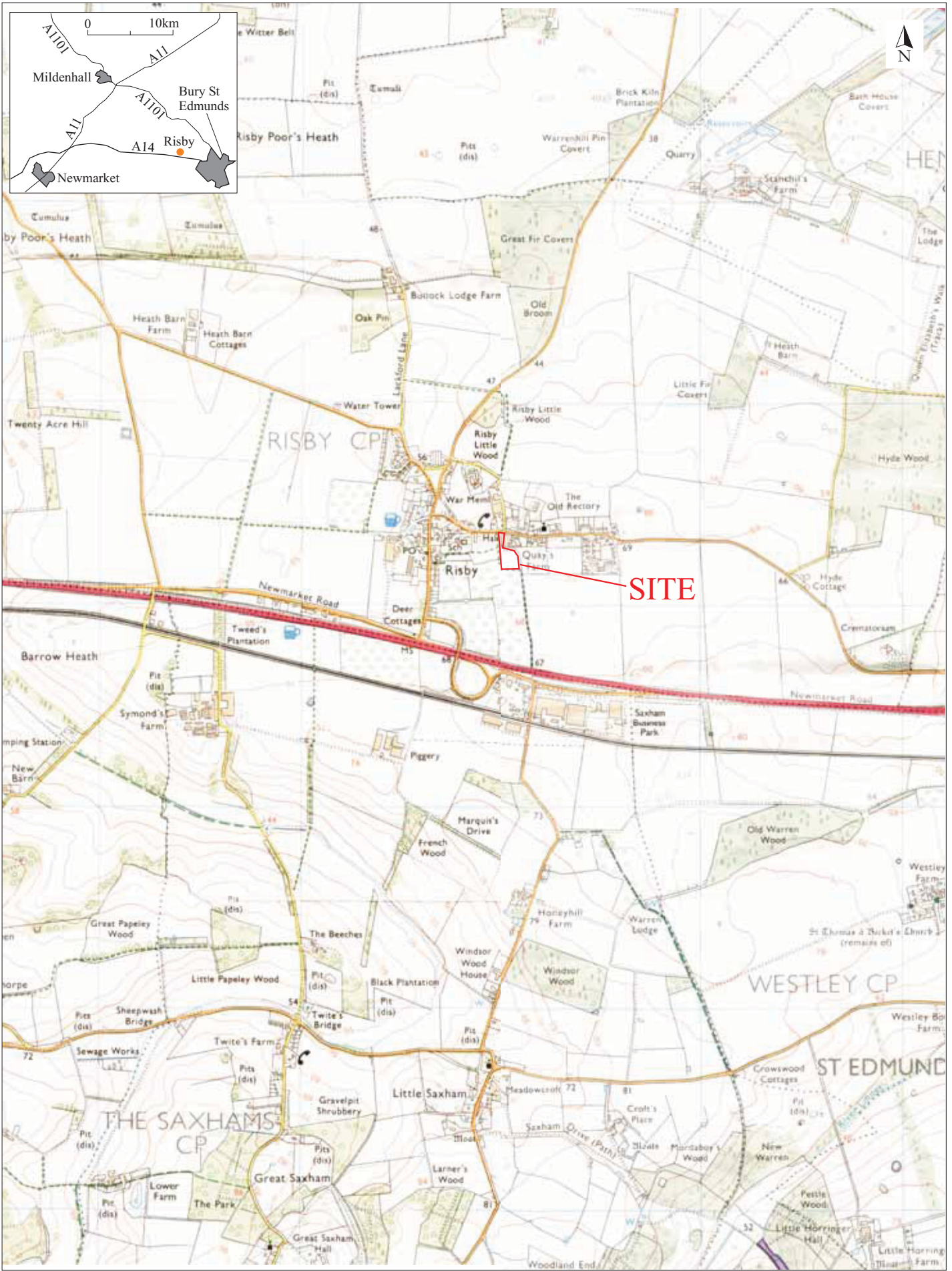
4  
F1024, 1026, 1028. Tr. 2, looking west



5  
F1040, 1042, 1044. Tr. 2, looking west

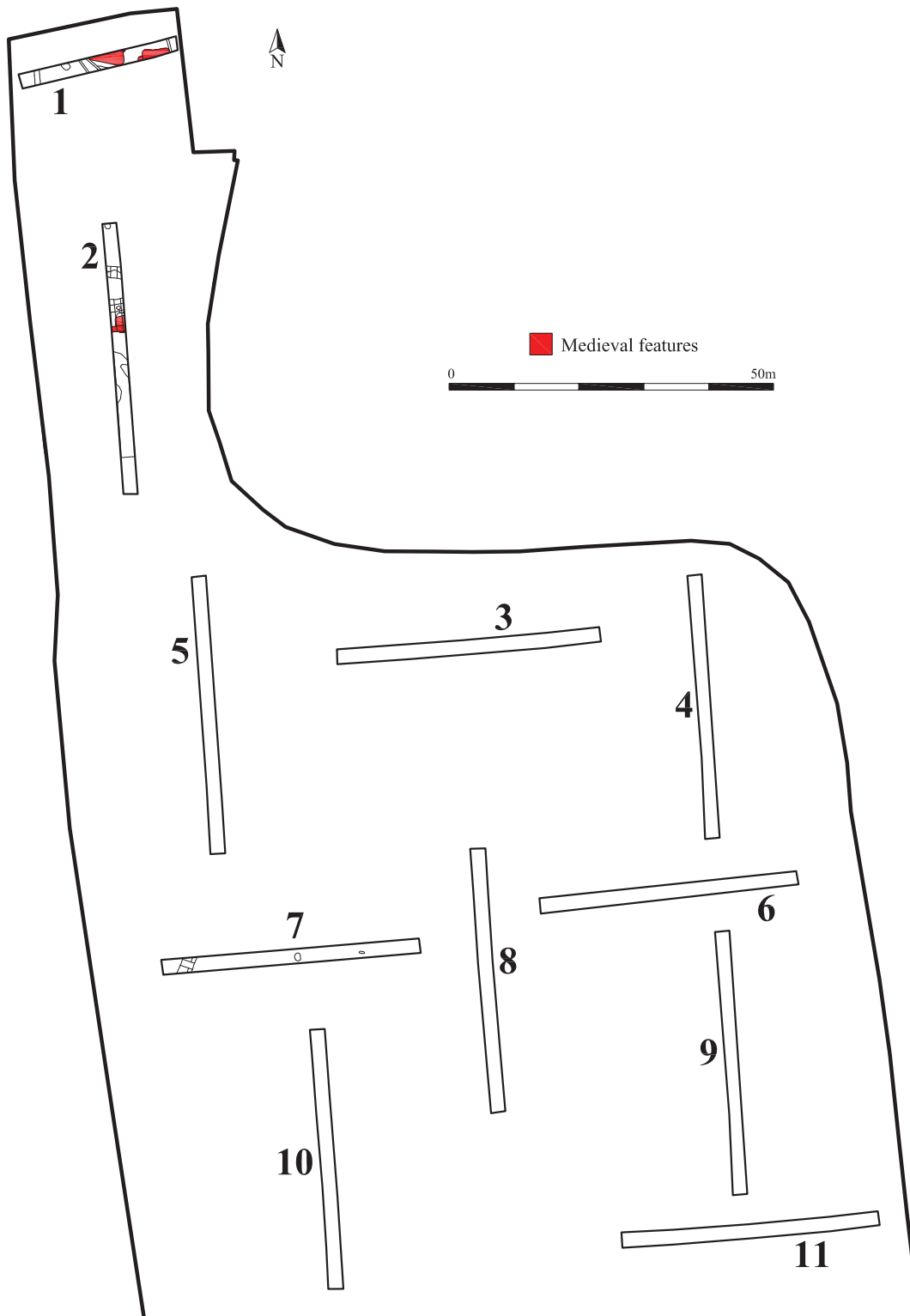


6  
F1004, Tr 7, looking north-east



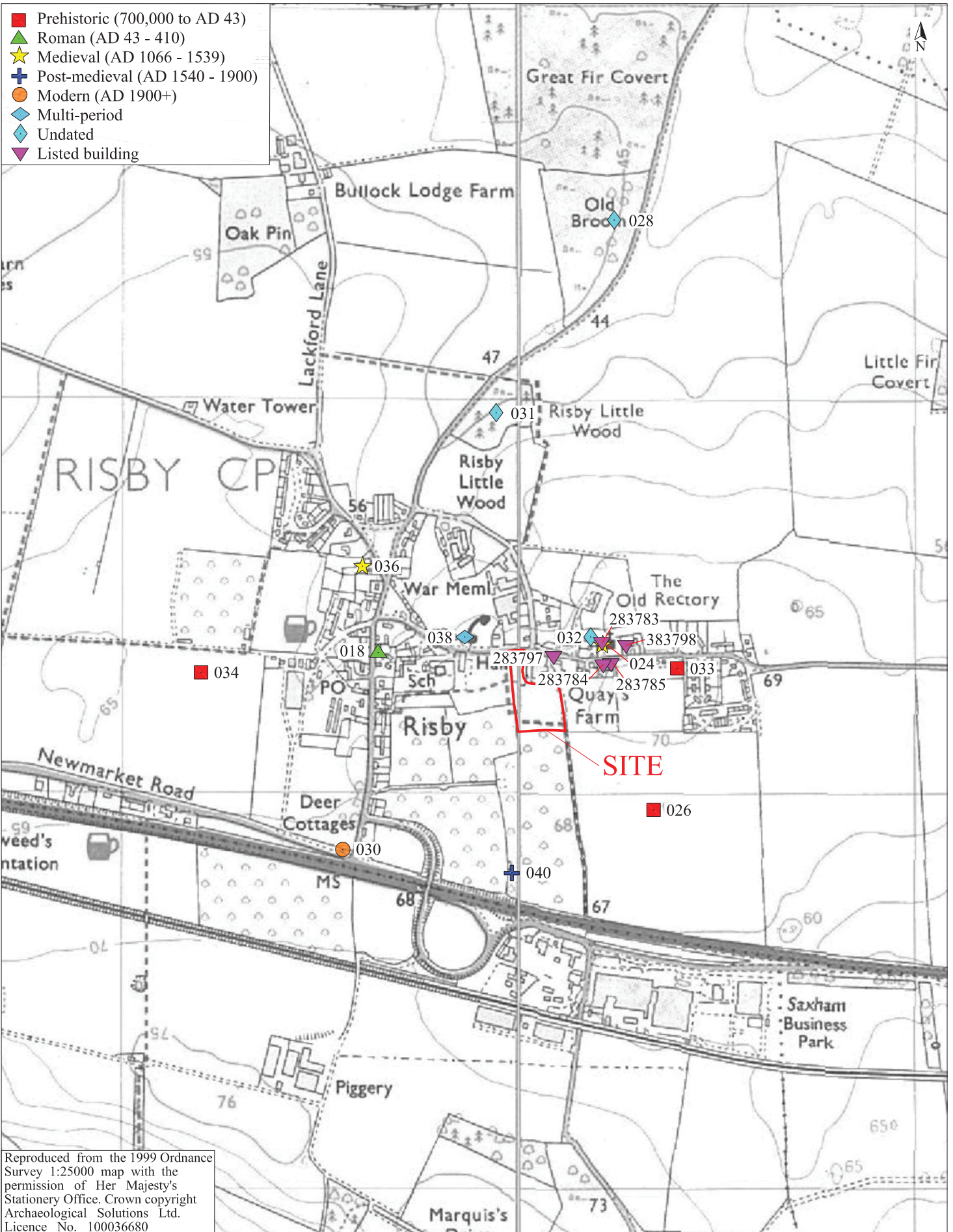
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**Fig. 1 Site location plan**  
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4



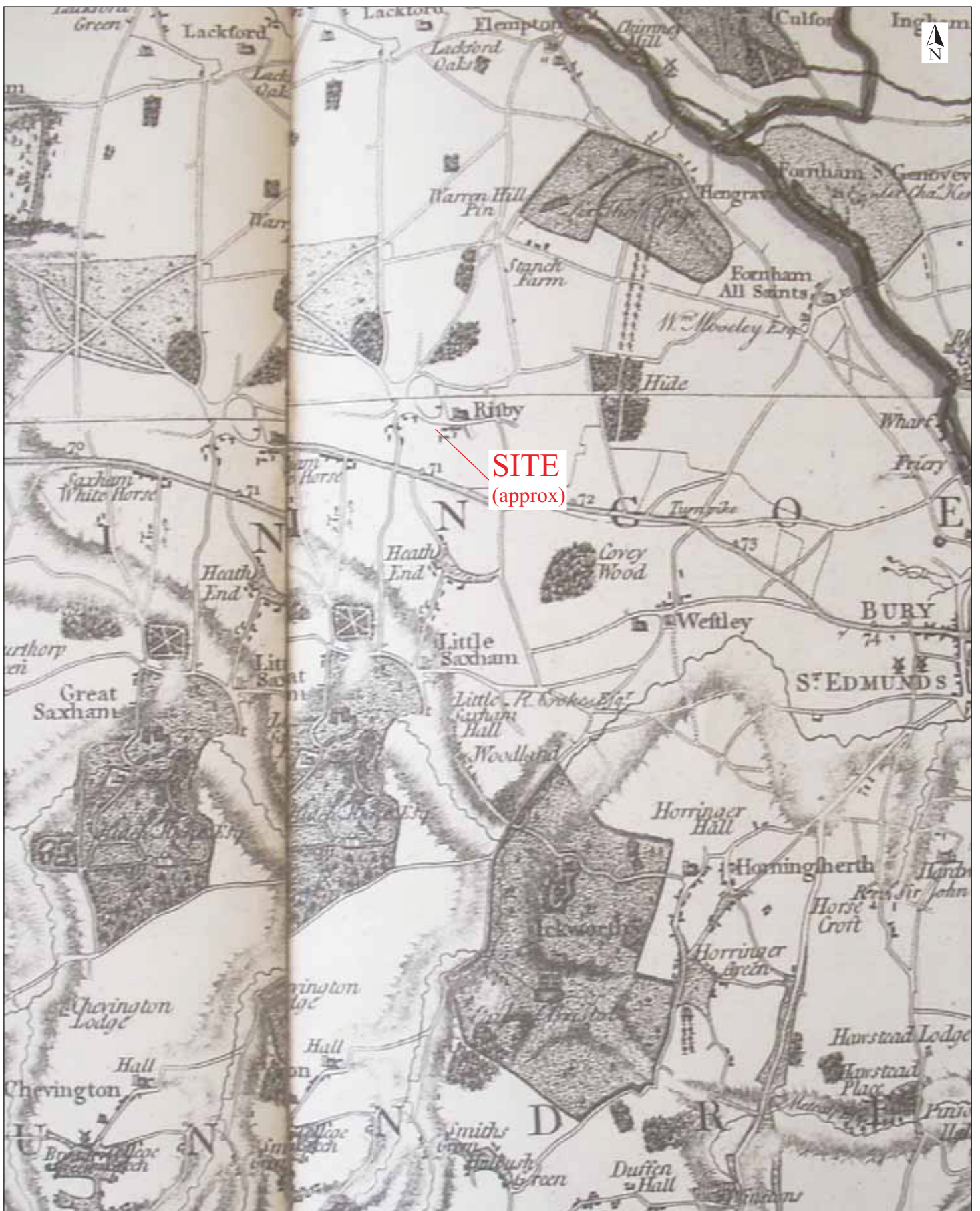
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**Fig. 2 Phase plan**  
Scale 1:1000 at A4



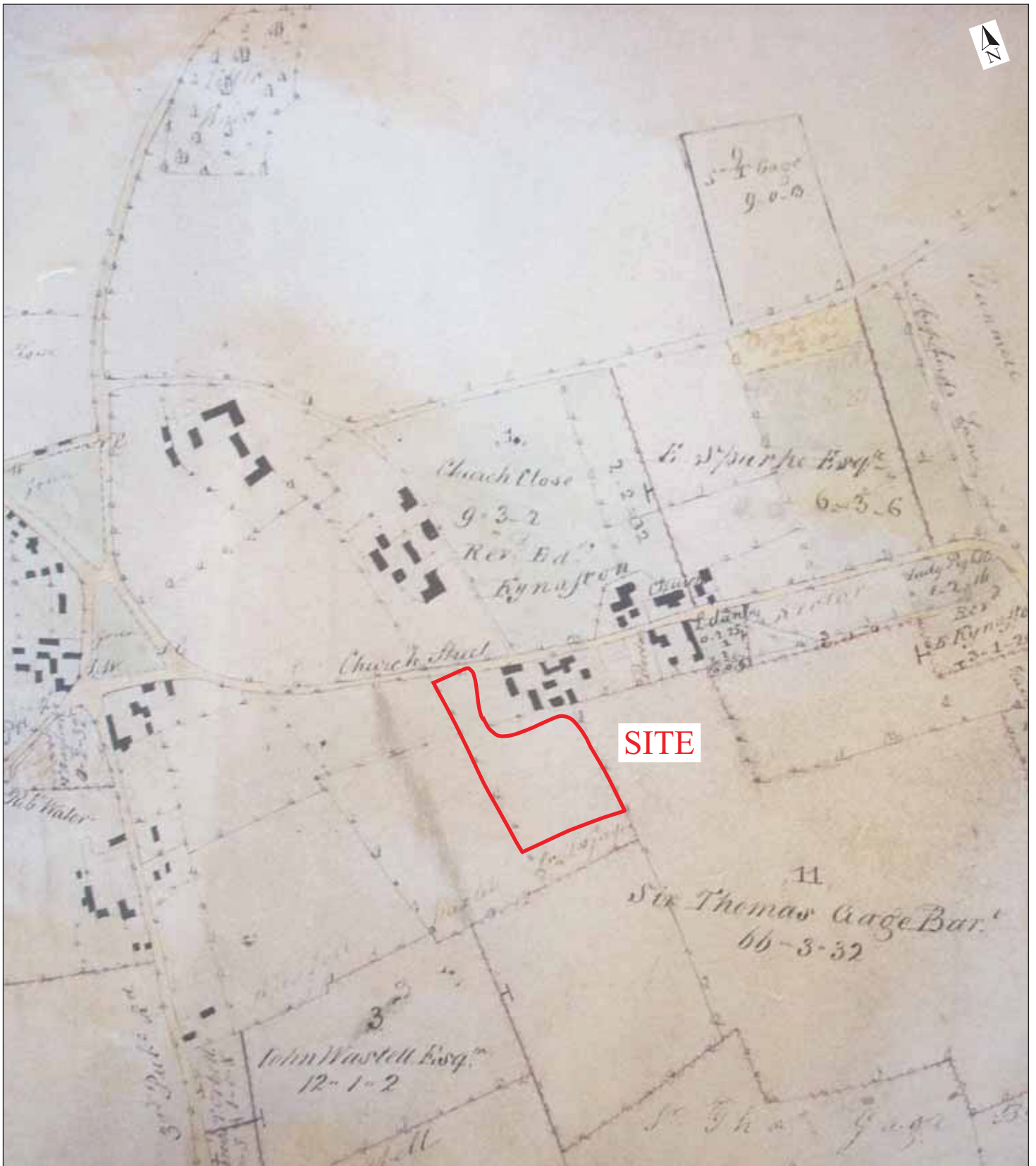


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All numbers prefixed by RBY, except listed buildings



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Fig. 4 Hodkinson's map of Suffolk, 1783  
Not to scale

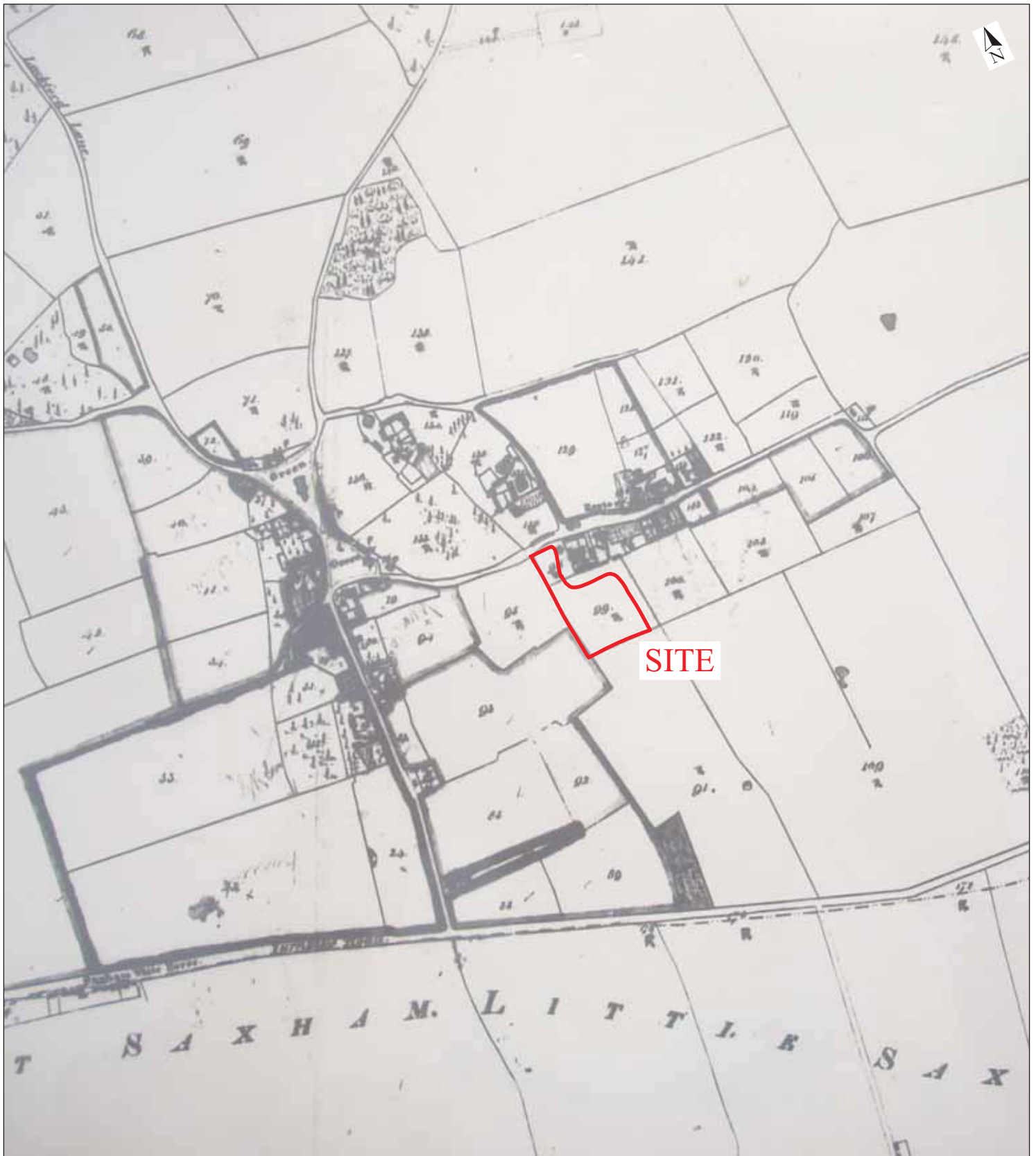


SITE

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Fig. 5 Enclosure map, 1801

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**Fig. 6 Tithe map. 1839**  
Scale 1:25,000 at A4



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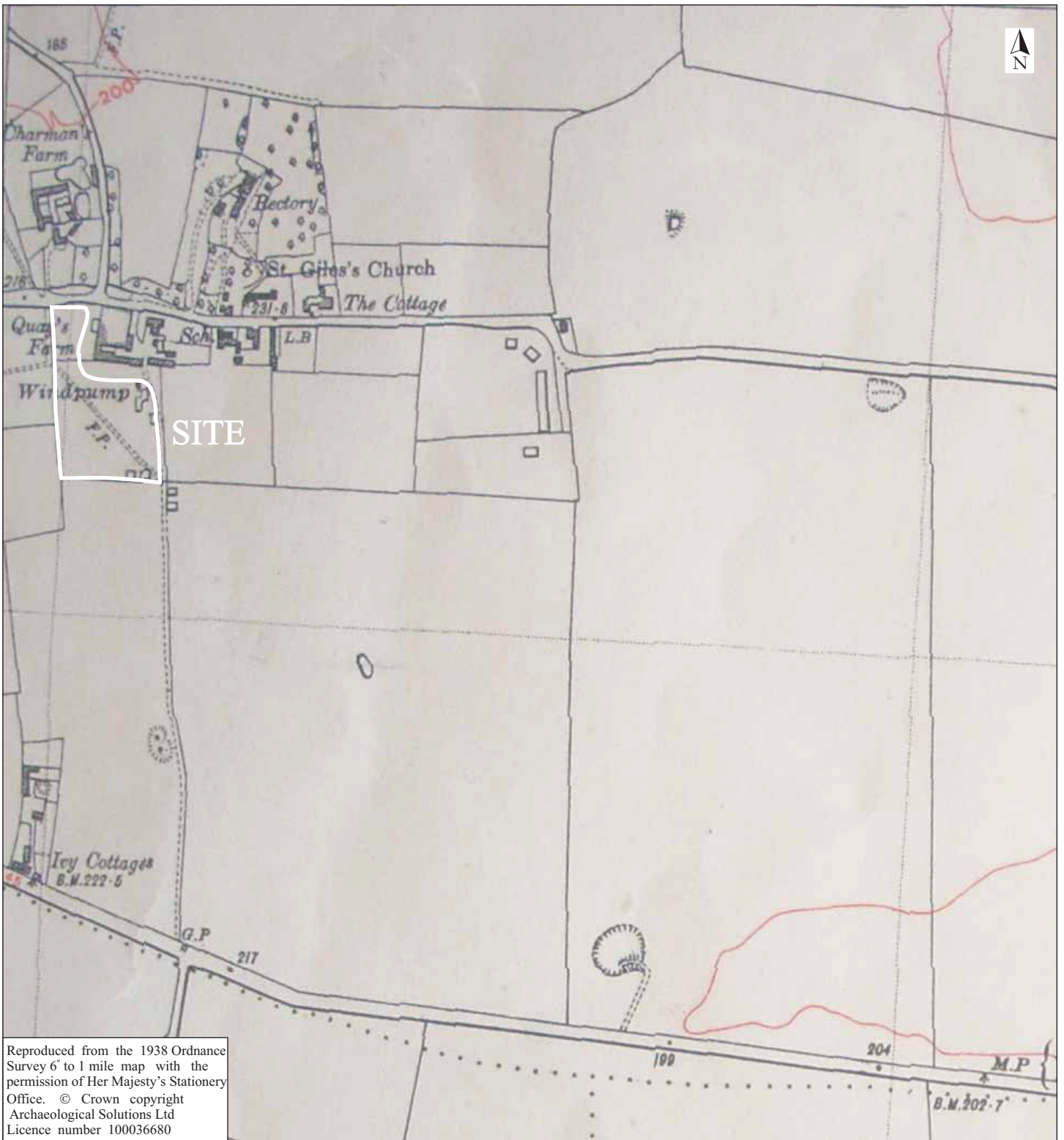
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Fig. 7 OS map, 1890  
Not to scale



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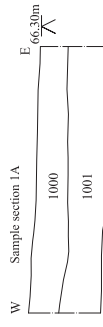
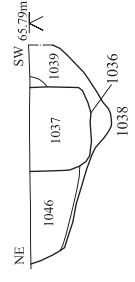
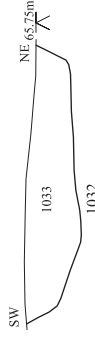
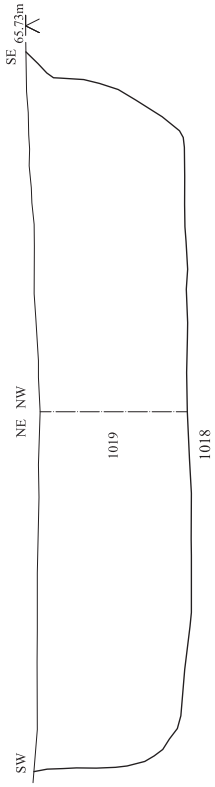
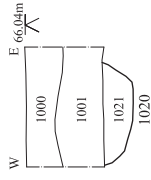
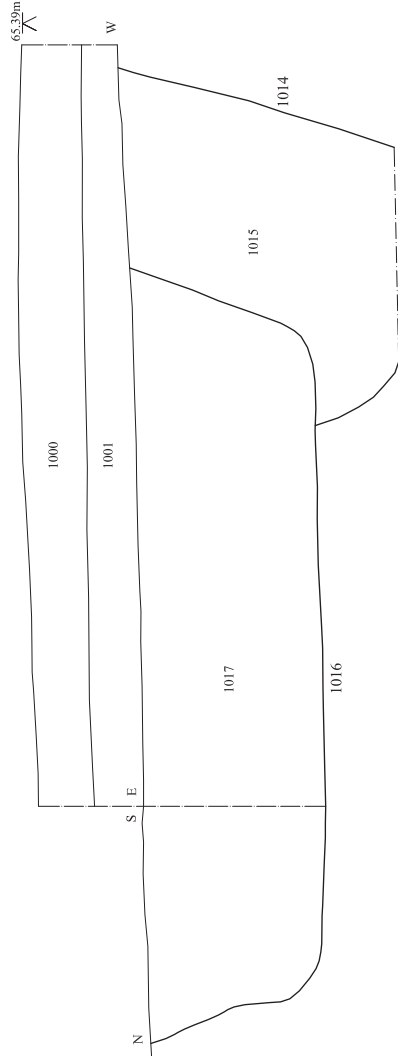
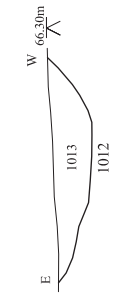
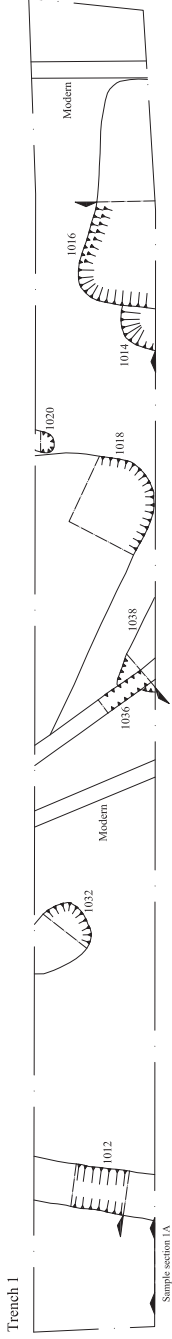
**SITE**

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**Fig. 8 OS map, 1904**  
 Not to scale



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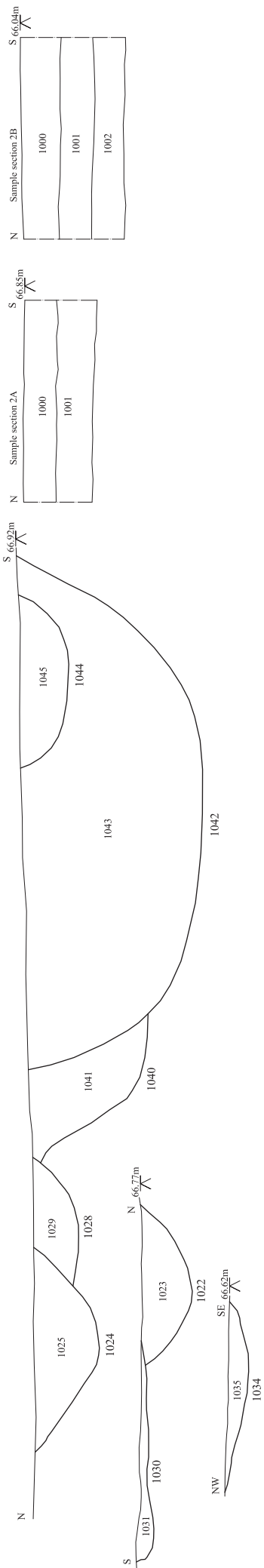
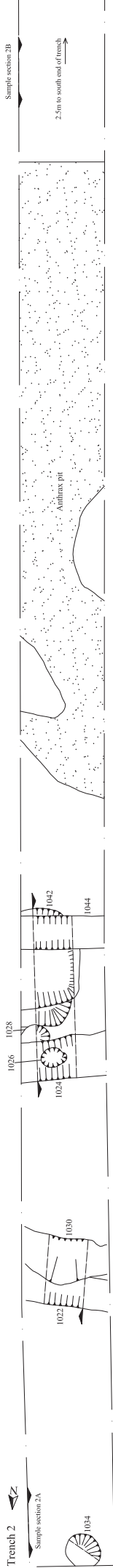
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 Fig. 9 OS map, 1938  
 Not to scale



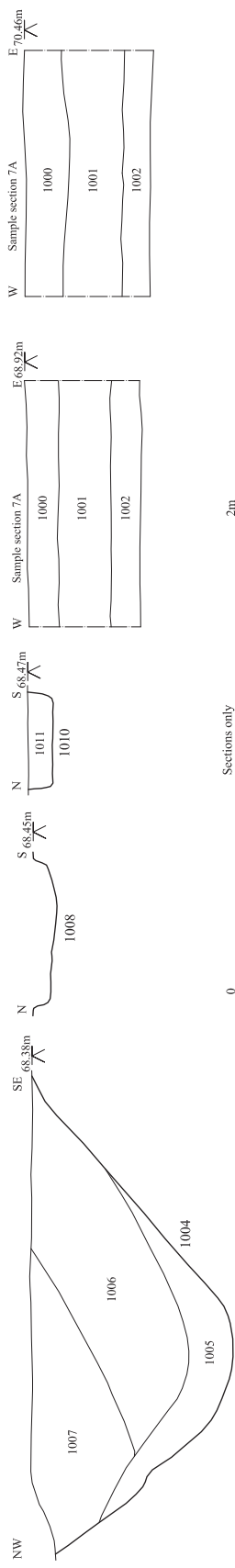
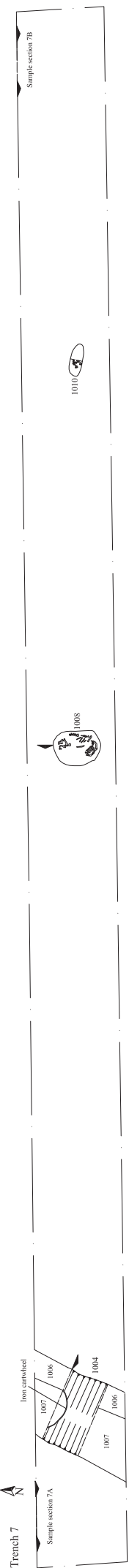
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**Fig. 10 Plan & sections**  
 Scale Plans 1:100, sections 1:20 at A3

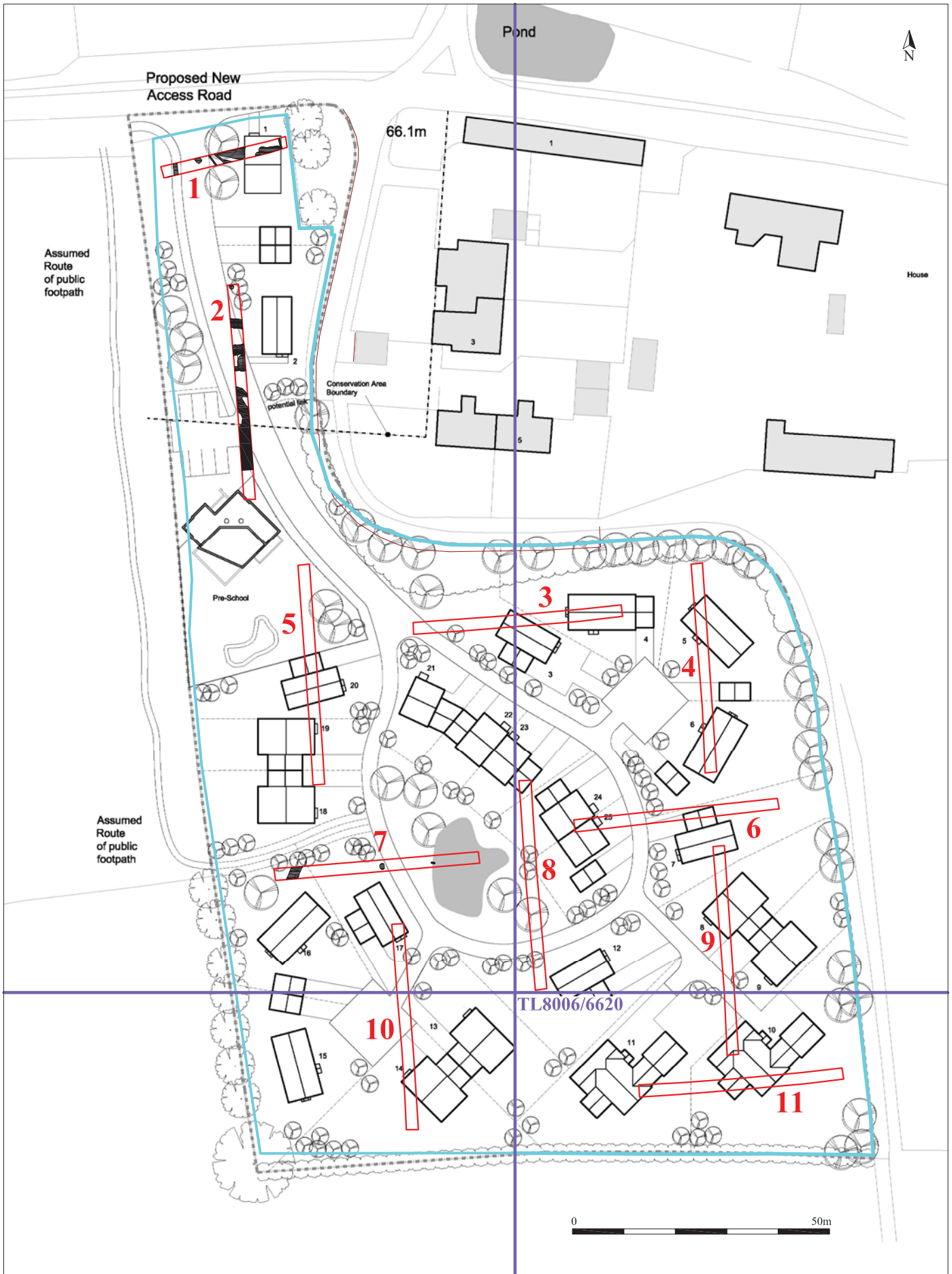


Trench 2



Trench 7





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**Fig. 12 Trench locations on proposed development plan**  
 Scale 1:1000 at A4